

JUNE TRINITY TOPICS: 2020



From Rev. Nancy

May the God of STRENGTH be with you, holding you tight in a strong embrace and sustaining within you a foundation of faith, grace, and a place of unfailing love. May you be the sacrament of God's strong presence to those whose hands you hold.
May the blessing of strength be with you.
Blessing Upon Blessing Maxine Shonk, OP

As I write this during the end of the month of May, I am struck by all the memories we share of our ministry journey together. I can't begin to tell you how formative and transformative you have been for me in my priesthood, and I hope that this has been a transforming experience for you as well.

When Ed and I began discerning retirement, our plan was to spend considerably more time in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, beginning this summer, using my ministry with my mother. After her death, the impending birth of our grandchild, and ministry to our two fathers (Ed's dad will be 100 the end of July) as well as some much-needed time together, then became the focus of after - parish life.

I love Trinity, Troy. You are a wonderful group of God's beloved children. And God loves each and every one of you beyond measure, as if you were the only one. You have all the skills and knowledge of God's love that will carry you into this "new normal" that has become the life of the Church. I have discovered a new-found love and respect for Morning Prayer, and indeed all the Daily Offices. As we were talking about in the Inquirers Class, the Book of Prayer is a goldmine of resources. Continue to reflect on the Psalms, the Catechism (p.845) and the Prayers and Thanksgivings section (814). My experience in spiritual direction training has shown me that this Pandemic time has actually been a time of retreat for us all. Continue to use it to discover what God is calling you personally and as a community to be and do.

Any time of transition is NEVER a return to "normal". There is always a new normal in the new birth of becoming. As a priest steeped in the sacraments, especially Eucharist, I have discovered that WE are the sacraments, that the community is the sacrament, and as such are to carry the life and presence of Christ into the community. I will be praying for you as you and the vestry determine together how you will live that out in the coming months and years.

Beloveds, listen to what God is speaking to you. This is definitely the time to "wait and pray" as St. Peter said in our Epistle a couple of weeks ago. Is it hard? Yes. Is it change? Yes. And with God's help all things are possible.

Lean into and rest in those everlasting arms. Let Jesus carry you.

Remember he loves you with an everlasting love.

Pray.

Love God, each other, and yourselves.

Be peace in Trinity, the community, and the world.

I love and will miss you all.

Nancy





Warden's World

It is complicated. I am not sure why. The truth matters; Black Lives matter. We know that social distancing works; we know that masks save lives. We know that all mankind was created equal; we know that Black and Brown people die in a greater proportion to their census. Yet, we cannot figure it out.

Bishop Curry spoke of a Pandemic Pentecost. His words were strong and attempted at healing. There is a Balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. I do not know about you. The words were heart felt and meaningful but could not quite heal my soul.

The Bishop did identify the real culprit. It is the preoccupation with the self. We ignore the we and you to focus on the me. That is what drives our sin sick soul. When self interest replaces the good of humanity, we lose our humanity. The Bishop also reminded us of the antidote: Love. It follows his whole ministry. The Way of Love has and continues to be his marching orders to the flock.

Later the Bishop told about turning sixteen and receiving his driver's license in the late 60's. He was sat down by his father to be told that being Black and driving required special understanding and actions. Aside from needing to obey all traffic rules like everyone else, he must also never give the police a reason or opportunity to feel he was disrespectful. And yes, to always keep his hands in clear sight. Over 50 years and some things never change.

Bishop Budde dismissed the Cathedral with words from William Sloane Coffin that seem so true:

"The world is too dangerous for anything but the truth and too small for anything but love."

Be Safe, Be Well, We Love You,

Jim

Note: A copy of Bishop Curry's sermon is also attached with the Topics Email.

Love One Another
AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. JOHN 13:34



THE REV. NANCY HARDIN



It is with much sadness that we will bid farewell to our Priest and friend. Rev. Nancy is retiring June 28, 2020. We wish her love, joy, and wonder as she begins a new phase of her life as she joins "the retired population". Thank you for your faithful service this past years.

(We are actually pretty sure she will not be fully retired as she has so many interests and so much love to share with others in and around her community of Urbana.)



More information to come . . .



NEWS TO KNOW



Jackie Gay (6/1), Laura Beighle (6/1), Dean Matthews (6/3), Deacon Stephanie Burte (6/5), Evanthia Own (6/7), Elizabeth Jacobs (6/8), Dale Perrault (6/9), Larry Salyer (6/12), Paul Burte (6/13), Susan Fogt (6/18), Cheryl Jones (6/20), Kevin Kirsch (6/27), Harvey and Dale Perrault (6/28).

JUNE 21, 2020



Until we can physically worship together again, here are some options for "virtual" services:

The National Cathedral: www.cathedral.org (Scroll down to "Holy Eucharist" and select "Watch Now")
Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati: www.cincinnatiacathedral.org (A couple of virtual services to chose)
Christ Church, Dayton: www.daytonchristepiscopal.com



Pentecost

'Peace be with you!'

