

Volume 3

March, 2013



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Times News of Trinity Church

From the Priest-in-Charge

Dear Friends,

Lent is upon us. There are so many ways we can use these six weeks to increase our spirituality. This may be the time to take on a spiritual discipline such as meditation, scripture reading, or making time for private prayers. Other ways may be to take on a project such as helping with the food pantry, or volunteering for a worthwhile cause.

There are ways that we can help in your spiritual journey during Lent. We offer a short Eucharist service every Wednesday during Lent. Following the service we have a study called "An Acceptable Fast". You are welcome to come to both or one or the other as your schedule allows.

There will also be 3 Lenten services offered by our area churches. The first was at Mt. Pocono United Methodist Church. It was held on Tuesday, February 19. The second will be held on February 26 at St. Mary's Of The Mount. The third service will be held on March 7, here at Trinity. All services will start at 7 p.m. with a period of light refreshment starting at 6 pm. This is an attempt to begin to find ways in which we can worship together.

You can cap your Lenten discipline by attending the Holy Week services we will offer. A Eucharist on Maundy Thursday with foot washing followed by the stripping of the Altar and an all night vigil with the reserved sacrament. Good Friday we will offer a service at noon, followed by opportunity for prayer from 1-3 pm. There will also be a service at 7.

Yes, Lent is upon us. May God give us the wisdom to use this time wisely, to grow spiritually and to take on those practices which will be with us in the future.

Blessings,

Fr. Bob+

If anyone is interested in playing bridge or pinochle one afternoon a month at your convenience please contact Teri Buttz (595-2424), Mary-Alice Holmes (646-4763) or Susan Kennedy (595-3140). Beginners are welcome.

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Special points of interest:

- *Tales from Hound Haven*
- *Lenten Study*
- *Holy Week & Easter Services*
- *No Children's Service in March*

Birthdays & Anniversaries



March Birthdays

13 Bob Butiste
19 Vince Cole
27 Deborah Gower

March Anniversaries

7 Robert & Deborah Gower

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*

KIDS IN CHURCH

A little boy was overheard praying: Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.

Tales from Hound Haven submitted by Julie Beech

I am so happy to be a dog! I'm very proud to be a dot! I love being a dog!

February is definitely dog month, never mind the ground hog or Washington's cherry pie.

It all began when Mom invited me to watch one of her favorite programs with her. Ta da! The "Puppy Bowl" I was fascinated by it, so many little critters running around, tussling around, flinging toys and one or two were actually sleeping in the midst of it! I don't remember my puppy days. I'm sure I was cute and happy too, I still am! I know the "Puppy Bowl" is better than the Super Bowl because there are no losers. The only thing missing was a little tail gate action, no hot dogs, pizza or popcorn.

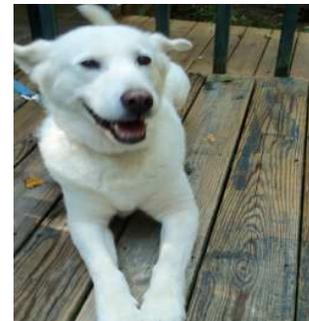
Then along cam the blue bloods, the elite of the dog society, the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. This lasted two nights. We saw herding dogs, terriers, non-working dogs, working dogs, toy dogs,

hounds and sporting dogs! They said there were almost 3,000 dogs there but not all of them got on TV, only the most perfect ones. I would have been in the working group since the Samoyeds and Huskies are responsible for guarding the reindeer in the far north. I think if I ever saw one face to face I'd run to the back door for all I was worth and scratch and bark to get inside! They're bigger than me!

It's said it costs \$100,000 to train, groom and show a dog! They do get pampered and well cared for, lots of baths, combing, fluffing, more baths, hairdryers and more baths, baths, baths. I do get vacuumed once in a while and it does feel great. I don't know how some one can pick just one dog as the best. It's like the Miss America of dogs. But they do, and this year it was a toy dog an Affenpinscher, a little black dog named Banana Joe. I wonder if he's ever eaten one, I haven't!

So now Mom says we should concentrate on all the homeless shelter dogs. I agree with that. Mom says we are all equal and God loves us all. What can be better than that!

