

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity



THE GOOD NEWS

May 31, 2020

Volume 40, Issue 6



June 6, 2020 is, in the church calendar, Trinity Sunday. It is a day on which we contemplate the mystery of one God in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is also a day on which rectors wish they had an assistant to pass it off to. Being the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, this Sunday is our festival day. We usually have a big spread and celebrate being the awesome community of faith we are. Not so much this year.

Trinity Sunday floats around the calendar every year since it's tied to Easter (57 days after Easter to be exact). So, last year's Trinity Sunday fell on a different date. Therefore, one church year ago this Sunday was my first actual Sunday as your priest-in-charge. 9 months later, I was called to be your rector. (I have to wonder if there's something to the 9 months gestation period.)

It's been quite a year. Everything was rocking along just fine until I became rector on March 15. Then all heck broke loose. That was the last time we were able to gather on the church property. All worship went on-line. "Bob, we'd like to call you as our rector. By the way, do you know how to do Facebook Live, and preach to an empty church?"

It's now been 13 weeks of live streaming our Sunday service. It's been 13 weeks since we've been able to meet face to face. A couple of you have been in the hospital and I couldn't visit. No one has received the Eucharist (besides me). We've missed 3 pot-lucks, 13 breakfasts and our Pentecost celebration. And, sadly, we're not able to celebrate Trinity Sunday. We will. It'll be a while yet. The bishop has called for us to recognize a 3-phase reopening. We are in the first phase which amounts to no in person worship or gatherings. The third phase is a full re-opening. That won't happen until the virus is well controlled, there is adequate testing and treatment and hospitals have adequate capacity. Oh, hasten the day!

The second stage is what we're all looking for fairly quickly. This is a partial re-opening with significant restrictions. The diocesan guidelines call for this to happen when the number of new infections in a parish's county have trended down for 14 days and the parish has developed a plan that is approved by the bishop.

Since the state went to phase 2 on May 18, and people have not been very good about maintaining safe practices, we're waiting to see if infections spike in the next week or so. It is doubtful that we will be open before June 21. (Don't read into this that I think we'll open then. I just don't think it will be before then.)

I put together a team to develop our re-opening guidelines: Carla Holeva (senior warden), Al Telck (building and grounds), Christy Hudgens (altar guild), Kate Menaul (8:00), Gretchen Bakke (stewardship), JK Wilson (safety), Joey Parker (tech support), Damon Tipping (acolytes), Bert Bostic (liturgy), Vangi Peek (operations). We have developed a set of guidelines which have been approved by the vestry and are in the hands of the bishop.

Once they are approved by the bishop, they will be circulated to the congregation. Things will be different. We may not like it. We may have to tweak a few things. The first couple of weeks will be holy chaos. But we will be together. Live streaming will continue for those that don't feel they should join us in person as well as for the people who have discovered us on-line.

I'm glad we had 9 months to get to know and love each other before I became rector. So far being rector has been nuts. But you know what? We're still the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity. We're not in the building that houses the church, but we are the church. We may not have fried chicken on June 7, but we can still celebrate Trinity Sunday and the goodly fellowship of saints that we call our church family.

God love you, keep the faith and wash your hands.
Bob+

Upcoming Meeting:
Vestry Zoom Meeting
Monday June 8th
at 6:00 pm

At this time all in-person worship is cancelled.
Please join us every Sunday at 10:30 am
Live on facebook!
Our service and bulletin is available on our website as well.



Please note - Our staff has part time hours and are working remotely as well. If you need assistance please call the Parish office 683.4207. Thank you!

Prayer List

THOSE WHO BEAR THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNMENT: Donald, our President; Greg, our Governor; Patrick, our Mayor.

FOR THOSE IN TROUBLE, SORROW, NEED, SICKNESS OR ANY OTHER ADVERSITY: Jay Bates, Ruben Gomez, Barbara Jowell, Fred Newman, Patrick & Elizabeth Peek, Jane Williams, Clifford Rogers, Bob Poer, Kathryn, Rayna Kennedy, Diane Brown, Jinna, J.M. Family, J.R. Family & Mark Hales.

For all those in quarantine, or affected by COVID-19.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY: Cameron Kading, Alex, and Noah.

FOR THOSE EXPECTANT FAMILIES: Trisha & Cody Seth, Destiny & Donnie, Tracey & Gregg, Ashley & Joey.



2nd - J.K. Wilson

3rd - Evan O'Leary

5th - Ryan Stewart

6th - Jordynn Gomez

7th - Sydney Stephens

10th - Caleb Washington

11th - Chuck Howbert

13th - Mike McKinney, Donna Omar

14th - Caroline Wheeler

20th - Bella Spangher

22nd - Jane Lamphere

23rd - Brian Becker

26th - Jennifer Wilson

29th - Jenness Gilles, Robbie Shepard,
Cindy Olive, William Grella

Live Streaming
on
facebook

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

10:30 am Rite II

Holy Eucharist

Livestream

Service Bulletin will be emailed out each week and is available on our website at www.holytrinity.org

LEM: Carla Holeva

Acts 2:1-21

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23

Psalms 104:25-35, 37

Thank You

Steve Almon, our sexton for the past three years is no longer working with us. We thank him for his service and wish him well in the future.

We are currently comparing bids for a professional lawn and garden service.

We are also putting together a job description for a part time (probably 15 hours per week) maintenance helper to do parish hall set up and minor maintenance chores. Larger maintenance issues will be contracted out. If you have any questions or comments, please call Fr. Bob.



Sunday
May 31st
EYC
Zoom
Meeting
5:30 pm



Jubilee Center is now up and running under new guidelines. The distributions are still on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, but it is no longer a Client Choice Pantry.

Food is prepackaged in 40 pound boxes from the West Texas Food Bank and loaded into clients' cars. They are unable to accept donations of food at this time.

The volunteers participating for check in and loading must watch a training video and wear protective clothing including gloves, masks, and overalls which are provided. They must also be between the ages of 21-50.

These changes were instituted by the Board for the safety of all during the COVID 19 crisis, and will be lifted when it is deemed safe to do so.

Even though some of us can't actively participate during this time, it is a relief to know that our friends and clients are still able to receive needed food and support. We can all support them with our prayers.

Those who are able and willing to participate in the pantries, please call Rev. Keith Gibbons (432)520-0671.

The June pantries are scheduled for June 13th & 27th.
Peace and Blessings

Holy Trinity Preschool Pre-K4 Graduation Parade!





The Episcopal Church *of the*
HOLY TRINITY

1412 West Illinois Ave
Midland, Texas 79701

Sunday - May 31, 2020
10:30 am Rite II - Live Stream Service

Monday - June 1, 2020

Tuesday - June 2, 2020

Wednesday - June 3, 2020

Thursday - June 4, 2020

Friday - June 5, 2020

“Sharing the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ with all people.”

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity Vestry

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Misti Bays	Jerry Gomez	Brenda Avelar
Orman Hubbard	Carla Holeva - Senior Warden	Gretchen Bakke
Terry Jolliffe	Kate Manual	Anne Hover-Secretary
Al Telck - Junior Warden	Robbie Shepard	Jimmy Leeton
	Paula Howbert - Treasurer	

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