



Trinity Times News of Trinity Church

From the Priest-in-Charge

Dear Friends,

One of the privileges that I have as a priest is I can sit with a family when their loved one is near death. Sometimes this wait is quick and sometimes it is an extended wait. Sometimes it occurs at a hospital or nursing home, sometimes it is at home. Either way, I am brought into the inner circle of the family. This is a great honor. When the wait is short, there may be little talking, or if there is, it is in hushed tones. Most of what I do is listen. When this occurs, I hope and pray that my presence will make a difference for the family and for the person dying.

When the wait

extends longer than a few hours, when it goes into days or maybe weeks, there is a change that seems to occur. After the initial hushed tones and quiet acceptance of the situation, the wait becomes a time when stories are told, when I as an outsider enter into the families stories. I like to call those times, sacred waiting.

We all are waiting in various ways and at various times for the transition of one life into another life. When we enter sacred waiting, we are on the edge between Chronos (time as we know it) and Kairos (God's time). As we enter sacred waiting, our stories and

remembrances weave their way back and forth between these two times. We are often in the past, present and future seemingly at once. A remembrance will lead to another and then suddenly become a story of the present or possibly the future. When we allow ourselves to be in the midst of sacred waiting, time seems to be no more.

To me, this is one of the awesome gifts given to me as a priest. Thank you all for letting me share in your sacred waiting.

Fr. Bob+

A bit of Humor

Dad criticized the sermon. Mom said the organist played too loudly. Sis didn't like the choir's singing. They all quieted down when little Billy said: ***"I thought it was a pretty good show for five dollars!"***
Hmmm.

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Special points of interest:

- *Thanksgiving Service*
- *New Consecration Sunday*
- *Children's Sunday, November 25th*
- *Advent begins December 2*

1 Birthdays & Anniversaries November



November Birthdays

- 1 Rachel Lyn Salmon
- 2 Tom Parry
- 2 Craig Anglemire
- 8 Esmie Dennis
- 22 Neil Criste-Troutman
- 25 Liz Leary

November Anniversaries

- 8 Liz & Jamie Leary
- 23 George & Lillian Waters

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Tales from Hound Haven submitted by Julie Beech

Strange things are happening at my house! There has been a great influx of Snickers Bars. Mom says it's because of Halloween - for Tricks or Treats. I know all about those because I have to 'sit' before I get treats. Aunt Jill is trying to teach me to shake hands but I keep lifting my back leg instead. I still get treats. But back to the Snickers Bars-the thing is, that no children ever come on our dark deserted road and Mom keeps eating the little bars.

We talked about candy bars- a habit I don't understand. Snickers is supposed to have a happy sound but it's also a rather sneaky word. Why not just call them "Smiles".

Then there's Butterfinger bars. Why would you want to eat something that really means

"Oops". Kit Kat is another strange one. I'm not a cat aficionado, but I certainly never bite one and swallow it all. What about Take Five? You're really supposed to take one, but it says 'take five'. If I did, I'd get scolded. Dove Bars are a nice name. I like doves so would never eat that either.

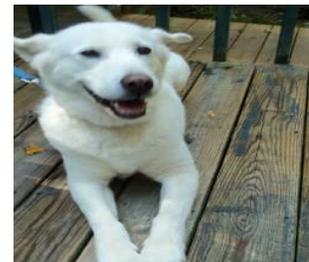
I could go on but I think you see how confusing this all is to me. Meanwhile Mom keeps eating the Snickers and seems quite happy.

Mom tells me not to worry. She will also eat her fruits and vegetables and God will nourish her soul. I don't like fruits and vegetables but I hope He can nourish my soul too. That's better than Mighty Dog.

Crystal

A NEW BAPTISMAL SERVICE?

My great granddaughters, Haley 5 years and Chloe 20 months, were baptized Sunday, Oct 14 in a Catholic church in Germany. They had new shoes and dresses and dutifully stood before the priest. He put the cross of oil on Chloe's forehead and raised his hand to bless her with the sign of the cross. At that instant, her little hand shot up to his and she said "High Five!".



Just like the seasons our numbers at the Pantry seem to change as well. We see more folks who have managed to maintain life with out our help over the warmer months. Come Fall, we always see an increase. **In the month of October, Wednesday was the first day of serving at the Pantry and the number of 192 families** was announced as what we processed. An interesting fact; in the three hours we serve clients, the 180 minutes of time equates to having greater than 1 client per minute!