Oh God, who by the mystery of the great feast of Pentecost
Sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation,
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth
and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed,
fill now once more the hearts of believers.

Pentecost, seen as the birthday of the Christian Church, is the culmination of Eastertide. It is the day when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the start of the Church's mission to the world - a mission to bring people to God.

We hear of this in the Gospel, (John 20:19-23) when the risen Jesus comes to the disciples in the locked room bringing peace. He shows them his wounds, encouraging them to believe that he is indeed risen from the dead, and sends them out.

In Acts 2:1-21. The disciples receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, bringing them courage and the ability to speak in different languages. Now they can reach out to all nations, telling the peoples about God. In 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, we hear about the gifts that God's Spirit gives to each one of us. Working together in different ways towards a common aim, Paul compares us to a human body- each part working toward the well-being of the whole.

~~ Adapted from www.pathwaystoGod.org/my-prayer-life

Rev. Nancy poses that you to think and pray about the following:

Have you become aware of any gift(s) during this pandemic and time of rest and prayer
that you will share with Trinity in the coming months?

What is a contribution that you can make to the mission of the Church, and to all those around you?

What gifts of the Spirit do you have that have brought you closer to God during this time?

Has anything surprised you about your growing relationship with God during this time?

What do you think will continue to bring you closer to God?

The church is not the building; we are praying, we are still worshipping - and we are deployed!

Bishop-Elect Deon Johnson from Missouri has written what I hopefully shared with you during these almost four years about the mission of the Church. ~~ Rev. Nancy

The work of the church is essential.

The work of caring for the lonely, the marginalized,
and the oppressed is essential.

The work of speaking truth to power and seeking justice is essential.

The work of being a loving, liberating, and life giving presence
in the world is essential.

The work of welcoming the stranger, the refugee and the
undocumented is essential.

The work of reconciliation and healing and caring is essential.

The church does not need to "open" because the church never "closed."

We who make up the Body of Christ, the church, love God and our neighbors and
ourselves so much that we will stay away from our buildings until it is safe.

We are the church.

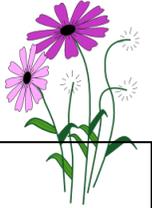
~~ Bishop-Elect Deon Johnson



Presiding Bishop joins call for national day of mourning on June 1, invites Episcopalians to honor COVID-19 victims this weekend.

By Egan Millard The interfaith period of mourning builds on the ecumenical effort to remember, mourn and celebrate the lives that have been lost, as expressed in the National Council of Churches' virtual memorial service on May 24, at which the presiding bishop spoke.

The Other Side of the Virus . . . An Opportunity to Awaken:



Yes there is panic buying.
Yes there is sickness.
Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise you can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other
across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open
so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
is offering free meals and delivery to the
housebound.

Today a young woman I know
is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighborhood
so that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples
are preparing to welcome
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary.

All over the world people are slowing down and
reflecting.

All over the world people are looking at their
neighbours in a new way.

All over the world people are waking up to a new
reality
To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.

So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the
soul

Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live
now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic-

The birds are singing again

The sky is clearing,

Spring is coming,

And we are always encompassed by Love.

Open the windows of your soul

And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,

Sing.

- Written by Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM,
March 13th 2020

“Faith is a place of mystery,
where we find the courage to
believe in what we cannot see
and the strength to let go of
our fear of uncertainty.”

Brene Brown, The Gifts of Imperfection

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Paul Burte (6/13), Susan Fogt (6/18), Cheryl Jones (6/20),
Kevin Kirsch (6/27), Harvey and Dale Perrault (6/28).

JUNE 21, 2020



Wednesday Evening Prayer: Is now on our website: www.trinitytroyohio.org

The weekly Wednesday Evening Prayer Liturgy is on our website under "Worship" -- then "Celtic Prayer".

Until we can physically worship together again, here are some options for "virtual" services:

The National Cathedral: www.cathedral.org (Scroll down to "Holy Eucharist" and select "Watch Now")
Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati: www.cincinnati.cathedral.org (A couple of virtual services to chose)
Christ Church, Dayton: www.daytonchristepiscopal.com

WHEN WE RETURN WE WILL CONTINUE:

SUNDAYS:

INQUIRERS CLASS: 9:30 am in the Parish Hall
WORSHIP: 10:30 am Rite II
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Follows the service. *(when allowed)*

WEDNESDAYS:

7:00 pm Celtic Evening Prayer:

A quiet time of reflection may be just what you need in the middle of the week. Following the service we gather in fellowship for conversation, wine, and cheese in the Parish Hall.

Rev. Nancy:

Email: Rectortec@trinitytroyohio.org / NHardin62@gmail.com

Church Office: 937-335-7747

Website: www.trinitychurch@trinitytroyohio.org

Email: trinitychurch@trinitytroyohio.org

8:30 am - 1:30 pm Mon-Fri.