

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 23, 2025

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:15-16)

This Sunday we observe the Feast of Christ the King, or in more gender expansive terms, the Reign of Christ. This is one of the newest major feast days, having been added to the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church in 1925, three years after Benito Mussolini, a fascist, rose to power in Italy. The concept of Reign of Christ Sunday is that we join with the church throughout the ages in affirming that Jesus Christ is Lord--and that affirmation has from the very beginning of the Jesus Movement meant that Caesar is not Lord, that no human ruler is our Lord. Instead, we follow a different Monarch: the King of Love and Prince of Peace.

Was fascism on the mind of Pope Pius XI in declaring the Feast of Christ the King? Scholars debate this, but the Reign of Christ stands in stark contrast to totalitarianism. Leaders should protect and seek the welfare of the people, but so often the reverse is true. The promise of Christ the King is that here is a leader who will rule by serving, who will turn upside down all the oppressive systems of this world to guide us to the path of love, liberation, and life.

Peace, 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.



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

Clergy 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*

Lay Staff:

Ayanna Adams, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

Ayanna@Trinitynj.com

Casandra Arroyo, Office Assistant Casandra@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 Samantha Robinson Tom Liz DeJesus

Jackie Campanelli Denise & Bill Pearson Hunter Barbara Muzychka

Manal Miller Dr. William F. Taylor Michael Issacson Mona

Stephanie Susanne Anderson Adam Rymer Annette Owens Margaret Jones Suzanne O'Hearn Jackie Phyllis Koch Miles Peggy John Asfour Susan W.

Denzel Donaldson Bruno Tina S Gregory Curatolo Tom Dempsey Tom S

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

11/24 11/25 11/26 11/27 11/28

Ashley Tobin Karen & Fallyn Treiber Chris Tyree John VanGuilder MaryAnn Vitiello &

Donna Griffin

News & Notes

Celebrating Stewardship: I Believe

Last week we gathered our 2026 pledge cards as we celebrated the conclusion of the fall stewardship campaign, "I Believe." There is still an opportunity to fill out an online pledge card linked in our Friday email blast or one of the envelope pledges located on your pews and at the back of the church. So far we have gathered 62 pledges - join your Trinity Community in helping us vision and build our future together!

Adult Christian Education Committee Forming

We are re-establishing a group of adults interested in designing and carrying out Adult Education at Trinity. We will meet together in December. Interested? Please let Rev. Geoff Curtiss know at geoffcurtiss@gmail.com

Sunday School Teachers Needed

We're excited to grow our Sunday School ministry and are seeking volunteers who feel called to teach our youth and help plant seeds of faith in their lives. If you're interested or have questions, please email Ayanna Adams at Ayanna@trinitynj.com or feel free to connect with her after service.

Do You Knit or Crochet?

Calling all knitters and crocheters for baptismal blankets construction! Our supplies have run out! If you are interested in providing a baptismal blanket for our youngest Trinity folk then please call Mary at 908-309-0786. She will give you information on type of wool, color, and size for blanket. Wool can be provided. We would like to have a few on hand for January Baptisms!

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Advent and Christmas at Trinity



This year, each Sunday of Advent will feature a different preacher from within the Trinity community. November 30: the Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor; December 7: Derek Bloom, Director of Community Engagement and Organizing; December 14: the Rev. Geoff Curtiss, Assisting Priest (on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood); December 21: the Rev. Chase Danford, Rector.

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like... A Christmas Party! Sunday, December 7th at 2pm

Please join us for our Annual Christmas Gathering on Sunday, December 7th at 2pm in our Auditorium! There will be food, fun and some new Christmas-themed games for all ages to enjoy! It's a wonderful way to mingle with our parishioners! Festive Holiday attire is encouraged!!!!!

See you then.....

