

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

Recently the New York Times ran a feature story on the stone masons who work to preserve York Minster, an enormous medieval cathedral in northern England that took 250 years to build. Construction began in 1220, and the completed cathedral was consecrated in 1472--20 years before Columbus set sail across the Atlantic. Three centuries later, an architectural survey determined that the structure needed urgent repairs. Restoration began in 1802 and has never stopped. The craftspeople who devote their careers to preserving this sacred space and architectural master-piece think of their work in terms of centuries: the head of the team remarked that their scaffolding is on a 100-year rotation. The scope of the preservation is astonishing: seven full-time stonemasons and four apprentices work to maintain, restore, and when necessary, replace the exterior and interior stonework. They are joined by a team of 50 glaziers, carpenters, painters, gilders and specialist electricians. The daily cost of operating York Minster is \$45,800 (almost \$17 million per year), funded by visitors' fees, donations and grants. It a huge undertaking, but a rewarding one. One of the stonemasons remarked: "The feeling of value in what we do here is something we never lose. There is a huge sense of responsibility but it is incredibly satisfying to think that what I am doing now will be part of the great building long after I am gone."

While preservation is expensive and time-consuming, the cost of not maintaining historic structures can be devastating. York Minster's master stonemason emeritus said, "What people often fail to realize is that a slow-motion destruction is taking place before their eyes with rain, weather, condensation, climate change taking a constant steady toll."

Sometimes that slow-motion destruction changes rapidly. In January 2024, the beautiful stone steeple of the historic, 170 year old First Congregational Church of New London, Connecticut, suddenly collapsed, destroying the roof and the bulk of the church in seconds. The ruins of the building were condemned and razed. This is a highly unusual event, but it reminds us of the importance of maintaining historic church buildings.

Our beloved Trinity Church is structurally sound, but it is time to restore our stonework. In places, the mortar connecting stones is crumbling. While our church is "only" 115 years old, the salt air of the ocean takes a toll. I am grateful to our strong lay leadership, from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to the Vestry, for their careful stewardship of our sacred space. We will soon embark on a project of repointing the stonework, which involves removing deteriorating mortar and replacing it. While we're at it, the exterior of the church will undergo a full cleaning. In addition to securing the stonework, this project will also help waterproof the church, and we will likely see some reduction in water infiltration to the interior (to fully realize that benefit, we'll need to restore some parts of the roof sooner than later, too). The work will thankfully not take centuries, as at York Minster; it should be completed in three months. This will be an expensive project, but one achievable for us, thanks to the generosity of parishioners over the years who have helped us build us strong cash reserves. We do not believe that we will need to touch our invested funds for this project. Over the next year, we plan to begin the first phase of an accessibility project and also do critical repairs to stained glass windows. The Finance Committee and Vestry will study our financial resources and determine whether we will need to dip into our investments to do this work. We will also undertake a capital

continues on page 3

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.TrinityNl.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.



Facebook.com/TrinityAP



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 Revlu@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@trinitynj.com

Tim Sexsmith, Property Supervisor *Tim@trinitynj.com*

Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Faye Hudson Miles Dr. William F. Taylor Tom Dempsey Jackie Campanelli Denzel Donaldson Susanne Anderson Tom Hunter Manal Miller **Gregory Curatolo** Suzanne O'Hearn Michael Issacson Stephanie Samantha Robinson Peggy Adam Rymer

Margaret Jones Denise & Bill Pearson Bruno

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:

10/20 10/21 10/22 10/23 10/24

Patty Reynolds Pamela Robinson Bob Roccia Craig & Cathy Barbara Rutan

Rothfuss

News & Notes

Fr. Chase's reflection continued from page 1

campaign at some point, primarily with the aim of taking on a larger accessibility renovation, but probably also looking to complete critical preservation work.

This Sunday we launch our Fall Stewardship campaign, "I Believe," as we seek to build the financial support for our 2026 operating budget. Your generous support of the annual campaign funds the ongoing life of the church, which makes possible capital projects like the preservation of our building. It is also the base upon which we have built the Trinity Center for Community, our church's outreach ministry to our neighbors. Thank you for sharing your time, your talent, and your treasure here at Trinity. You are helping to create a place of joy, sanctuary, and transformation for the present and ages to come.

