

# The Abbeville Anglican



The Newsletter of Historic Trinity Church

Volume 12

MAY 2019

Number 5

## Restoration Update

In a talk to the Abbeville County History Club on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mr. Michael Bedenbaugh of Preservation South Carolina, announced that contractors wishing to work on the restoration would issue their bids sometime in April and that when the bids were let, the scaffolding could possibly begin to go up sometime in June. Considerable attention will also be paid to the roof as there continues to be too much water intrusion into the chancel, nave and narthex. At the announcement about when the work could begin, it was pointed out that the time frame was tentative because the erection of scaffolding requires specialized crews which often need to be scheduled well in advance. It is expected that many of our members and friends will breathe a sigh of relief when the scaffolding appears around the tower. We will have another update for you in the June issue. Keep the faith.

## Easter at Trinity

Holy Week and Easter presented beautiful services, as usual, at Trinity although we were working under considerable hardships at not being in our church. Dick and Hank presented a beautiful *Tenebrae* service on Wednesday of Holy Week. As the AA meets in the parish house every Thursday, we held our Maundy Thursday Mass in the parish garden on a lovely warm spring evening which proceeded very smoothly. The Liturgy for Good Friday was read in the parish house chapel on Friday evening and some of our people attended the Great Easter Vigil service with our good friends at the Church of the Resurrection on Holy Saturday. Our former vicar, the Rev. Rilla Holmes, celebrated a very beautiful Mass on Easter Sunday. Our Easter week services put us in mind of all those things we are supposed to be thinking about in Eastertide. Thank you to all of you who always work so hard to make Easter and Christmas at Trinity such memorable seasons.

## Communion for the Sick

We have some members who are no longer able to attend Mass due to illness. Please note that it is our desire and obligation to provide Communion to any member desiring the Blessed Sacrament on a regular basis. Our Eucharistic Visitors are trained and licensed by the Diocese for this purpose and will carry the Sacrament to the home, hospital and nursing home. The preferred practice is for the Sacrament to be taken directly from the church to the recipient. However, in modern practice, this is often not feasible as many hospitals and nursing homes prefer that it be done by appointment only. We also make every effort to accommodate those persons requesting a visit from a priest. Persons wishing to receive Communion other than in church should contact the Senior Warden. If you might be interested in serving this parish as a Eucharistic Visitor, let us know and we will be happy to put your name on the list for the next training session.

## Controversy Widens

Our April issue contained an article about the impending Lambeth Conference which will include all active bishops in the Anglican Communion. The invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury included all bishops in the Anglican Communion and their spouses. It, however, did not include the companions of bishops in same-sex unions. The concerned bishops are all resident to the US and Canada and are all in relationships having the blessing of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Episcopal Church. This decision of the Archbishop drew considerable criticism in North America and now has become very controversial in England as well. In 2008, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams refused to invite then Bishop Gene Robinson (New Hampshire) who in 2003 became the first openly gay and partnered bishop in the Anglican Communion. A spokesman for the Anglican Communion

stated that the Communion defines marriage as “the lifelong union of a man and a woman” as codified in *Resolution 1.10* of the 1998 Lambeth Conference. Ben Bradshaw, Member of Parliament, raised a point of order in Parliament on March 14<sup>th</sup> on “the outrageous decision by the Church of England to issue the official invitation to next year’s conference and explicitly forbid the same-sex spouses of bishops from attending, when the heterosexual spouses of bishops have been warmly invited.” Bradshaw called the exclusion of same-sex spouses a “totally unacceptable position for our established state church to adopt and this house needs to tell the church we have had enough of it.” The Anglican Communion General Secretary has stated that the decision will remain in effect for the present, but “storm clouds” continue to rise in England over the matter. To quote our English friends, is this just a “tempest in a teacup?” The great American humorist and social commentator, Will Rogers, once said: “Life just ain’t exciting without a little bit of controversy.”