I love you, too!
Crystal



Saint of the Month

Saint Jeanne Jugan

Saint Jeanne Jugan, known as Sister Mary of the Cross, was born on October 25, 1792 in Cancale, France. This was the time of the anti-Catholic French revolution when her Christian parents were forced to practice their religion in secret. The sixth of eight children of Joseph and Marie Jugan, Jeanne learned the effects of poverty and hardship after her father died when she was three.

As a young girl, Jeanne began working at homes in her community as a kitchen helper. It was during this time that she met and began to work for a devout Christian woman who tended the sick and the elderly. Jeanne often accompanied her on these visits and began to develop a keen interest in those who were in need.

In 1816, Jeanne was offered a marriage proposal from a sailor of Cancale. She turned down the offer by stating that God wanted her for himself, "keeping me for a walk which is not yet known." Jeanne left Cancale and went to work in a crowded hospital as a nurse's aide. After six years of hard work, she became exhausted and felt the need to seek employment elsewhere. She met another fine Christian woman whose fervent prayer was an inspiration to the Jeanne. The two worked together, assisting at daily Mass and helping the children of the town with their catechism.

It was not long before Jeanne felt a calling when, in 1837 at the age of forty-five she brought home a blind, aging woman, carried her up the stairs and gave the woman her own bed. This was a turning point for Jeanne. These two women, along with an orphan girl of seventeen, rented a small cottage.

They formed a community of prayer, continuing to teach catechism to children and giving assistance to abandoned elderly women. This was the beginning of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Jeanne wrote simple rules of commitment and hospitality. One of these edicts was that the sisters go door-to-door daily, requesting food and money for those in their care. She gave great importance to the virtue of humility and implored her sisters to be "little" in order to be close to the least and to make them happy.

Jeanne lived in retirement for many years, due to the command of Father Augustine Marie Le Pailleur who did not recognize her as foundress of the Little Sisters. He ordered that Jeanne remain at the mother house, removing her from her position. Jeanne was thoroughly bewildered, but her sense of humility took over and she accepted her lot. When she died in 1879, few Little Sisters knew that she was, indeed, foundress of their order. It was not until 1902 that the evidence became clear. On July 13, 1979 the Church officially acknowledged Jeanne as foundress.

Jeanne Jugan was beatified on October 11, 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI. Her work of serving the indigent and the lonely continues all over the world. Charles Dickens said of her, "...there is in this woman something so calm, so humble, that in serving her I know myself to be in the presence of a superior being. Her words went straight to my heart so that, I know not how, I was filled with tears."

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Food Pantry

Hi Everyone,

Unfortunately, we are experiencing another busy month at the Pantry our numbers as of February 15th are as follows:

295 Families =	adults	558
	children	334
	seniors	<u>128</u>
Total people served =		1,020

Since we have until the end of February we could easily be back at the 300 mark. We are blessed with a wonderful caring community in which we live. We are most grateful for all the donations which we have received. Your support is what keeps the Pantry going and saying thank you is just so important to share with you all.

Lorraine

March Calendar

March 4 - Shepherds Meeting, 11:00 a.m., Library

March 6 - Trinity at Food Pantry, 8:30 a.m. - Noon

March 7 - Ecumenical Service, 6:00 p.m. Refreshments 7:00 p.m. Service, Trinity Episcopal Church

March 10 - Vestry Meeting, 11:45 a.m., Library

March 11 & 25 - Trinity Crafters, 10:00 a.m. - Noon, Library

March 16 - Corned Beef Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall, Adults, 18/over \$12, Children 17/under \$5

March 21 - Chrism mass, 11:00 a.m., Cathedral

March 24 - Palm Sunday, Holy Eucharist with Passion Gospel, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

March 28 - Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar, 7:00 p.m.

March 29 - Good Friday Liturgy, Noon and 7:00 p.m.