Peace, Chase			

Fall Church Clean-Up – Volunteers Needed! Saturday, October 25th at 9:30am Sponsored by the Buildings and Grounds Committee

As the seasons change, it's time for our Annual Fall Church Clean-Up! We'll be coming together on Saturday, October 25th at 9:30 AM to freshen up God's house by cleaning the pews, altar, floors, and other areas throughout the church. There may also be some light cleanup outside to help tidy up the church grounds. Many hands make light work, and your help would be greatly appreciated! Whether you can stay for an hour or the whole morning, every bit makes a difference. Let's work together to keep our sacred space—inside and out—beautiful and welcoming for all. We'll meet inside the church. We hope to see you there!

Another Opportunity for Church Architecture Presentation: Today after Both Services!

If you missed the discussion last month about the various sources of Trinity's architecture and style you'll get another chance today at 9:00 am and following the 10 am service's coffee hour (approximately 11:40 am).

News & Notes

Our Halloween Celebration is Almost Here! ~ Sunday, October 26 at 11:15am

Join us after the 10am service on Sunday, October 26th for a celebration of All Souls' Day and Halloween! Everyone is invited to come join the fun in the gym and to wear a costume for the after-church celebration! We'll have holiday-related contests, treats, and activities! Fun for kids of all ages!

Believe

"I Believe..." Video Project - Be Part of It!

We're creating a short video featuring members of our church starting with the words "I believe..." — and we'd love for you to be part of it! We'll be filming brief, 5–10 second clips after services over the next few Sundays. Just come ready to share one sentence about what you believe. No pressure — just your voice, your heart, and a few seconds that could inspire many. Want to join in? Stop by the back of the church after mass or talk to Megan Jones for details!

Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm!

Ever want to know more about the early church? Here is your opportunity! Join us on Wednsdays at 5pm as we study the Book of Acts! All are welcome to join our friendly group at 5pm! Questions? Call Joanie 908-216-5529

Code Blue Regional Training ~ Tuesday, October 28 at 6pm

Want to learn more about Code Blue? Join us at Trinity on Tuesday, October 28th from 6-8pm as we join with the Hope & Comfort Center and Heartwarming Center (both located in Red Bank) for a training to learn how we can serve our community and better meet the needs of those who come to us for warmth and care. We will hear from local service providers and get some practical information, trainings and resources. There will also be a break out session that will have site-specific information. Join us!

Remembering All Our Saints! ~ Sunday, November 8, 5-7pm

This year, All Saints' Day will be celebrated on Sunday, November 2. You are encouraged to bring a picture of loved ones gone from sight but remembered in your heart. The pictures will be placed around our altar as a reminder of the "great cloud of witnesses" that surrounds us, joining in when we lift our voice to pray or sing God's praise. Our Book of Remembrance will be available where you can list the names of those loved ones that we would like to remember during the services. If you are unable to attend the service that day, you are welcome to submit names of loved ones to the church office at office@trinitynj.com. All names will be placed on the altar to be included in the prayers. Please have all emailed names into the office by October 31st.

Trinity's Stewardship Potluck Gathering ~ Saturday, November 8, 5-7pm

Trinity's Stewardship Potluck Gathering will take place on Saturday, November 8th from 5-7 pm in the Auditorium. All are invited! There will be a children's program during the gathering so bring the whole family! Stewardship Committee members will be around after the 8 am and 10 am services the next few Sundays with clipboards for those interested in signing up to bring a covered main dish, side dish or dessert. You can also reach out to Wendy Jaghab at wendyjaghab@gmail.com to sign up or ask questions. Come join your fellow Trinity members to learn about Stewardship and share your gratitude for what Trinity Church means to you and how you can contribute!

Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom ~ Mondays at 5pm on Zoom

We will look at the Moral Teachings of Jesus from the Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. The basis of our study will be from the book by David P. Gushee. We will also be using the Jewish Annotated New Testament by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. It is critical in our own time for us to understand the moral teachings of the Hebrew tradition as expounded upon by Jesus. For information regarding the Zoom, contact lindacurtiss@gmail.com

Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) Update

We are building a chapter of EPF here at Trinity. The purpose is to bring together the social justice interests of our diverse congregation and to work on issues both locally and nationally. Some have expressed interest in reading the book Genocide by Chris Hedges which Episcopalians across the country interested in Palestine are reading. Also on Sunday, December 14th between the services EPF will gather for a light breakfast. To be included in updates please let Geoff Curtiss know at geoffcurtiss@gmail.com.