## A Place of Quiet Rest

The poet William Wordsworth said “the world is too much with us.” Sometimes we just need a place to sit down and shut up! If you are looking for a time of extended prayer, reflection and retreat or simply a little time of peace and quiet, you will find a warm welcome at the Convent of Saint Helena in North Augusta. An Episcopal monastic order, the Sisters of the Order of Saint Helena invite us to join them in their journey as together we seek and rejoice in God. As you seek a time of quiet rest you may visit the convent for a few hours, a day or stay overnight in their guest house. You are also welcome for Mass or other of the Holy Offices. The Silent Weekend Retreats are wonderful. See the convent’s website for full details at [www.OSH.org](http://www.OSH.org). Visit this wonderful place of quiet rest near to the heart of God.

## **Feast Days in May:**

### **Saint Philip and Saint James**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, we celebrate the *Feast of Saint Philip and Saint James*. We know practically nothing about Saint James except that he was the son of Alphaeus; and that Jesus chose him as one of the 12 pillars of the *New Israel*, his Church. He is not the James of the *Acts of the Apostles*, brother of Jesus, later Bishop of Jerusalem and author of the letter of *James*. James, son of Alphaeus, is also known as James the Lesser, to avoid confusing him with James, the son of Zebedee, also known as James the Greater. Philip came from the same town in Galilee as Peter and Andrew. Jesus called him directly, whereupon he sought out Nathaniel and told him about “the one about whom Moses wrote” (John 1:45). Like many of the Apostles, Philip took a long time in coming to realize who Jesus really was. As in the case of the other Apostles, we see James and Philip as human men who were selected by Jesus to become foundation stones for his Church, and we are reminded that holiness and its consequent apostolate are entirely a gift from God and not a matter of human accomplishment. “You will be clothed with power from on high” (Luke 24:49), Jesus told Philip and the others. Their first commissions were to expel unclean spirits, heal the sick, and announce the Kingdom. They learned gradually that these special gifts were important sacraments of an even greater miracle inside their persons—the divine power to love like God.

### **Ascension Day**

*The Feast of the Ascension* is one of the primary feasts of the church year and occurs of May 30<sup>th</sup>. It invariably falls 40 days after Easter and commemorates the day of Jesus’ return to Heaven at the end of his earthly ministry. Several years ago, the Anglican Digest quoted from a remarkable sermon given by a 90-year-old priest at the Cathedral of Saint Luke and Saint Paul (Charleston). The African-American priest wept as he preached and stated this was such a happy day for Jesus. “He stayed with us for thirty years and at the end of his time here, he suffered a most horrible death to save our souls; and then, at last, he was able to go home! Alleluia!” *And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into Heaven. And they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple,*

*praising and blessing God. Amen.* (Luke 24:50-53).

### **The Visitation**

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Church celebrates the *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. Mary left Nazareth at the end of March and went over the mountains to Hebron, south of Jerusalem, to visit her cousin, Elizabeth. At this time Elizabeth was pregnant with John the Baptist. Mary, likewise, was expecting Jesus. When they met a miraculous event occurred which is recorded in Luke (1:39-57). Feeling the presence of the Divine Savior, John leaped in his mother’s womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit: *and she spoke out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.* Mary now for the first time exercised the office which would be hers alone as the one to be the Mother of the Incarnate Christ, the Savior of the world. Joseph probably accompanied Mary to Hebron, and after three months came to take her back home.

#### *The Song of Mary (The Magnificat)*

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name. Luke 1:46-49.*

### **Other Special Days**

In May we also celebrate Memorial Day (27<sup>th</sup>) and Armed Forces Day (18<sup>th</sup>). These are not feast days of the church, but are important in the minds of the American people. On Armed Forces Day we honor those currently serving in the US Military and on Memorial Day we remember and honor those noble persons who gave their lives while serving in the armed forces. On Veterans Day we honor all persons for their service to protect and preserve the freedoms of our great republic. To all of you who served to protect our freedom in this “land of the free and home of the brave,” WE THANK YOU! May God continue to bless our native land!

