



Welcome

to Trinity Church

The Ninth Sunday
after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white...Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" (Luke 9:28-29, 35)

On Wednesday (August 6), the Church commemorated the Feast of the Transfiguration. We are perhaps more accustomed to hearing the story of the Transfiguration on the last Sunday of the Epiphany season, right before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. But technically the Feast of the Transfiguration is in August. This year, at the weekly Wednesday Eucharist, I shared a reflection from Brian Flanagan, a Roman Catholic theologian. Here are a couple of paragraphs:

The Transfiguration isn't just about revealing who Jesus is, but also about who we are. This moment isn't just about the presence of God in the life of Jesus, but about the potential presence of God in our own humanity. Our Eastern Christian siblings have often done a better job of preserving St. Athanasius' (and countless others') teaching that "God became human so that humans could become God." This idea of theosis or divinization suggests that what is revealed in the life of Jesus is not simply Jesus' particular mission and identity, but also the capacity of a human being – and by extension, of all human beings – to be restored and elevated images of God. When we become adopted children of God, we are brought into a relationship with God Jesus' relationship with God. St. Augustine writes, "If we have been made sons [children] of God, we have also been made gods."

That's shocking language, and it's meant to be, because it's language that's trying to point to the new idea of the relation between God and creation that Jesus' incarnation exemplifies...From this angle, the Transfiguration is not only a story about Jesus revealing something about himself to his friends, but it's also a story about Jesus revealing something about us, and about who we are called to be...[the] capacity to see ourselves as capable of holiness, as capable of being the real presence of Christ in the world, is one often denied to LGBTQ+ folks, and yet here we can not only affirm that possibility, but think about how our experience helps us better understand the Incarnation.

On the same day as the Feast of Transfiguration, the New York Times published a podcast (and printed transcript) of a conversation between an evangelical pastor and his gay son. I highly recommend it. It was a moving and beautiful conversation that recounted a transformation--dare I say a transfiguration--of the pastor's relationship to God, LGBTQ people, and his son. The pastor, Bill White, said, "When my son came out, I lost everything. I lost my sense of myself. So, yes, it was terribly unnerving. And yes, it was wonderfully freeing to have lost that rigid certainty, that closed system of belief, and to have a more open-ended faith that centered on the love of Jesus. It was the best thing that ever happened to me, and also before that, the worst." He shared a prayer journal entry from 2019, four years after his son Timothy came out: "As Katie [his wife, Timothy's mother] prayed last night, she thanked you for the remarkable gift of Timothy coming out and how we thought it was the end, but it was only the beginning of a full, true, vibrant life in Christ. Father, thank you, that you created our son gay. Forgive me for how poorly I received that gift." Timothy, Bill and Katie's son, said, "It's really something when your dad can have the worst thing possible happen to them and then it becomes the best thing possible in their life. What a transformation. And I think there's God in that." Amen.

Peace, Chase

Providing **healing**, proclaiming **hope** & practicing **God's unconditional love.**

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

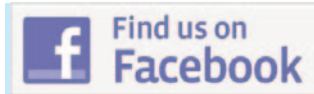
CONTACT US

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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.



[Facebook.com/TrinityAP](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityAP)



[Instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP](https://www.instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP)
(#TrinityChurchAP)



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. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
Revolu@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
TomP@trinitynj.com

Jennifer Berger Brown, Development Manager for Donor Relations
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	Miles	Zoe & Taz	Eric
Jackie Campanelli	Denzel Donaldson	Addison Levenstein	Carol Joy Jacobson
Manal Miller	Gregory Curatolo	Tom Johnson	Bill Koegel
Stephanie	Sylvia	Chet Szymanski	
Margaret Jones	Greg Manzi	Mark Gordon	

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:

8/11	8/12	8/13	8/14	8/15
Jeanne McArthur	Terence McCorry	Joanie McCoy and Loni Hulse	Mark McDonald	Kevin McDonald

News & Notes

Family Game Night ~ Saturday, August 16th at 5:30pm

Hey kids! Bring your parents/guardians, bring your friends, and most importantly, bring your FUN to Trinity's Family Game Night! We will gather at 5:30pm next Saturday, August 16th for pizza, games, and lots of fun with friends! Parents will have your own time of dinner and fellowship where we will be talking about our children's program and our hopes and needs in the short and long term. Please let us know if you can make it and if you have any dietary restrictions so we know how much food to plan by emailing Jill at Jill@trinitynj.com. See you there!

