



## TRINITY BELLS DECEMBER 2010

My Dear Trinitarians,

The first thing that comes to mind when thinking of the Advent and Christmas seasons probably isn't "choices," and the beauty of making those choices. When we're honest, the choices we make can seem burdensome, not liberating. Which side of the family to celebrate with? Who to buy gifts for? How much to spend? How to try and not feel lonely, or stressed or let down or sad? How to try and appreciate this wonderful time of the year—the true meaning of the season as is often said. . .

The heart of Advent and Christmas, ironically, does have everything to do with choice. It has everything to do with God's choice to be with us, to come to save and restore and renew us in the most real of ways. Yet the heart of it all is also human choosing, brave souls who went forward not really knowing or understanding what God was asking of them. A young girl accepting an unexpected and not-easily-explained pregnancy in an era when that could literally mean her death; a man risking his honor for the sake of love and his family in a time when honor was so important it was viewed like a commodity; people of all sorts and conditions choosing to go and see and find out and share what God was doing.

As far away as that stable and the frightening and lonely journeys that led those people to it can seem in time and space—they are us, and they show us the way as surely as that shining star and all those busy angels showed Mary and Joseph and the Shepherds and the Magi the way. To become truly and fully alive is to choose to go even when we don't know where we are going exactly or why or how. To be fully and truly alive in faith is to trust (or to act as if we trust) that God will show us the way, and to believe (or to act as if we believe) that we all are a part of the journey.

To learn and live this as individuals is so much of why we are called to live together in the Church. It is also what we must learn and live as the Church. This Mission Journey we are engaging in as a parish is the perfect example, and that is why I am so excited by this work we are taking on together. We will find our way and our place and role—just as all those people did so long ago, and we are their heirs—in faith, hope and love, and in the power of Christ's all redeeming love shining in the darkness.

God bless you and yours, this Christmas and always,

With love to you in Christ,

*Mary*

## TRINITY'S MISSION JOURNEY

All Saints Sunday was the kickoff of a parish-wide process we're calling **Trinity's Mission Journey**. During the service Mother Margo devoted her sermon time to a sort of Bible Study looking at Biblical texts on mission, ministry and church. At the well-attended brunch after the service each of the tables engaged in a discussion, led by one or two Vestry members, based on these questions:

- What was your most "best ever" church experience (not necessarily at Trinity)?
- What might church be like if it was more like these best experiences all the time?

That was followed by brief presentations by Don Krug (about the history and assets of Trinity) and Jeff Price (about the journey ahead).

The message, we hope, is that while we have to face financial realities, we have an exciting opportunity to define who we are as God's people and how we choose to do God's work here at Trinity. Over the next few months we'll look at some examples of what other churches have done and consider what we are called to do at Trinity. We have been encouraged in this journey by Bishop Larry. As he has said, "Stick to Mission, and money will follow."

Some of our conversations will occur informally at coffee hours and at cottage meetings in parishioners' homes in January. We will certainly spend time at the annual meeting on February 6 continuing the conversation, and, as we find certain promising ideas coalescing, we will ask small working groups to explore their feasibility. As we evaluate our options, we will have three key criteria to consider:

1. Does the idea establish a platform for Trinitarians to do God's work for many years to come in serving the needs of our community?
2. Can the idea sustain 3-4 \$50,000 fundraising concepts each year over time?
3. Will this idea allow Trinity to provide a unique component to the overall Mission (as it emerges) of our cluster (Trinity, St. Paul's, St. Luke's, and St. John's)?

There is no predetermined outcome in mind. Our only goal is to come to a shared commitment to an expressed mission by the middle of next year. We are blessed with a remarkably bright, creative group of parishioners. Some have been here for decades, some are newcomers. Some are members of the vestry, many others aren't. If we enter into this journey with open hearts and minds, we're confident that we will draw even closer together as a community with a renewed faith in our ministry as loving, Christian people.



P.S. The dialogue continues in Charlie Perrin's article further in this newsletter...