### **Rogation Sunday**

Rogation Sunday, the sixth Sunday after Easter (May 26<sup>th</sup>), is the Sunday next before the three Rogation Days which precede *Ascension Day*. These are days designated for prayer for the years crops and solemn preparation by abstinence and fasting for the *Feast of the Ascension*. Farmers often had their crops blessed by a priest at this time. A common feature of Rogation Days in former times was the ceremony of “beating the bounds” in which a procession of parishioners, the priest,

the church wardens and choirboys would process around the boundary of the parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year. Interested persons may find the prayers for these days in the BCP on pages 207, 258 and 930. Notes on a traditional Rogation Procession may be found in the BOS on page 103.

### **Blessing of a Home**

On Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, many of our members attended the blessing of the new home of Father and Mrs. Ames Swartsfager. Ames and Judy are recently arrived to their new residence at the Renaissance Retirement Center in Due West and are attending our services at Trinity. Although Father Swartsfager has experience in parish ministry, he spent most of his professional career as a prison chaplain in the US Bureau of Prisons. His excellent and insightful book, *Voices From Prison*, recounts his exciting, and sometimes harrowing, experiences in dealing with inmates on a daily basis in what is often a very dangerous environment. It is a good read! Father Swartsfager was honored with the Chaplain of the Year award in 1989 by the US Bureau of Prisons and had acquired the rank of regional chaplaincy administrator for the mid-atlantic region which included twelve states. Fluent in Spanish, he opened a federal detention center in Puerto Rico before his retirement. After retirement, Ames and Judy spent several exciting years living on their boat and cruising up and down the Pacific coast in California and Mexico. These adventures are recounted in Ames’ memoir, *Between the Devil and the Deep—Memoir of a Maverick Priest* (2010) and other sailing books. Both Judy and Ames are musicians and play several instruments. We hope they will join our music program in the church on Saturday afternoons when we get back in the church. They have three children, six grandchildren and three great grandchildren. They are great folks and we are so pleased to welcome them into our Trinity Church family.

### **United Thank Offering**

United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church through which individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for these blessings, and make an offering for each blessing in your UTO Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. The ingathering will be on the last Sunday in September when you will bring your UTO Box to the altar to be received. Thank you!

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## MAY 2019

*This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 119:24)*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Eucharistic Lectionary Year C</b>  <b>Office Lectionary Year 1</b>	BCP—Book of Common Prayer BOS—Book of Occasional Services LFF—Lesser Feasts And Fasts	All Lessons and Readings are from The Revised Common Lectionary	<b>1</b>  <b>Saint Philip And Saint James, Apostles</b> (Altar: Red)  6:00 pm Evening Prayer	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>Spring Festival</b> Visit Trinity's booth on the town square	<b>4</b>  <b>Spring Festival</b> Visit Trinity's booth on the town square.
<b>5</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Easter</b> 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  6:00 pm Evening Prayer	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter</b> 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b>  <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  6:00 pm Evening Prayer	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Armed Forces Day
<b>19</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter</b> 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 12:00 Noon Vestry Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  6:00 pm Evening Prayer	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>Rogation Sunday</b> 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am <b>Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>27</b> Rogation Day  <i>Memorial Day</i>	<b>28</b> Rogation Day	<b>29</b> Rogation Day  6:00 pm Evening Prayer	<b>30</b>  <b>Ascension Day</b> (Altar: White)	<b>31</b>  <b>The Visitation Of The Blessed Virgin Mary</b> (Altar: White)	<b>Before Mass:</b> We spend time speaking to God. <b>During Mass:</b> We listen as God speaks to us. <b>After Mass:</b> We speak with friends and neighbors.