DIY Advent Craft Kits Available ~ Next Sunday, November 30th

This year, the Hospitality Committee will be offering Advent Kits To-Go. Kits will be available at the back of the church after each Mass on November 30. Candles, weekly devotional prayers, scripture readings and some fun tasks will be included as we prepare spiritually for this Christmas season.

Advent Bible Sharing: Birth of the Messiah

Join us for a special Advent Wednesday Bible Sharing on December 3rd and December 10th. We will open up the Gospels of Jesus' birth and leave time for Lectio Divina. It will be a wonderful way to lead us into the season of Advent. You are encouraged to attend both nights but come when you can. (Refreshments and warm welcome served) 12/3 Wednesday 5PM Joseph, Magis, & a star. 12/10 Wednesday 5PM Mary, Angels, & sheep. Followed by our Wednesday evening service at 6:30 PM.

Spiritual Book Reading Group for Advent

For Advent we invite interested members of the congregation to read *The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage* by Joan Chittister. There will be the opportunity for discussion on Sundays 12/7 and 12/21 over coffee beginning at 8:50 a.m. come and join us. Questions? Email Fr. Geoff at geoffcurtiss@gmail.com.

GLOW Holiday Concert ~ December 14 at Trinity

Trinity Choir and Ember team up again this December for a light-themed concert, again branded as GLOW. Many will remember a similar joyful event this time last year. This year's holiday program, called "GLOW - Light and Miracles," shines with music inspired by both spiritual and earthly light: the miracle of Hanukkah, the quiet awe of Christmas, and the universal spark that binds us together. This year the Trinity Choir will be featured with several selections of their own, in addition to joining with Ember on two pieces. Come, enjoy and support your Trinity Choir - and consider showing them off to a neighbor you'll bring along. December 14, 5 pm, at Trinity Church. Tickets are available through EmberArts.org

NJ Gay Men's Chorus Sings! Saturday, December 13 at 8pm

Sleigh bells ring and the gay men sing! This holiday season, NJGMC brings you Fa La La with a fabulous twist. From traditional choral classics to a pop culture diva, this concert is filled with heartfelt harmonies, queer cheer, and joyful surprises. As always, our annual holiday cookie sale will sweeten the night. Join us Saturday evening, December 13, 8:00 PM at Trinity Episcopal Church, 503 Asbury Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ. Tickets are \$25 for adults, and \$20 for seniors and students. Visit njgmc.org, or contact the Chorus at (732)579-8449, or purchase your tickets through your favorite NJGMC member! Tickets are also available at the door on the night of the concert.

Social Justice Coffee Hour: Plastics Project Sunday, November 30th after the 8 & 10am Services

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Every year 340 million tons of plastic is dumped into our environment. The U.S. contributes the largest share of any nation with 17-20% of this waste, even though we are only 4% of the world's population. This is 335 lbs. of plastic waste, per person, per year in this country. Worldwide only 9% of plastic is recycled, in the U.S. it's even less, at 5%.

Plastic waste is harmful in many ways:

- As a substance, it has the longest decomposing time frame- even more than metal or glass!
- Plastic is the #1 factor harming and diminishing our sea life.
- Plastic is highly energy intensive to produce, creating a large carbon footprint.
- Plastic has a base of limited fossil fuels
- Plastic in the air/water/food has been linked to human health concerns; respiratory, brain functioning and cancer.

As stewards of this earth, God has entrusted us to take care of it. You may say, but what can I, one person, really do to impact this problem?

On November 30th, after both the 8 and 10 services, the EARTH project will have a table at coffee hour. Available to you will be a list of recyclable and non recyclable plastics. Come learn more about increasing your personal plastic re-use and reducing your personal plastic waste. While learning about this, we challenge you to take the "Plastic Pledge". The Plastic Pledge is an action you can take each time you go grocery shopping. Each week when do your usual shopping, right before check out, challenge yourself to make one "non plastic" decision, this may be switching a shrink wrapped item for an item not in shirk wrapped, this may be buying something is a glass jar instead of a plastic jar, maybe it's entirely not getting the saran wrap and deciding to use Tupperware instead. There is strength in numbers, if all Trinty members took the pledge, we'd eliminate 18 tons of plastic in a year.....18 tons! Amen! So come by the EARTH table on Sunday November 30th after both services, learn more about plastics, take the pledge and help the EARTH.