March 31 - Easter, Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Egg Hunt following the 10:00 a.m. service

Our Prayers have been requested for:

Ed Benintende

Penny Clark

Mary Baker

Victoria Forstein

Porter Caldwell

Lee Connolly

Frank Fiore

Marilyn Croneberger

Art Frawley

Alan White

Hal & LeeAnn Daniels

Jim Rawson

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*

Christmas Bazaar

It's not too early to be thinking about this year's Christmas Bazaar – all those beautiful things we sell don't get made in the month of November. If you have any hobbies that include knitting, crocheting, sewing, quilting, cooking, wood-working, baking, etc., keep us in mind as you make projects that would be good items for us to sell. The date is Saturday, December 7 which sounds far away, but you know how time flies by when you least think it's happening. We are looking for someone to handle publicity for the bazaar, which entails contacting local newspapers and TV stations – we have a comprehensive list and it can all be done by computer. Also distributing fliers is part of this job. If you think you can help out in this area, please contact Inge Yeich or Kathie Herling or leave your name at the church office and we'll contact you. This is a large fund raiser for the parish and we need lots of people to help out to make it a success.

Confirmation/Inquirers Class

Beginning Sunday, March 3 any one 13 and older is invited to participate in our Confirmation/Inquirers Class beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Library. This is in preparation for Confirmation or Reception during Bishop Jack's visitation on June 16th.

Notes from Shepherd's Ministry

Our Shepherds Ministry is starting a program that will send care packages to our college students and those serving in the military. There are currently 6 students attending college and 7 members serving our country in the military. The items will be shipped in a shoe box size box so think small. A list of suggestions follows: All items can be dropped in the church office.

College Students: Note Paper, Stamps, Candy, Microwave Popcorn, Packets of Hot Chocolate, Ramon Noodles, Cookies, Pens Pencils etc.

Military: Snack items that ship easily, Personal Care items such as Shampoo, Toothpaste, Lotions etc. Books, Magazines, Small Games, Decks of Cards, Word Puzzles.

On Being a Chalice

I have been reflecting lately on the word "chalice," meditating not only upon the object itself---the cup that holds the wine during the sacrament of Holy Eucharist---but also on what it means to 'be' a chalice for God. How might our Lord be forming and transforming each of us so that we can be a vessel---a chalice---of God's love? In order to answer that question, let us consider some of the characteristics of a chalice and how they might pertain to our life in Christ.

- 1.. A chalice must be a trustworthy container in order to bear the wine of the sacrament, the Blood of Christ. A chalice cannot be a leaky vessel. It might become somewhat worn with age, or chipped or cracked, just as we are with our flaws and imperfections. However, God can still use us if we are willing to be a chalice of divine love, and if we allow God to mend and heal those chips and cracks when necessary.
2. Each chalice is unique. Chalices come in many different shapes and sizes, and are made of various materials. Each has its unique beauty, just as each of us has our own divinely bestowed gifts and a unique offering to make to God.
3. A Eucharistic chalice is a vessel that is consecrated. Its specific task is to hold the wine that, when blessed, becomes for us the Blood of Christ. We, too, need to desire and be open to God's consecration, so that we might know we have received God's blessing and be prepared to respond to God's specific call to us.
4. As the Eucharist is an act of giving thanks to God, a chalice is a vessel of thanksgiving. As followers of Christ, we are called to give thanks to God continually, cultivating a grateful heart that bears witness to our faith.
5. A Eucharistic chalice is created for service, just as we have been created by God to serve others. We are called to follow the model of Christ, to live in sacrificial love and service. And just as the clergy member or chalice bearer holds the cup and offers it to us, so we are lifted by God and held by others in prayer as we offer ourselves in service, both in worship and in our daily lives. In considering these characteristics of a chalice and how we might embody them, I think it is interesting to note another meaning of the word "chalice," which is "the cup-shaped interior of a flower."*** As we offer our selves and our unique gifts to God, live in thanksgiving, allow our selves to be consecrated, and serve others, we begin to blossom into the person that God has created us to be. We can "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (Psalm 29:2), and bloom more and more into the love of Christ, who is the vine that nourishes us, sustains us, and transforms us into a chalice of His love. As we pray for God's guidance, partake of the Holy Eucharist, and ask God's Spirit to nourish our life in Christ, may each of us allow God to hold us, to be present in us, and to use us in Christ's service, that we may become a chalice of our Savior's love to all those we encounter on our path. Amen.

"Copied with permission from Stephanie Stover, Trinity, Bethlehem"



Vestry

Jan Anglemire
Robert Ceci
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
Deborah Gower, Clerk of the Vestry

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CHURCH**

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

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trinitymtpocono.org]**