How is this possible? We are blessed with a dedicated staff of folks who manage to do their tasks like a well oiled machine. To make the machine work we need approximately 25 volunteers all with a variety of jobs to take care of our clients. But it doesn't stop there every donation large and small is constantly being replaced and that's where you the supporting members play a very key role. We never forget your help with all your donations that our hands touch the days we are at the Pantry. You are the backup team and for this we are grateful. Thank you for all your help and generous donations.

Remember the items that are needed at the Pantry should either be non perishable or canned goods. (Please no baby food, paper products or fresh produce).

The Pocono Mountain Ecumenical Hunger Ministry,

Lorraine and Rich Naiko

Saint of the Month

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Pope St. Gregory the Great

Gregory was born in 540 into a Roman family who had connections to the church. His father, Gordianus, had two sisters who were renowned for their sanctity and ultimately became saints. Gregory's mother, Silvia, was also honored as a saint.

Gordianus was a wealthy patrician who owned a number of estates. While his father lived, Gregory took part in his father's political life, becoming prefect of the city of Rome. No details exist about Gregory's education, except that Gregory of Tours tells us that in grammar, rhetoric, and dialectic he was thought to be second to none in Rome. It seems almost certain that he must have pursued a course of legal studies.

The religious atmosphere of his home influenced Gregory greatly. He loved to meditate on the Scriptures and to listen to the conversation of his elders. Finally, he became disenchanted with political life and, after long prayer, meditation, and struggle, he finally made the decision to become a Benedictine monk. During this time, Gregory turned six of the family estates in Sicily and seven in Rome into monasteries

and dedicated himself to helping the poor.

For about three years, Gregory lived in retirement at the monastery of St. Andrew, devoting much of his time to studying and lecturing on the Holy Scripture. He refers to this time as the happiest portion of his life.

In 589 there was a widespread disaster throughout all the empire. Farms and houses were carried away by floods and countless corpses were burned in common pits. Not long after, Pelagius II died and Gregory was elected Abbot of St. Andrew's. He was not happy about the decision, however, understanding that the monastic life that he had come to love would come to an end.

Gregory went on to become pope at the insistence of the clergy, the people, and the Roman senate. He immediately set to work breaking the power of the advancing Lombard armies and putting much of Italy under direct papal rule. The pope became the most powerful position in Italy and, indeed, in all of Europe.

Pope Gregory increased his control over other bishops, expanding the power of religious orders. He was a strong advocate for celibacy for priests, which was not

commonly accepted at the time. He also accepted various stories and legends about religious figures which, he believed, fostered in others great interest in the Christian faith. His accomplishments in the liturgy included the "Gregorian" chant, which became a central part of religious services. He developed a Sacramentary that it still the core of the Roman missal.

Constant ill health besieged him during the time he was Pope, but he worked incessantly and tirelessly. During this time he published his "Liber pastoralis curae," a book on the office of a bishop. In it, he lays out four parts including the duties and obligations of a bishop's life and how they should bear in mind their own weaknesses.

Gregory died in Rome on March 12, 604, leaving important pastoral, spiritual, and moral writings.

In art, Gregory is shown in papal vestments, wearing a papal three-tiered crown which indicates that the pope is the father of kings and princes, rector of the Catholic world, and vicar of Christ.

SOUP-er Delicious Evening

Imagine walking into the Parish Hall and being welcomed by the delectable scents of many homemade soups and the site of decorated tables. The soups were arranged around the Hall with cups available for us to try as many as we wanted. Weren't there? Corn chowder, squash, chicken, tortellini, broccoli cheese, cauliflower, hamburger, potato leek, bouillabaisse, tomato, sweet potato, and vegetarian corn chowder. Then fresh bread and butter or dipping oil. The eating fun was topped off with a cupcake. There was lots of conversation, laughter and getting to know each other better. I'd love to see us do this again in the spring.

For this writer, the emphasis was on fun and giving. I had an idea and people poured forth to make it happen. I wasn't a committee of one. I just didn't know which Trinity angels would be there. Carolyn Tolley didn't use these words, but the essence to me was.... "If you build it, they will come." Who else has a Field of Dreams idea for Trinity? Angels are waiting.



Evangelism

Prayer and Meditation Through Centered Silliness and Laughter

When we laugh, we give ourselves over to the immediacy of the present moment and transcend stress while pleasing God through joyous appreciation and celebration.

That's prayer.