## MAKING A BEQUEST TO TRINITY

Why not prayerfully consider making a bequest to Trinity in your will? The Rector or either Warden would be happy to discuss this with you, and it is a wonderful way to remain an active influence in this great parish—whether you live far or near, and whether in this life or the life to come. One way to do this is to make Trinity the residual or contingent beneficiary in your will. Other possibilities that may not require making or changing your will include making the parish a beneficiary on a life insurance policy (or policies) or the beneficiary on a bank account or IRA. You might also consider a bequest of real estate or a bequest of a specific amount. Such bequests and gifts make an enormous difference in the life of the parish. Stocks & Bonds can also be donated.

Those who have remembered Trinity in their will or in estate planning will be enrolled in the honorary Trinity Society. Please be sure to inform the Rector of your bequest to be assured of being honored in this special way.

If you are able to make a gift of any kind to Trinity, please call the church office for more information (516-621-7925).

## REMINDER...



When you put your pledge checks in the basket or in the mail, please remember to write your pledge number in the memo section of the check. This applies to online checking as well. This will help those who are counting and recording your pledges to be accurate and quick. If you do not remember your number, please call the church office (621-7925). Thank you.

Mary Lou Minard & Sheila Platt

## INTERNATIONAL SMORGASBORD

December 19<sup>th</sup>



On Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup> there will be an International Christmas Smorgasbord following the 10 am service of Lessons and Carols.

Bring your favorite ethnic dish. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. For more info call Maryellen Hansen (671-5661), Nancy Golightly (759-0819) or Ann Mingorance (759-1151).

## YOUNG ARTISTS' CONCERT HELD AT TRINITY



On Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> Trinity Church sponsored a Young Artists Concert featuring some of Trinity's finest young soloists (Laura DeBruin, Tommy Cammisa, Andrew Cordero, and Ariann Forella), as well as performers from The Guitar School of Roslyn and Friends Academy. It was a feast for the ears as well as the soul!

Many thanks to all who performed, to Harry, who eagerly greeted all attendees and handed out programs, and last, but not least, to Martha, who put it all together for our enjoyment!

## FLOWERS AT TRINITY



You may have noticed that fresh flowers are on the altar only when someone has made a donation to pay for them (or in season, when some parishioners donate flowers from their garden).

If you wish to donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the office (516-621-7925) to make the arrangements with Charlie. The cost is \$75. If you'd like to make a memorial donation for a sanctuary candle, the cost is \$25.

Both the costs for the flowers & candle include a small donation to the church.

## ADVENT AT TRINITY

On November 28 Trinity parishioners made Advent wreaths to celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. Pictured below are Adrienne, Marielle and Michael Rodriguez participating in the festivities.



## BURNING BOOKS



The next meeting will be held on January 12 at 7:30 pm at the home of Rhonda Veros, located at 2 Washington Ave., Glen Head. Please give Rhonda a call (674-3565) to let her know if you will be coming.

The book to be discussed is Hilary Mantel's "Wolf Hall," - " a darkly brilliant reimagining of life under Henry VIII..."

