



Trinity Episcopal Church
36 Main St, Newtown Ct
www.trinitynewtownct.org

Thursday, 01/01/2020



Sunrise at the rectory this morning was gorgeous. Sitting at our kitchen table having breakfast with Joe, I am mesmerized by the brilliance of the pink and orange sky. Seeing such a beautiful sky on this second day of 2020 delights me. Much to my regret, it ends too quickly. The rising sun cannot linger. Time moves forward as does the day, as does the year.

I suppose it is the reality that we're now in 2020 that is evoking more emotion than usual this morning. Knowing that our ministry together is a mere six months, I am feeling sentimental. You are a wonderful parish and people! And the next rector of Trinity is going to be greatly blessed by serving with you here. Granted we do not know yet who this priest will be, but I'll bet this person is already beginning to feel a nudge, a stirring, a curiosity about a new call. God is even now preparing the next rector of Trinity to say "yes" to this call. A call that will mean leaving the familiar, the known and venturing forth, trusting God, moving to Newtown and joining in God's work of restoration and reconciliation here.

Beloved, as this new year begins, please know what a blessing it is serving as your Interim Priest in Charge. Before saying our goodbyes, let's make the most of these next six months. Let's count our blessings and face our challenges together. Let's pray for one another. Let's love each other. Let's entrust our future to God, knowing that Jesus through the Holy Spirit will lead us every step of the way.

Happy New Year, Jenny+

Contribution Envelopes

Contribution envelopes are due to arrive today, Thursday, January 2. Barring any further delays, you will be able to find them in the back of the church on Sunday, January 5. Thank you for your patience!



King Cake Bake-Off

Bakers of all ages, put your talents to work and



create a King Cake for this year's bake-off contest following 9:30am worship on **Sunday, January 5**. During Coffee Hour, two honorees will be chosen and crowned King and Queen for this year's Mardi Gras party which will take place on Saturday evening, **February 22**. Mark your calendars NOW for the Mardi Gras party that will feature Cajun cooking extraordinaire as well as kick off our 150 Sesquicentennial 2020 Celebration.

Vestry Nominations

The vestry of the Episcopal Church is responsible for overseeing parish finances and properties, as well as being leaders of ministry in the areas of missional engagement, parish life, formation, and worship. Nominees must be 16 years and older, active baptized members, and preferably confirmed Episcopalians. At our Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020, as it stands now, we will be electing one vestry member to serve for a three-year term. The area of ministry for this position is as liaison to Formation. If you are interested in learning more about serving on the vestry, please reach out to [Jenny](#) or one of our wardens, [Laurie Trotto](#) and [Dennis O'Conner](#), to discuss responsibilities in more detail.



Monthly Service of Healing and Reconciliation

Usually on the first Wednesday evening of each month, we gather in quiet and beauty of our sanctuary for prayers, anointing, healing and sharing in Holy Communion. The next healing service is **Wednesday, January 8**. We begin at 7:00 pm and the service lasts about 45 minutes. Healing prayer invites God into the realness of our lives—especially when we or those we love are experiencing sorrow, grief, sadness, disappointment, despair and struggle. This service is open to the community and all are invited.

Bible Study Returns!

Mark your calendars! Our popular Saturday morning Bible study of the New Testament book of Acts will resume on **January 18, 2020**, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the church library. Please come and be a part of our exciting journey with the early church as it expands from a small Jewish sect to a growing movement across the Mediterranean world.

We hope to see you there!

ADULT FORMATION

Save the Dates

First Epiphany Forum ~ January 12

Budget Forum ~ January 19

Annual Meeting ~ January 26

LET THERE BE LIGHT AMONG US!

Conversations

Building on the wonderful series of “Sacred Conversations” we had this past fall about our life and history here at Trinity as a parish community, your Stephen Ministry Team is pleased to offer a series of continuing conversations for the Epiphany season, intended to deepen our personal connections with one another—so that we may better share the light that each of us are and can be in our life in Christ together.

Epiphany is a time of the coming of the Light. Following Sunday worship, once in January and once in February, we’ll have a chance to explore the theme of “light” in terms of interpersonal relationships and our connection to each other as we continue to create a sacred and loving space for all who are part of the Trinity Community.

The dates for these Epiphany Conversations are January 12 and February 23.



Formation and Confirmation for Youth Continues – Will you join us in this journey?

As we continue to discern confirmation for our youth, I encourage all parishioners to continue to hold Caitlyn, Lily, Ella, Brady, Matthew, Aidan, and, Tain in your prayers. If you are interested in learning more about our journey, please [click here](#) for upcoming dates and meeting topics about the [Way of Love](#).

If you feel called to join in this ministry, please select a date on which your schedule might allow you to join a confirmation meeting as an additional adult supervisor. This is so we can continue to provide a “safe church” space for our learning time. Without an additional adult each Sunday, we are unable to offer a group learning session to remain in compliance with ECCT guidelines.

The next regularly scheduled group learning session on “worship” will be held January 12th.

For more information, please feel free to call or email the [church office](#).

YAC Gatherings – Will you join us in this journey?

YAC is a group gathering that is designed for young adults who have already completed confirmation. This is so that, following confirmation, an intentional space is offered for continuing discernment and community building. So, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here!

Our next YAC gathering is scheduled for January 12 from 12:00 – 2:00PM in the Johnson Room. Pizza will be provided for this gathering. Youth will be invited to have a conversation with our discernment team about youth formation at Trinity Church. For more information, please contact the church office.

I encourage all to continue checking the calendar on the [church website](#) for additional dates for this offering.

Young Children on the Move!

Following recent listening sessions regarding our young children, we are excited to announce a new offering in our regular worship services! Beginning on Sunday, January 5th, our worship service will include intentional time for a children’s moment. This will be a time dedicated to our young children and their curiosity, as they are invited to hear a special homily. Following the children’s moment, our young children will be invited to remain in the sanctuary for the remainder of our service. This is an exciting opportunity for our parish to support our young children as they continue to grow in their own spiritual life! I know that our parish will be blessed by the joyful and beautiful ways our young children are seeing God in their world.

If you were unable to join either of our listening sessions, and would like to know more about this offering, please feel free to contact the [church office](#).

Praise and Thanksgiving

For those requesting our prayers: Arlene Coleman, Peter Jameson, Rev. William West, Maureen Trotto, Bode Kloos, Karen Gardner, Paul Roman

For those celebrating a birthday this week:
Carol Bigman, Ruth Campbell

Trinity's Video - [check it out!](#)

kmerrill@trinitynewtownct.org

www.trinitynewtownct.org

There are events happening at Camp Washington - [click here](#) to learn more!

[ECCT](#)