Many people might be surprised to think of laughter as a form of prayer or meditation. Yet not only is laughter one of the easiest and most fun forms of prayer and meditation, but also it is a very powerful one. The physical act of laughing is one of the few actions involving the body, emotions, and the soul. When we laugh, we are able to momentarily transcend minor physical and mental stresses. Practiced in the morning, laughing meditation can lend a joyful quality to the entire day. Practiced in the evening, laughing meditation is a potent relaxant that has been known to inspire pleasant dreams.

Laughter can also help open our eyes to previously unnoticed absurdities that can make life seem less serious and more enjoyable.

Most of you know that Fr. Robert, a very dear friend of mine in New York, died last month. I was there to take him to hospital, to bring him back home a few days later to where he wanted to die, on the telephone with him when he actually breathed his last, and spent a week staying with his partner Lyle to help and comfort him. The evening after the funeral, I decided to return to my routine of watching the several television programs that make me laugh heartily. Nothing feels better than a good laugh and my friend Lyle was able to work through his grief, share a smile and laugh along. The following day was spent laughing ourselves into joyful tears. You can actually feel the center of your chest lift in spirit when a smile or a laugh breaks through. Try it.

When we know that someone is hurting, physically or emotionally, we need to share a smile and some laughter to raise their spirits. Laughter brings with it a host of positive effects that operate on both the physical and mental levels, as well as the spiritual. It is also fun, expressive, and a way to release tension. Learn to laugh in the present moment, and you'll find that the joy of God's love is always there, and then share it.

We are called to share prayer, to share love, to share light and to share laughter.

That's evangelism.

With prayer, love, light and laughter,

Rob McMahon
Chair, Evangelism Leadership Team

HOW DO WE SERVE AS A WITNESS TO GOD'S BOUNTY?

When I was asked to write about this subject I looked up the word "bounty" and found the synonym "presence". How do we serve as a witness to God's bounty? In our lives there are so many ways that we see His presence and we are often unaware of it. Think about the wonderful and fulfilling opportunities that have occurred in our lives. I know that I have been blessed many times and I am thankful for having a partner, children, good health, ability to earn a living and the right to freedom of choice. The Church is a place to reflect on and appreciate God's gifts. It is a time for fellowship and thoughtfulness away from the congestion of everyday life. I think about the welfare of others and especially those who have not been as fortunate as I have been. Yes, we all have bad times and sorrows but I regard these as a challenge to better appreciate what I do have. It is a good thing to share our joys with others so that they may consider their blessings and perhaps



become more appreciative. Even the small things in our life are examples of God's presence and it is important to be aware and thankful for these gifts.. Every day is a blessing.

Bountiful blessings,
Mary-Alice Holmes

November Calendar

November 10 - Popcorn & Movie Night, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

November 11 - Vestry Meeting, 11:45 a.m., Library

November 12 - Trinity Crafters, 10:00 a.m. - Noon, Library

New Consecration Leadership Dinner, 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall

November 18 - New Consecration Sunday, Luncheon following 10:00 o'clock service

November 22 - Thanksgiving Day, Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

November 23 - Office Closed, Newsletter Deadline for Information

November 26 - Trinity Crafters, 10:00 a.m. - Noon, Library

November 30 - Newsletter Mailing

Our Prayers have been requested for:



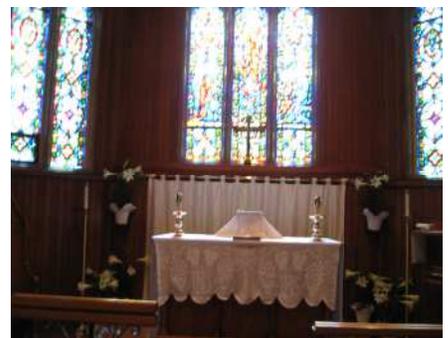
Ed Benintende
Penny Clark
Mary Baker
Victoria Forstein

Porter Caldwell
Frank Fiore
Marilyn Croneberger
Art Frawley
Alan White
Hal Daniels
LeeAnn Daniels
Christopher Rose

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

Parish News

Victoria Grace Leary, Baptized - October 7, 2012



Christmas Bazaar

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR – DEC. 1, 2012

It's that time again – members of the parish have been busy making hand-crafted items to sell at the annual Christmas Bazaar which will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2012 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Crafters, under the leadership of Carol Butiste & Inge Yeich and Claudia McClellan have been creating things all through the year. Now it's up to all the rest of the parish to come out and shop and make this effort a big success. We will have hand-knit hats, scarves, sweaters and doll clothes, hand-sewn aprons, tote bags, wall hangings and quilted purses; hand crafted wooden items such as bird houses, as well as hand-baked goodies, and a delicious luncheon. There will also be attic treasures and Christmas decorations available. Do come and bring your friends and neighbors to do their Christmas shopping – you'll certainly find some delightful gifts.