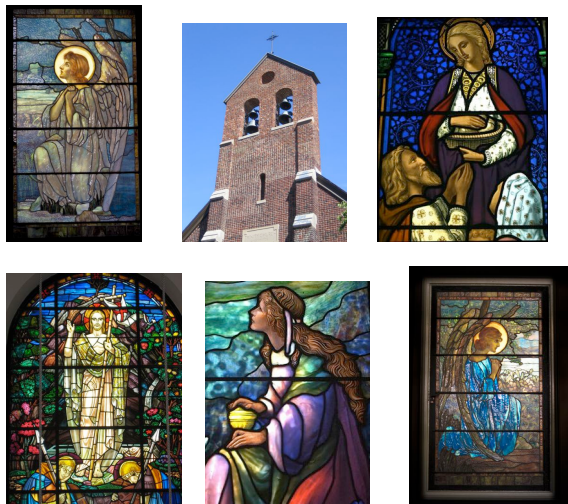
Jean Henning

## ADOPT A FAMILY



For Christmas, the parishioners at Trinity are generously providing gifts for a Glen Cove family with a 5-year old and 8-year old boy. The family is struggling financially and will be celebrating their first Christmas without their dad because tragically, he was killed in the earthquake that struck Haiti. The mom of the family is a part time Nursing Assistant in Rehab Department at Glen Cove Hospital, and works with Alexis Alexander. As for sizes, Christopher wears size 7; Michael wears a size 16; and Rose wears a size 12. Gifts of clothes are welcome as well as gift certificates to CVS/Rite Aid or Target. Please bring a wrapped gift or gift certificate by Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> to Trinity. If you have any questions feel free to contact Lisa deBruin at [lisapr@optonline.net](mailto:lisapr@optonline.net) or 944-7369.

## TRINITY PHOTO NOTECARDS FOR SALE



Professionally-printed Trinity notecards with the above images were recently sold at our Christmas Boutique, and are now available for sale to those who haven't had a chance to see them firsthand. These magnificent images were taken from our very own stained glass windows and building and are sure to inspire! The cards are 4 ¼ " x 5 ½ " and are blank inside. The back contains information about our address, phone number and website. They sell in packs of 12 for \$15 or 6 for \$10. If you need to have them mailed to you, there is an additional \$4.00 shipping/handling fee. Please call the church office for more information (516-621-7925).

## TRINITY BELLS IN YOUR EMAIL BOX?

In light of escalating office expenses, and in consideration of a more "green" way to do things, we are now offering the option to receive Trinity Bells directly in your email box. This will give you the opportunity to read the newsletter at your convenience (in color!) without additional paper clutter, and it's free! Of course, you could opt to continue receiving Trinity Bells via "snail mail". In that event, you needn't do anything and you will receive your Trinity Bells as usual.

If you would like to choose email as your delivery option, please let us know by emailing Ruth Fick (ruthafick@hotmail.com) or Kathy Mendall (kathy.mendall@liu.edu) OR by calling the church office (516-621-7925).

## TRINITY CHURCH RINGS IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON



Come celebrate the Christmas season with many family activities during the month of December. From the Holiday Boutique on December 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, to festive music, Trinity Church is ringing in the Christmas season.

On Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> the "Lessons and Carols" service will feature Christmas carols from many lands. A joyful prelude concert at 9:45 a.m. will feature soloists and choir, before the 10 a.m. service with a special musical offering of the Vivaldi Gloria.

On Christmas Eve, Trinity Church will hold two services, one at 4:00 pm for families, featuring Christmas carols and tree decorating; and another at 10:00 pm with festive music, including choral singing and organ music. In addition, there will be a musical prelude at 9:45 pm.

On Christmas morning, there will be one service at 9:30 am with traditional Christmas carols.

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Looking ahead to 2011, a small group of singers from Trinity, the new Trinity Singers, will be visiting the Atria Roslyn Assisted Living Center, around the corner, to perform a concert at 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.

## SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, January 16th

Please join us for a "Coffee Hour Adult Education" on the House of Bishops' Teaching on Immigration Issues.

## CHARLIE PERRIN AND THE MIDDLE CLUSTER

I'm Deacon Charlie Perrin. While I have lived in Queens for the past thirty some odd years, I grew up in Christ Church, Bay Ridge Brooklyn. In those days the Bishop of Long Island was James P. DeWolfe and the Book of Common Prayer we used was the 1928 edition. I don't know how many of you may remember the 1928 Prayer Book, but I mention it to make a very important point about who I am, where I'm coming from, and what the focus of my new assignment is.

The 1928 Eucharistic liturgy (known then as Holy Communion) was very different from what we do today. The most striking difference (beyond the use of Elizabethan English) was the lack of participation by the congregation. Our present day liturgy provides many opportunities for the congregation to take an active part in the service. In 1928 the congregation's participation was mostly limited to saying an occasional "amen" while the priest (referred to primarily as "the Minister") did most everything else.