School Supply Drive and Blessing of the Backpacks ~ Sunday, August 31st

We are collecting school supplies for students from our community through Sunday, August 31st. On the 31st, we are inviting all of our Trinity kids, youth, young adults, and teachers returning to school to bring their backpacks/bags to the 8 or 10am service for a Blessing of the Backpacks and School Supplies for a new year of learning and fun! We are collecting backpacks, lunch boxes, folders, notebooks, pencils, pencil cases, crayons, glue sticks, highlighters etc. Bring your supplies by on Sundays or during the week by appointment. Thank you!

Monday Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom ~ New Series Begins August 11th

The Monday Bible Study will begin a new focus on Monday August 11th. We will spend a couple of weeks exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Jesus Movement Manifesto of what the early church stood for rather than simply being perceived as against Roman Imperialism. Based on Hebrew Scripture the Lord's Prayer captures the essence of the meaning of God's Reign. If you are interested in participating please contact Lindacurtiss@gmail.com for information.

Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Please come out to Bible Sharing on Wednesdays @ 5pm for "Summer Potpourri"! Each week there will be presented a new Faith topic which we will explore interactively. We will have fun as we grow so please join us! Beginners welcome. Questions? Call Joanie 908-216-5529

Let's Get Ready to Ride for Food Justice ~ September 6, 2025 ~ Start/Join a Team Today!

The 7th Annual Jersey Shore Ride for Food Justice is back! Last year we raised \$66,000 for our Food & Housing Justice Programs at Trinity. We are excited to beat that goal this year and we are going to need your help! To find out more about the ride or to join, visit us here: <https://bit.ly/justiceride>, scan the QR Code, or contact Dave Osis at Foodjusticeride@gmail.com.



Trinity Summer Fellowship Series - Sensational Soul Cruisers Concert Tuesday, August 26 at 6pm at Springwood Park

Our Hospitality Committee invites you to participate in the last event of our Summer Fellowship Series: 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.

Weiland/Posten Scholarship Applications Due September 1st

The Weiland/Posten Scholarship, given in memory of former Trinity parishioner Frank Weiland, is available annually to all members of Trinity enrolled in a post-High School program. This includes vocational and professional schools as well as colleges and universities. The applicant should be involved in the life of Trinity Church in some capacity. Applicants are encouraged to submit a letter to the church office detailing educational goals with evidence of acceptance into one of the post-secondary programs as listed above by September 1st. Details of participation in Trinity should also be noted. The letters will be reviewed by the vestry and the scholarship, in the amount of \$500, will be granted by October 1st. Please submit your letter of interest to office@trinitynj.com

Christian Nationalism Book Discussion at Holy Trinity, Manasquan: Aug 14 and 21

Our friends at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Manasquan invite all to a two-part discussion on "Understanding Christian Nationalism", a political ideology that is much in the news today. Lutheran Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has described Christian Nationalism as a "persistent threat to both our religious communities and our democracy." Amanda Tyler's book, *How to End Christian Nationalism*, will be the basis for the discussion. Thursday evenings, August 14 and August 21, from 7 to 8:30pm in the Holy Trinity Fellowship Hall, 6 Osborn Avenue, Manasquan. **Important:** If you are interested in attending you need to register ahead of time with Letita Jensen at letitajensen@yahoo.com. There is a video we are asked to see along with questions in preparation for the discussion.

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>

Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!

Summer Sundays - Join us on Sundays as we have some summer fun each week beginning at 9:45am. We will read stories, make crafts, play games and then rejoin our families after The Peace. For questions, contact Jill Osis at Jill@trinitynj.com.

Children's Sermon August 31st - Our last Summer Children's Sermon will be August 31st and will feature a sermon for all ages by our rector, the Rev. Chase Danford. This would be good occasions to invite families to visit Trinity.

Nursery - Our Nursery is open every Sunday from 9:45am until the end of the service. The nursery will accept children aged 6 months through 4 years. The nursery is located at the end of the hallway in the office wing.