



# The Vine...

Connecting the Body of Christ one to another

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Essex, 1131 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21221  
(410) 687-5531 [www.holytrinityessex.org](http://www.holytrinityessex.org) February 2023



## **FROM THE RECTOR**

Greetings from the kingdom of God, the reign of love and the culture of peace (*already in progress somewhere very, very close to you!*)

Lent looms. Ashes. Self-denial. Penitence. Good times.

But before it gets here, we still have a lot of territory to cover during the season of Epiphany, the season of revelation; the season of beginning, of movement, of commitment to the Way. There is a rhythm to Epiphany that sets the cadence for the entire church year, though actually, it only reminds us of the path to which we have been committed since our baptism. In just the few short weeks that follow Christmas, we move from reflections on that baptism, through the call of the disciples and into the teachings that reveal the very heart of what it means to be a disciple – the Sermon on the Mount.

From my perspective as the co-leader of our Episcopal Public Policy Network, these reminders come at the perfect time. State-wide, we have plunged into the new legislative session and there will be many opportunities under our Diocesan priorities – Environment, Housing, Racial Reconciliation, and Public Justice – for us to add our voices in support of bills that will benefit our neighbors and protect our environment. (By our baptismal promises, we are all about dignity, justice, and the care of the Christ that dwells within each other).

Locally, we are partnering with the Baltimore County Educational Justice Table to host a listening event for parents, students, and teachers on February 4, 2023, from 10 a.m.– 12:00 noon. This is a chance for us to hear – firsthand – the issues and obstacles that our neighbors face in pursuit of a top-notch education in our public schools. As I mentioned this past Sunday, I would welcome your presence, even if it is just to listen to others who live in our parish and walk with them for an hour or two in conversation.

Lent looms.

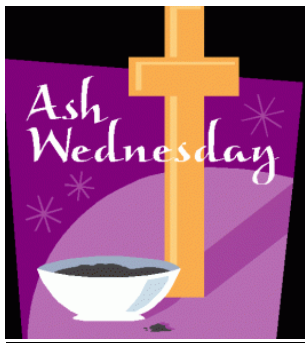
Peace,  
*Ken+*

# Church News



## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

We will have our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper this year on Tuesday, February 21, from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. We will be asking for a “free will offering” at the door.



## **Ash Wednesday Services**

We will celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Ash Wednesday this year on February 22 at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. (We have plenty of ashes left from last year, so please do not bring in any old palms.)

## **Staying Connected, Staying Church**

COVID restrictions continue. This is how we are continuing to love our neighbors and ourselves.

What can you do in the midst of this uncertainty?

1. Read the updates provided monthly in *The Vine* newsletter to keep you in touch with what’s happening at Holy Trinity. If something comes up that cannot wait until the next newsletter, an email update will be sent out.
2. Worship regularly, whether in person or online.
3. Keep up your pledge. Our mailbox is locked, so your mail-in contributions are safe.
4. Stay in touch. Call or email each other. Call or email our Senior Warden, Chris K. Keep each other in prayer.
5. Pray for Holy Trinity and for the Vestry.

If you have been sending in your pledge regularly, *thank you!*

When sending contributions, please be sure to distinguish between your pledge and any other donations, such as for Outreach. Use separate checks. If you send only one check, it will be recorded as pledge.

Again, thank you to all who continue to support Holy Trinity. Your pledges and other contributions are essential for ministry at Holy Trinity.

## **COVID Vaccine Information**

The Maryland Department of Health has launched a phone line where seniors can call for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. It is designed for people without Internet access. The telephone number for this new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center is 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829).

If you do have Internet access, you can go to the following website for more information as well:

<https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland-Departments-of-Health-and-Aging-collaborate-on-vaccine-outreach-for-vulnerable-populations.aspx>

## **Outreach Ministries**

*from Lynn F., Chairperson*



### **Operation Backpack:**

The backpack ministry to Sandalwood Elementary School continues as it has been. You are always welcome to contribute by bringing needed food items such as: single serve oatmeal packets, applesauce cups, fruit cups, raisins, packs of peanuts, crackers, ramen noodles, instant chicken noodle soup, juice boxes, or white or chocolate milk or Yoohoo. We also accept small cans of tuna and boxes of macaroni and cheese. You can place any donated food items in the bin marked “Operation Backpack” in the Parish Hall. You can also make a monetary donation at any time.