In many ways this reflected what the Church was like in the late 1940's and the 1950's (or at least the way I remember it). The person up front in the vestments was the Minister and the folks in the pews were those being ministered to. The main reason for going to church was to insure entrance into heaven and spreading the Gospel, and caring for the spiritual and physical needs of the congregation and the world was entirely up to the ordained.

I tell you here and now that this is no longer the case and has not been for some time. Our current Prayer Book (the 1979 edition, which is no longer "new") was based on the premise that what makes one a minister of the Gospel is not Ordination but Baptism. This is why the liturgies in our current book not only encourage participation by all present, but they require it. The passivity of past, is just that: past.

As of the First Sunday of Advent 2010, I am the deacon for what is currently known as the Middle Cluster of the North Nassau Deanery (made up of Trinity, Roslyn; St. Luke's, Sea Cliff; St. John's of Lattingtown, Locust Valley; and St. Paul's, Glen Cove) For both me and the Diocese of

Long Island this assignment is a first; and an exciting one at that.

All of my previous assignments since my ordination in 1986 have been to individual parishes for varying lengths of time. This time I am serving four parishes simultaneously. Previously, the focus of each of my assignments depended on the needs of the particular parish to which I was assigned. This time, the Bishop himself has provided my focus in consultation with Fr. David Lowry, the Dean of the North Nassau Deanery.

My task (my focus) as the deacon for this cluster is to work with all of the Episcopalians of this cluster in identifying ministry opportunities in our communities and implementing coordinated responses to those opportunities. I am to remind us all that we are, not only members of parishes, but also members of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island working together to provide a distinctly Episcopal response to the spiritual and physical needs of the people in this part of Long Island.

It's a big job. It's not going to be easy. It's not going to happen overnight. Not everything I propose will be popular. Not everything we agree to try is going to work. But as in most things, one never knows what will be popular or what will work until it is tried. Those things that do work (popular or not) will help spread the Gospel and will benefit all our parishes.

Beginning in January I will begin participating liturgically at each parish. You'll see me every fourth Sunday and we'll begin to get to know each other. I look forward to our successful ministry as the Middle Cluster.



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*or here...*

(\$150 for 4 consecutive issues)



### **ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & BEYOND**

Sun., Dec. 5 & 12- Christmas Boutique, African Team Ministries Sale

Sun., Dec. 19- Service of Lessons & Carols- 10:00 – followed by an International Smorgasbord; donations accepted for Adopt A Family

Fri., Dec. 24- **Christmas Eve**- 4:00 pm service and 10:00 pm service (musical prelude at 9:45)

Sat., Dec. 25- **Christmas Day**- One service at 9:30 am

Sun., Jan. 16, 2011- Coffee Hour Adult Education on the House of Bishops' Teaching on Immigration Issues.

Sun., Jan. 30, 2011- The new Trinity singers (a small group of singers from Trinity) will be visiting the Atria Roslyn Assisted Living Center, around the corner, to perform a concert at 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.



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### The Mission Statement of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Church is a community where all are welcome. We seek to love God, to learn and practice Jesus' teachings, and to answer the call of those in need.

#### **Sunday Services**

10:00 Eucharist with Choir every Sunday  
8:00 & 10:00 Eucharist- 2nd Sunday of month

The Rev. Margaret A. Peckham Clark,  
Rector  
(516) 621-7925

website: [www.trinityroslyn.org](http://www.trinityroslyn.org)

Charlie Perrin, Administrative Assistant  
Martha Regelmann, Organist and Choir Director  
Michael Callahan, Sexton

#### **Wardens**

Donald Krug  
John Platt

#### **Vestry**

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Roger Gerber      | Thomas Cammisa  |
| Michael Callahan  | Jeffrey Price   |
| Dawn Weill        | Donald Kavanagh |
| Ariann Forella    | Nancy Golightly |
| Michael Rodriguez |                 |

### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

1579 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, NY 11576



Wishing all of our friends & neighbors a Blessed & Joyous Christmas!