Episcopal Peace Fellowship Book Study

Some of us in the Episcopal Peace Fellowship are reading the book *A Genocide Foretold: reporting on survival and resist-ance in occupied Palestine* by Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist Chris Hedges, who is also an ordained Presbyterian minister. We plan to hold a Zoom discussion on Monday night November 17th at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to join the group please email Geoff Curtiss geoffcurtiss@gmail.com or text him at 201-892-2960 with your email address. Many members of EPF chapters across the country are reading this book.

Cristosal Update

On our 25th Anniversary this week we released an 81 page report detailing the violence going on in El Salvadoran prisons and the abuses of Human Rights. Please consider a financial contribution to our work this year. You may go to Cristosal.org for more information or speak with Geoff Curtiss about supporting this significant effort.

World AIDS Day 2025 ~ Monday, December 1st at 7pm

Join us for our annual World AIDS Day interfaith/nonsectarian program here at Trinity Church on Monday, December 1st at 7pm. The theme this year is "Remember, Rethink, Rebuild, Rise." There will be several musical performances (including from Trinity's own Rand Hubiak), poetry, candlelight reading of the names of those who have passed, and brief reflections from community leaders. Also note that the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display at Paradise on November 30th from 1-7pm.

Trinity's Episcopal Peace Fellowship Group

We will meet on Sunday 12/14 from 8:50 to 9:50 for discussion on what we are interested in PRAY=READ=ACT together at Trinity. You can visit the Episcopal Peace Fellowship for ideas. There are also a number of local issues we will present for us to consider. Visit episcopalpeacefellowship.net for more information.

Eastertide Retreat to Holy Cross Monastery: Wednesday April 8-Friday, April 10, 2026

Please consider joining fellow Trinity parishioners in our latest retreat to Holy Cross Monastery, a regular favorite event. Enjoy the comfort, peace and tranquility of these Benedictine brother's guesthouse and beautifully kept grounds overlooking the majestic Hudson River. Savor delicious, fresh, professionally prepared community meals, and take advantage of ample opportunities for worship and meditation. Most importantly, relish in a time of fellowship and retreat with friends and members of our Trinity community- sign up today! Space is limited, \$115/night, total \$230, scholarships available, double occupancy also available upon request. Questions? See or contact Andy Place at andyplace33@gmail.com. You can access Holy Cross's website at: www.holycrossmonastery.com30th.

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

We continue our exploration on the Moral Teachings of Jesus. We are currently looking at materials from the Gospel of Matthew. To join please email lindacurtiss@gmail.com to be included. Our sessions are recorded and can be forwarded to keep you up to date.

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

Adult Education at 9 am this Sunday and Upcoming

This Sunday, November 23: Fr. Chase will report back from the 242nd Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey. We'll start with a brief introduction to how a congregation like Trinity relates to the wider diocese (region of churches led by a bishop), and how we are governed. Then we'll discuss the keynote address by Archbishop of Jerusalem Hosam Naoum, the state of the diocese, and resolutions considered at the Convention, including on immigration advocacy, support for war torn Gaza, and establishing a diocesan reparations trust fund. We will meet in the multipurpose classroom.

November 30: On the first Sunday of Advent, Fr. Chase will lead an exploration of the meaning of this liturgical season and will offer resources for spiritual practice.

December 7 and 21: Fr. Geoff will lead a discussion of Sister Joan Chittister's book, "The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage."

December 14: Fr. Geoff will lead a conversation about the formation of our new Episcopal Peace Fellowship chapter. (please note that this session will begin at 8:50).