**May 5, 2019 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Easter)**  
 Celebrant: Father Ken Tucker  
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
 Lector: Mary Anne  
 Acolyte: Andrew  
 Altar Guild: Myra  
 Altar Colors: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Acts 9: 1-6, 7-20  
 Psalm: 30 *Exaltabo te, Domine*  
 The Epistle: Revelation 5: 11-14  
 The Gospel: John 21: 1-19

**May 12, 2019 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter)**  
 Celebrant: The Rev. Rilla Holmes  
 Eucharistic Minister: Dick  
 Lector: Jennie  
 Acolyte: Andrew  
 Altar Guild: Lewis  
 Altar Colors: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Acts 9:36-43  
 Psalm: 23 *Dominus regit me*  
 The Epistle: Revelation 7: 9-17  
 The Gospel: John 10: 22-30

**May 19, 2019 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter)**  
 Celebrant: The Rev. Rilla Holmes  
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
 Lector: Ruth  
 Acolyte: Andrew  
 Altar Guild: Michele  
 Altar Colors: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Acts 11: 1-18  
 Psalm: 148 *Laudate Dominum*  
 The Epistle: Revelation 21: 1-6  
 The Gospel: John 13: 31-35

**May 26, 2019 (Rogation Sunday)**  
 Celebrant: The Rev. Rilla Holmes  
 Eucharistic Minister: Lewis  
 Lector: Dick  
 Acolyte: Andrew  
 Altar Guild: Michele  
 Altar Colors: White  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Acts 16: 9-15  
 Psalm: 67 *Deus misereatur*  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Revelation 21:10,22-22:5  
 The Gospel: John 14: 23-29

### Happy Birthday

May 05—Jennie

May 30--Roger

### Mother's Day is May 12<sup>th</sup>

We wish a Happy Mother's Day to all our dear mothers still with us; and offer sincere thanksgiving and gratitude for our mothers who now rest peacefully with the Savior.

*He does not come down from Heaven each day to stay in the golden chalice. He comes down to find another Heaven. He cherishes infinitely more than the first, the Heaven of our souls, made in His image, living temples of the Most Blessed and Holy Trinity. Saint Therese of Lisieux*

### NOTICE:

The Vestry will not meet on the second Sunday this month due to Mother's Day, but will meet on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> following the Eucharist.

## **Trinity Episcopal Church**

Post Office Box 911  
200 Church Street  
Abbeville, South Carolina 29620  
[www.trinityabbeville.org](http://www.trinityabbeville.org)

### **Our Mission Statement:**

To do the work that Christ has given us to do.

### **Our Bishop**

The Right Reverend W. Andrew Waldo

### **The Vicar:**

The Vicariate is currently vacant.

### **The Vestry:**

Cynthia Jefferies, Senior Warden  
Andrew Hartsfield  
Myra Keith  
Betty Tucker  
Mary Anne Campbell  
Dick Haldeman  
Lewis Ashley

### **Parish Administrator**

Dick Haldeman

### **Treasurer:**

Lewis Ashley

### **Musicians:**

John Pullin, Organist & Choirmaster  
Lewis Ashley, Assistant Organist  
Mary Anne Campbell, Cantor  
Ruth Freeman, Cantor

### **Eucharistic Ministers:**

Dick Haldeman  
Lewis Ashley  
Ruth Freeman  
Joy Bolen

### **Worship Leaders:**

Dick Haldeman  
Joy Bolen  
Lewis Ashley  
John Pullin

### **Altar Guild:**

Michele Wells, Chairman  
Myra Keith  
Ruth Freeman  
Lewis Ashley

### **Lectors (Lay Readers):**

Joy Bolen  
Mary Anne Campbell  
Jennie Leverich  
Betty Tucker  
Dick Haldeman  
Ruth Freeman

