

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 29, 2025

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. (Luke 9:51-56)

This gospel lesson was appointed for us to read on this Sunday of the church calendar long ago by the lectionary, yet it seems particularly timely in June 2025 when certain political leaders invoke the deity's blessing on their acts of war. Timely now, but it could also be timely at pretty much any point of history, since rulers seem to always aspire to divine favor for their plans for war or peace.

Some background might be helpful: The really important thing to know about the context of this reading is that in first century Palestine, Jews and Samaritans were enemies. So, Jesus' disciples, who are Jewish, are already primed not to like the Samaritans very much. What makes this enmity more interesting is that Jews and Samaritans had the same ancestors and many of the same religious beliefs and practices. But if you've ever been witness to a true family feud, you know that conflicts are often worse between people who should be close than between complete strangers. Then, when the Samaritan village that Jesus and his disciples visit does not receive him, James and John--appropriately nicknamed the "Sons of Thunder"--are eager to condemn this community. They ask Jesus if they should command fire from heaven to destroy the village and its inhabitants. Whether or not they even had the power to do this is questionable. But in any case, Jesus rebukes them. Violence is not his way. In fact, Jesus died on a cross rather than commit violence against his enemies.

God never approves of our violence. The Church has articulated "just war" theories that allow for Christians to defend the vulnerable, serve in the military, and take part in acts of violence. But these are accommodations to a world in need of God's transforming love. We must always seek nonviolent solutions when possible. There are too many wars in the world today. Pray for peace.

Peace be with you, Chase

Worship at Trinity

Powerful, joyful and Spirit-filled worship that is reverent, warm and inviting, with uplifting music and preaching!

Sundays: 8 AM

Holy Eucharist in the Church A gentle, said service (no music)

10 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church *Joyous, sung music*

Monday-Friday:

7:30 AM Morning Prayer said in the home M - F Resources available at www.TrinityNJ.com/Worship 7:30 AM Friday - Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesdays:

6:30 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel *Healing Service first Wednesday of the month*

Connect with Us

CONTACT US

Trinity Church, 503 Asbury Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Tel: 732-775-5084 • Fax: 732-775-3865 Email: office@trinitynj.com • Web: trinitynj.com

In the case of an emergency, death or serious illness, contact the church office. There is a pastoral emergency option on the phone if no one is available to answer.



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Venmo (@TrinityChurch)

Trinity Basics

PASTORAL SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS: Contact Jill Osis in the parish office for all non-emergency pastoral needs: Baptisms, the rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (personal confession & counsel), Blessing of Marriage & Unions, communion for the sick and homebound, or visits to the hospital.

PANTRY & COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN: The Trinity Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:30AM-1PM and on Saturday, a hot, sit-down meal is served from 11:30AM-12:30PM.

Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@TrinityNJ.com.

CHOIRS: Find out about our dynamic and growing choirs, contact Dr. Deborah Simpkin King at Deborah@TrinityNJ.com for information!

PARISH LEADERSHIP (Vestry):

Bill Presutti (warden) Carol Scollay (warden) Brice Byham, Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin, Wendy Jaghab, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, Maria Tassiello, and Adrienne Wert You may contact the vestry at: vestrywardens@trinitynj.com

Parish Staff

The Rev. Chase Danford, Rector *FrChase@trinitynj.com*

- The Rev. Tom Conway, Assisting Priest *Tom@trinitynj.com*
- The Rev. Geoffrey Curtiss, Assisting Priest *geoffcurtiss@gmail.com*
- The Rev. Katherine Cunningham, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor *Katherine@trinitynj.com*
- The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor *Revlu@trinitynj.com*
- The Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor *TomP@trinitynj.com*

Jennifer Berger Brown,	Development Manager for
Donor Relations	5
Jennifer@Trinitynj.com	

- Kris Hlatky, Casework Manager Kris@Trinitynj.com
- Deborah Simpkin King, Director of Music and Arts Deborah@trinitynj.com
- Derek Bloom, Director of Community Engagement & Organizing Derek@trinitynj.com
- Kenny Miller, Property Assistant
- Siobhan Noland, Development Manager for Grants *Siobhan@Trinitynj.com*
- Jill Osis, Director of Operations Jill@trinitynj.com
- Courtney Pearson, Operations Manager Courtney@trinitynj.com
- Tim Sexsmith, Property Supervisor Tim@trinitynj.com

Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Faye Hudson	Arlene Whalen	Mike Mack	Melody Phillips
Jackie Campanelli	Ariel	Christ Episcopal Church,	Miles Lagstein
Manal Miller	Diane	Toms River	Sylvia
Stephanie	Roxanne Coghan	Gregory Curatolo	Greg Manzi
Margaret Jones	Jack Napolitano	Loni Hulse	
Miles	Peggy McGinn	Tom Donahue	
Family of Lauren Lagoeiro	Denzel Donaldson	Jen	



If you would like to be added to the prayer list or would like to add someone else (*please get their permission first*), please email prayer@trinitynj.com or call Wendy Jaghab at 732-616-8568 by the Tuesday before you would like the name to appear in the bulletin. Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, and can be readded upon request.

Prayer Team Ministry. During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them are invited to come to one of the prayer stations located in the back of the church. A member of the Trinity Prayer Team will say a prayer with you for yourself or someone else. You are welcome to sit or stand during the prayer. What is said at the prayer station is held in confidence by the person who prays with you. They cannot talk with you or anyone else about your requested prayer without your permission. The only exception is a person intending to harm themselves or someone else. Questions about this ministry? Contact Joanie McCoy, leader of the Prayer Team at 908-216-5529 or 732-780-3111 or PrayerTeam@TrinityNJ.com.