The bags are packed between the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services. All are welcome to join

in the effort. Also, each week there is a rotation of folks who deliver the bags to Sandalwood Elementary School. We can always use additional volunteers to deliver the backpacks! If you have any questions, please contact Chris Kinard or myself.

### **Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO):**

EIO is situated in the new location and are once again open to serve those in need. They are operating on an appointment basis, so please call in advance. The new address is listed later in this newsletter under “Food Pantry”.

We are still collecting shelf stable food items such as canned soup, pork and beans, tuna, chicken for EIO. If you are able to buy a few items on your next grocery shopping trip, please do so. Please make sure the expiration date is at least several months out. There is a bin in the Parish Hall labeled “EIO Donations” where you can place the donated canned food items to help those in need in our community. (More detailed information regarding EIO is also provided below under the Food Pantry section.)



### **Ronald McDonald House Baltimore:**

Please continue to collect the pull tabs from any aluminum can products. I collect the tabs, and once or twice per year I take them to RMH. The tabs are then recycled with the profit used to fuel the shuttle bus to take family members of the children to the local hospitals. The collection box is located on

the lower shelf of the main table in the Narthex.

If anyone has any questions or would like to be a part of the planning for any or all the Outreach ministries we do, please let me know. All are welcome.

I pray many blessing for our ministry at Holy Trinity and for each of us as we provide to those in need.

In His Holy name.

Lynn F.



### **Local Food Pantries**

#### **Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO)**

Contact: 410-406-2288 OR 211

#### **New Physical Address:**

Maranatha Chapel  
3 Bowleys Quarters Road  
Middle River, MD 21220  
410-406-2288

**By Appointment Only! Call first!**

Donations: Make your check payable to “Eastern Interfaith Outreach” and mail it to:  
Eastern Interfaith Outreach  
P.O. Box 18122  
Middle River, MD 21220

#### **Special Monthly Food Distribution:**

These food distributions are until the food supplies run out on that day. For the month of February, please call for distribution site information: 443-838-2126.

#### **St. Clare Catholic Church Food Pantry**

Location: 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex

Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 12 noon



Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland offers nutritious, fresh, prepared meals delivered to your home. Eat better with Meals on Wheels!

For those unable to cook or grocery shop for themselves – due to age, disability or illness - look to Meals on Wheels for dependable, friendly service.

To learn more, call 410-558-0923 or apply online at:

[mealsonwheelsmd.org/client-application](http://mealsonwheelsmd.org/client-application)

**Meals on Wheels also needs volunteers to help deliver these meals. If you have any time to donate to this worthy cause, please call the telephone number listed above.**



### **February Birthdays**

Gloria G. – 2/4  
 Arlene H. – 2/4  
 Valerie M. – 2/19  
 Scotty G. – 2/20  
 Florence H. – 2/22  
 Mary Anne Q. – 2/23  
 Mary L. – 2/25



### **February Anniversaries**

None this month

*ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH*



*O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Mary  
 Alice  
 Athena (Alice's family)  
 Peter (friend of Alice)  
 Ellen  
 Grace  
 Millie  
 Joan  
 Bill and Diane (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)  
 Bunky and Pam (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)  
 Chris and Patty (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)  
 Margaret  
 Gladys  
 John  
 Jeannie  
 Powell family  
 Judy  
 Ratajczak family  
 Bob  
 Betty  
 David (son of Bob and Betty)

## **Pray for our Healthcare Workers**

Jesse (Tim's son)  
Somo and family  
Crosby family (Lynne)  
Robert Sr. (friend of Lynne )  
Robert Jr. (friend of Lynne )  
Wally  
Lorraine  
Ryan (Helen's grandson)  
Debbie (Helen's daughter)  
Elizabeth (Millie's sister)  
Donna (Millie's niece)  
Kelly  
Mary  
Sylvia  
Anne  
Jerome  
Mary Anne  
Nancy  
Kathy (Leah's cousin)  
Mike (Leah's cousin)  
Butch and Wanda (friends of Mary Anne)  
Dan and Janice  
Eric  
Wyatt  
Andrew  
Blake  
Vy Bass (Sheila's sister)

Please pray for members of our congregation who work in health care settings:

Laura N., Pam G., Josh R-H+, Don A., Jody L., Joey R.



***PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS***

## Vestry Officers and Members

Officers (elected by the vestry for one-year terms; can be re-elected; do not have to be an elected vestry member to be elected as an officer):

Senior Warden – Chris K.  
Junior Warden – John M.  
Treasurer – Ellen R.  
Financial Secretary – Jean B.  
Registrar – Valerie M.

Elected vestry members and date their terms end (initially elected by the congregation; if a position becomes vacant, the vestry elects a replacement to fill the rest of the term):

John M.	2022
Laura N.	2022
Vacancy	2022
Scott R-H	2023
Barbara B.	2023
Loretta G.	2023
Sam S.	2024
Tyler S.	2024
Vacancy	2024

The parish clergy are also ex officio members of the vestry and the rector is the presiding officer.

## Who do I contact?

The office is generally staffed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

If you have a non-urgent question, call the church telephone number (410-687-5531) and leave a message on the answering machine OR send Leah an email at [HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com).

For urgent pastoral needs call:

The Rev. Ken Phelps, Rector  
410-790-1631



# REGULAR REMINDERS



## Coffee Hour

Join us for socializing between or after services. Store-bought food and beverages are allowed. Please see the sign-up sheet on the wall in the Parish Hall.

## Parish Hall Rental

If you would like information about renting the Parish Hall for an event, please send an email to [HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com) or leave a message at the church office 410-687-5531.



## Flower Memorials/ Thanksgivings

If you are interested, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$30.00, and return them to Barbara B. in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2023 forms are available from Leah in the church office. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.

## Housekeeping Notes

Please continue to follow the COVID instructions for sanitizing required areas.

## Mailing List Updates

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 and leave a message OR send an email to [HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com).



## Messages

Anne Knott maintains the primary list of e-mail information. However, if you change your email address and you don't give the change to Anne, it is not possible for her to notify you of situations impacting the parish. Anne can be reached at [anneews@verizon.net](mailto:anneews@verizon.net).



## Final Word from the Editor

Items for the March Newsletter are due by February 15.



## **FEBRUARY 2023 SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**February 5, 2023, 8:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Jackie and Bill  
**Lessons:** Chris  
**Prayers:** Jackie

**February 5, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Gloria and Loretta  
**Lessons:** Laura  
**Prayers:** Gladys

**February 12, 2023, 8:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Jackie and Bill  
**Lessons:** Val  
**Prayers:** Jackie

**February 12, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Sam  
**Lessons:** Tim  
**Prayers:** Nancy

**February 19, 2023, 8:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Jackie and Bill  
**Lessons:** Chris  
**Prayers:** Jackie

**February 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Gloria and Loretta  
**Lessons:** Tim  
**Prayers:** Gladys

**February 26, 2023, 8:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Jackie and Bill  
**Lessons:** Val  
**Prayers:** Jackie

**February 26, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Sam  
**Lessons:** Jason  
**Prayers:** Gladys

**\*\* Please note:** Until further notice, those scheduled to read the Lessons will read the First Lesson, lead the Psalm, and then read the Second Lesson. Thank you!

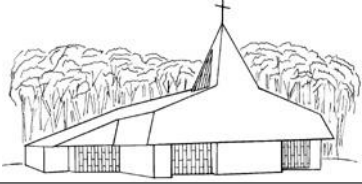
**ASH WEDNESDAY:**

**February 22, 2023, 12:00 noon**

**Ushers:** Gloria  
**Lessons:** Chris  
**Prayers:** Jason

**February 22, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

**Ushers:** Sam  
**Lessons:** Jason  
**Prayers:** Leah



# February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 10 am-noon-Baltimore County Educational Justice Table Meeting
5 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	13 <i>MLK Jr. Day</i>	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 7pm-Vestry Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	20 <i>President's Day</i>	21 5pm-7pm- Pancake Supper (free will offering)	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 12:00 noon and 7pm- Holy Eucharist	23	24	25
26 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook) 9:15 AM Outreach Committee Meeting	27	28				