### **Acolytes:**

Lewis Ashley  
Andrew Hartsfield

### **Eucharistic Visitors:**

Lewis Ashley  
John Pullin

### **Greeters/Ushers:**

Ilona Anderson  
Hank Baggett

### **Parish Historian:**

May Hutchinson

### **Children's Programs**

Jan Haldeman

### **Bulletins, Special Projects:**

John Pullin  
Jennie Leverich

### **Sexton (Buildings & Grounds):**

Buddy Wells

### **Diocesan Convention Delegation:**

Jennie Leverich (Voting)  
Lewis Ashley (Voting)  
Cynthia Jefferies (Alternate)  
Jan Haldeman (Alternate)

### **Newsletters:**

Lewis Ashley  
Jennie Leverich

### **Sunday School/Bible Study:**

Hank Baggett

**For all who faithfully support this mission congregation, we give God thanks and praise.**

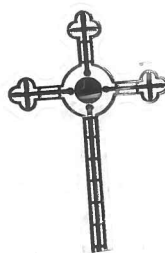
### **Intercessory Prayer List**

Each issue of our newsletter will include a list for intercessory prayer to include all our members and friends of this parish. Some are sick and some are well. We simply request that in your personal prayers and special intentions that you will lift these friends up unto the Lord who will know specifically what their needs are. When we have been through our entire list of members and friends, we will begin over again. Please feel free to advise us of any person not a member of this parish who you might wish to be on this list. Thank you!

### **Intercessory Prayer List**

Please remember the following persons in your prayers during the month of May.

Ilona  
Andrew, our Bishop  
Rilla, our former Vicar  
Akil  
VJ  
Alice  
Father Swartsfager  
Judy



### **New Episcopal Bishop in Europe**

The Right Reverend Mark Edington, 26th Bishop of the Diocese of Europe, was consecrated on April 6th at the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity in Paris. This might be of some interest to us because the Diocese of Europe (also referred to as the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe) is administered under the jurisdiction of the Episcopal Church and not the Church of England as might be expected. Our Presiding Bishop and Primate, the Most Reverend Michael Curry, led the Ordination, Consecration and Investiture assisted by five American Bishops and the Netherlands Arch-

bishop of Utrecht of the Old Catholic Church. The Diocese of Europe is composed of Episcopal churches in France, Germany, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland. The Festival Liturgy included 35 additional bishops, 70 priests and 315 lay worshippers. The Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity (better known even in Paris as the American Cathedral) is as beautiful as Notre Dame or Sainte Sulpice, but not so large. It is a wonderful place to visit on a rainy afternoon in Paris. Three masses are offered each day—English, French and German. The brilliant stained glass is themed artfully in the words of the *Te Deum*.

### **New Liturgical Resource—BOS**

The Standing Committee on Liturgy and Music (SCLM) has recently announced the release of the *Book of Occasional Services 2018*. The availability of this liturgical resource is the result of action taken at last summer's 79<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church. The BOS, a companion volume to the *Book of Common Prayer*, is a collection of liturgical resources related to occasions which do not occur with sufficient frequency to warrant their inclusion in the *Book of Common Prayer*. Designed to give congregations resources that form our members in the Episcopal Faith, the rites and ceremonies contained in this book are to be understood, interpreted, and used in light of the theology structure and directions of the BCP. The material included in this collection comes from a variety of sources generally arising out of the specific use of worshipping communities engaged in the process of creating liturgical responses to particular occasions in the life of the Church. Included are St. Francis Day animal blessings, rites for *Dia de la Virgen de Guadalupe* and *Dia de Muertos* and many others offered in a convenient outline format which will easily facilitate collaboration with those communities for whom the celebration is already a significant cultural event, creating opportunities for deeper appreciation and love in these congregations. The material included in the *Book of Occasional Services 2018* is authorized by the General Convention for use throughout the Episcopal Church. The BOS 2018 offered in English and Spanish is available for free download from the publications page of the General Convention website at [www.generalconvention.org/publications#liturgy](http://www.generalconvention.org/publications#liturgy). (From Episcopal News Service).

*The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen. Numbers 6:24-26.*