Trinity Cycle of Prayer During Morning Prayer this week, we will be praying for the following Trinity Parishioners and Friends:

6/30 Andy, Nora, Otis, & Mae Doyle Place	7/1 Debbie & Bob Hennelly	7/2 Dave Henry	7/3 Tim Higgins	7/4 Kym, Michael, Gabrielle, & Gwendolyn Hoffman
6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4 Kym Michael

News & Notes

Children's Sermons This Summer: TODAY! Last Sunday of Each Month

The last Sunday each month this summer--June 29, July 27, and August 31--will feature a sermon for all ages by our rector, the Rev. Chase Danford. These Sundays would be good occasions to invite families to visit Trinity.

What's a Parish Nurse? Forum on June 29

Did you know that Trinity has a parish nursing ministry? Parish nursing addresses the health and wellness needs of our parishioners and the community we serve, aligning with the vision and core value of Trinity Church that health care is a right and not a privilege. Parish nurses do not directly treat parishioners, but educate, refer, and assist in coordination of care. Come learn more about parish nursing from parishioner and volunteer parish nurse MaryAnn Vitiello today at 9am in the auditorium.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game! Trinity BlueClaws Trip July 18 Get Your Tickets Now!

It's baseball time! Join us on Friday, July 18th for a 7pm game at the BlueClaws' Lakewood stadium. The theme for the night is Star Wars and there will be fireworks after the game. Tickets are \$13 and they can be reserved and paid for in advance by visiting https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z95F/campaign/C-14XYJ, scanning the QR code to the right or by contacting Courtney Pearson in the parish office or emailing her at Courtney@trinitynj.com. There is a deadline of July 13th for purchasing tickets. We will be meeting in the parking lot at 5:30pm for fellowship time before the game! It is always a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship when we gather together to cheer on our local BlueClaw.



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Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Please come join us on Wednesdays at 5pm as we read scripture and discuss how it relates to our lives now! Beginners always welcome! Questions call Joanie @ 908-216-5529

News & Notes

Social Sips: A Summer Cocktail/Mocktail Party for a Cause! July 15th at 5pm at Watermark



The Trinity Center for Community invites you to join us for an evening of hors d'oeuvres and cocktails/mocktails with a beautiful view of the ocean at Watermark on the Asbury Park Boardwalk. We gather together from 5-8pm to support the Trinity Center for Community and our program successes! Tickets are \$95 each and can be purchased by going to www.trinitynj.com/socialsips or using the QR Code to the left. Deadline to purchase is July 1st.

Guest Preacher and Poor People's Campaign Presentation July 13

The Rev. Rupert Hall, United Methodist pastor and founder/executive director of Hope for the City, will be our guest preacher at both the 8 am and 10 am services on July 13. Pastor Hall and the Rev. Douglas Grote, Trinity parishioner and Presbyterian pastor, will also lead a presentation and discussion on the Poor People's Campaign and how to get involved in the New Jersey chapter. The presentation will be in the auditorium at 9 am.

Trinity Summer Fellowship Series Is Here!

Our Hospitality Committee invites you to participate in our Summer Fellowship Series! We have several events happening and you are welcome to attend as many as you wish!

Friday, July 18 at 7pm – BlueClaws Baseball & Fireworks (\$13) Join us for a fun evening of baseball, friendship, fireworks, & fun! We'll meet in the parking lot before the game for some extra fellowship time! Details on page 3! **Tuesday, August 5 at 7:30pm - N&D Electric Duo Concert** (free) Bring a beach chair or blanket for a night of dancing and fun at the Avon Pavilion in Avon. Wear your Trinity t-shirt or gear if you have it and meet us on the beach next to the boardwalk on the North side of the Pavilion.

Tuesday, August 26 at 6pm - Sensational Soul Cruisers Concert (free) The Asbury Park Music Foundation Summer Series presents the Sensational Soul Cruisers at Springwood Park in Asbury Park. Wear your Trinity t-shirt or gear if you have it and bring chairs or blankets. We'll meet at Springwood Park and enjoy music under the stars.

Volunteer Opportunities in our Feeding Programs!

On Tuesdays, our Food Pantry is looking for people to sign up to be here from 9:30am-1pm to provide hospitality and help with pantry flow. Pantry guests wait in our gym as a place for people to gather and receive hospitality while they waiting for their turn to be served. Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@trinitynj.com. Sign up to volunteer here: www.signupgenius.com/go/8050848ADAF2FA1FD0-45101754-pantry

Saturday Soup Community Meal On the first Saturday of every month, we invite you to volunteer on Trinity Saturdays from 10am till 1:30pm. Please sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050848ADAF2FA1FD0-trinity1

How Can I Help? ~ Volunteer and Worship Opportunities at Trinity

We have many opportunities to volunteer during worship here at Trinity! Here are a few of the ministries that we are recruiting volunteers for at this time:

Greeters: It feels great to be greeted by a friendly, welcoming face whether its your first time or your 100th time attending! Greeters at the 8 & 10am service welcome those attending, answer questions, and hand out name tags. **LEMs:** Lay Eucharistic Ministers assist in worship. They may carry the torches, cross, or Gospel Book. They assist at the altar by acting as acolytes, and distribute the wine and grape juice at communion.

Gardens & Grounds: Do you like to dig in the dirt? Come spend some time weeding and caring for our gardens and grounds. You can come whenever you like for as long as you like!

Interested? Email us at office@trinitynj.com