There will also be a raffle – tickets are now available from Carol Butiste. The chances are \$5.00 each and the prizes are a hand-made quilt in fall colors, a ruby/diamond pendant, a \$100 gift card from Weis market, a hand-made afghan and a \$50 gift card from Olive Garden Restaurant. Be sure to take some chances to sell to friends, co-workers, relatives, etc.

In addition, we'd like to ask all of you to contribute to the various tables – make some cookies or a cake, perhaps your favorite bread recipe or homemade jams & jellies to sell at our baked goods table. Jan Anglemire is in charge of this area, so let her know what you'll be donating. Of course we'd like things from any of you who can knit or crochet, or those who sew or quilt or do woodworking. If you have a Christmas arrangement that you're tiring of, bring it down – someone else will love it. All donations of items for sale should be brought by FRIDAY – we'll be setting up then and need to have things priced and ready when customers come in on Saturday morning.

As you're all aware the church is in need of raising its income level, so let's all help out on this fun project. And be sure to be there on Saturday to shop!!

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED: make your own hours, no salary

Qualifications: must be able to read and give a synopsis of a spiritual or biographical or religious book.
Give your name to The Book Worms

Qualifications: be able to relate an experience. Ex. See Dick Orner October article on 'Coincidence'.
Speak to Jill Long 570-676-0615 jillwilsonlong@gmail.com

SUGGESTIONS WANTED What else would you like to read in the Newsletter? Speak to Jill Long

Getting to Know You



Margaret Gythfeldt By Patricia Goodwin

When I first met Margaret I was so totally taken by her lovely, lilting Scottish accent and just knew that behind that quiet, genteel exterior there had to be a very well-lived, interesting life. And I wasn't wrong!! Margaret began life in NE Scotland, the daughter of a teacher and a farmer, with 2 sisters and a brother. Growing up on a working farm with the usual farm chores of cow-milking, egg gathering and watching majestic Clydesdale horses from outside her window...then on to being in school, all that included with school uniforms and sudden transformations when the war broke out, to gas masks and hiding under desks at school, to pulling the dark curtains over the windows to fool the German pilots and then finding a downed plane in the woods.

Margaret's education included learning piano and organ and eventually becoming organist at her lovely Episcopal church. She then became an elementary school teacher and specialized in music teaching. While visiting a cousin in Norway, Margaret met the man who would become her husband. They married in Scotland, but lived in

Norway for 12 years and once Margaret had mastered the language, she taught after-school music and had 3 children, 2 girls and a boy.

Once they settled in the US her husband worked for the U.N. and Margaret helped out at a school for children with learning disabilities. One of her 3 children continued on with the multi-cultural, bi-lingual language relationship, by marrying a Japanese lady. Margaret is now the proud grandmother to 6 grand-children, all of whom accomplish much academically .

She and her husband have retired to our Pocono area, he busy with golf and Margaret busy with singing at Trinity and volunteering at a local elementary school while finding time for gardening, also.

If you have a chance to meet with Margaret some Sunday after church, please do say hello, I think you will find her a kind, but shy, lovely lady, one worth getting to know.

Consecration Sunday is Coming!

Consecration Sunday Is Coming!

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes. Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, November 18, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and Vestry members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Trinity Church Vestry, Wardens, New Consecration Team Members



Vestry

Jan Anglemire
Barbara Gessner
Dan Harris
Susan Kennedy
Claudia McClellan
Rob McMahan
Don Scheck
Carolyn Tolley
Nigel VanGronigen

Worship Services: Sunday, Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 a.m.
Adult Education, 9:00 a.m. September - June
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. September - June
Tuesday, Morning Prayer, 9 a.m.
Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am – 2pm

The Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall, Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem
The Rt. Rev. John P. Croneberger, Assisting Bishop
The Rev. Robert J. Criste-Troutman, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Ralph C. Roth, Rector Emeritus
Carolyn Tolley, Sr. Warden
G. Thomas Parry, Jr. Warden
Virginia Parry, Organist & Choirmaster
Jan Anglemire, Parish Administrator
Carolyn Tolley, Treasurer
Bonnie O'Brien, Clerk of the Vestry

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***Share God's
Unconditional Love
with Everyone!***

**[We're on the Web
trinitymtpocono.org]**