

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

All animals who lift their voices at dawn sing to God. The volcanoes and the clouds and the trees cry to us about God. The whole creation cries to us penetratingly with a great joy about the existence and the beauty and the love of God. The music roars it into our ears, the landscape calls it into our eyes. In all of nature we find God's initials, and all God's creatures are God's love letters to us. All of nature burns with love created through love to light love in us. Nature is like a shadow of God, a reflection of God's beauty. The still, blue lake is a reflection of God. In every atom lives an image of the trinity, a figure of the trinitarian God. And also my own body is created to love God. Each of my cells is a hymn about the Creator and an ongoing declaration of love.

-From To Live Is to Love by Ernesto Cardenal

I am so grateful for this Season of Creation and the opportunity it gives us to hear from voices like the Rev. Ernesto Cardenal Martinez. I knew of Cardenal before, but was not very familiar with his writing. Cardenal, who was born in 1925 and died in 2020, was a Nicaraguan Roman Catholic priest, poet, and politician. As a liberation theologian, he believed in putting his faith into action and seeking the transformation of society. But in the eyes of Pope John Paul II, Cardenal went too far in mixing his Communist politics with his religion and vocation. Cardenal accepted a cabinet position in the revolutionary Sandinista government, as the Minister of Culture. The Pope demanded that Cardenal resign his government post. Cardenal refused, and eventually he was suspended from exercising his priestly ministry. Several years later, he resigned from the government in protest of the authoritarianism and corruption of the regime, but his suspension remained in place until 2019, a year before he died. His first official act of ministry when the suspension was lifted was to bless the bishop who came to visit him in the hospital and deliver the good news of his restoration.

Before he entered politics, Cardenal had founded an intentional Christian community and an artists' colony on the Solentiname Islands. While there, he convened conversations on scripture and collected the insights of the people into a theological commentary, *The Gospel of Solentiname*. He also wrote *To Live is to Love*, the book I quoted at the opening. I am moved every time I read this passage, and I am thrilled that, through the Season of Creation resources that Bishop French approved for use in our diocese, we can hear these words in worship (the passage is the second lesson this Sunday). As we listen to the words and as we read them, may we reflect on how all creatures and all of Creation are part of God's love letter to us. May we reflect on how our own bodies are created to love, and how our cells sing hymns to their Creator.

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)

I0 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-12:30рм.

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*):

Lesley Castellini (warden) Carol Scollay (warden) Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin, Wendy Jaghab, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, Bill Presutti, 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. Gail Bennett, Deacon

Associate for Pastoral Care and Bereavement Ministry Deacongail@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Katherine Cunningham, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor *Katherine@trinitynj.com*

The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor Revlu@trinitynj.com

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Derek@trinitynj.com

Kenneth 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 Elise Sister Lorene Kathryn Kevin McDonald Nancy Berta Denise Chris Tyree

Jerry Fargo Amanda Marie Katherine Cunningham

Jackie Campanelli Suzanne T Carol Joy Chris Trout Gene Perfetto Kathleen Pearson Steve Mandeville Fathey Abdullah Tom Hallahan Angie Ionas Penelope Erin Marie Campagnola Michael Issacson Bill Pearson Laura Connelly

Libby Locurzio Malcolm Trish R Tony Clappsy

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:

9/23 9/24 9/25 9/26 9/27

Rachel and Jaiden Leslie Feingold Isabelle Ferreira & Dawn Forgerson Annette Fox

Farrell Fabiula Silva

News & Notes

Newcomer Classes - Sundays through September 29 at 9am

Join us Sundays at 9 am for an introduction to the Episcopal Church and life at Trinity. September 22: Trinity's History, Present, and Future; September 29: Membership and Leadership at Trinity. All are welcome, whether you are a newcomer or an oldtimer! All sessions except Sept. 15 will be in the multipurpose classroom. Today we will meet at the back of the church.

Ministry Fair Today!

Join us after church today as representatives of Trinity's ministries will be available at coffee hour to share how to get involved at Trinity, whether in assisting with worship and parish life or in serving our wider community. Come check it out!

New Member Sunday ~ Next Week! September 29

On Sunday, September 29, we will recognize new members at both the 8 am and 10 am services. For newcomers, people who have been attending for awhile and are ready to make a commitment, and for those who have been here a long time and never had an opportunity to be recognized. Let us recognize and celebrate you! If you are not sure if you are a member, inquire with the church office.

Social Justice Coffee Hour ~ Next Sunday, September 29 after the 10am Service

On Sunday, September 29th, our Social Justice Coffee Hour after the 10AM service will host an information session on what the Episcopal Church is doing for environmental justice. The Environmental General Convention's resolutions include asking congress to support environmental justice and environmental stewardship. Come learn with us and sign some petitions in support of the earth.

News & Notes

Human Rights in our Current Context ~ Thursday, October 3, 6pm

Trinity is talking more about Human Rights in our Social Justice Projects. Come learn about what Human Rights means today in our current context. During this time we want to hear from you. What human rights issues are important to you as a Trinity parishioner? What issues would you want Trinity to get involved with? We will also take some time to talk about our work with FOSNA and Cristosal and how to get involved.

PorchFest is Coming ~ Hospitality Volunteers Needed! Saturday, September 28, 12-5pm

On Saturday afternoon, September 28, Trinity will be a venue for Asbury Park's much-loved PorchFest. During this fun event, over two dozen addresses will host music acts on their front porches or lawns. All performances are free, and listeners are encouraged to explore our community's neighborhoods on foot or bike as they move from venue to venue. Schedule to be released soon! We would like to showcase our church's beautiful architecture and welcoming atmosphere, so volunteers are requested to provide a hospitable presence. If you would like to help, and be here for some wonderful music, let us know at office@trinitynj.com.

Blessing of the Animals ~ Sunday, October 6 at the 10am Service

Bring your furry, scaly, feathery, slithering friends for our annual Blessing of the Animals! "All creatures of our God and King" are invited to join us in the church during the 10am service for a blessing from the Trinity clergy. All animal friends ought to be brought on a leash or otherwise appropriately controlled for everyone's safety and enjoyment. Treats will be available for our pets and their people too!

Fall Adult Education Classes

October 6: Caring for the Earth. As we celebrate the Blessing of the Animals in church, we will explore how our faith inspires us to care for our planet. **October 13, 20, 27:** Out of the Whirlwind: The Book of Job. The Old Testament's answer to the problem of evil and suffering. Does it still speak to us today? **November 3, 10, and 17:** Where You Go, I Will Go: The Book of Ruth. Can the Bible, so often used as a tool for patriarchy, be feminist? **Advent** (dates TBD): The First Christmas: We'll discuss Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan's book examining what the gospels really say about Jesus' birth. Classes held at 9 am in the multipurpose classroom.

Acts of the Apostles Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom at 5pm

Over the next few weeks we will conclude our study of the Book of Acts. On 9/23 and 9/30 we will focus on The mission of the Antiochene Church (Acts 13.1-15:35). On 10/7 and 10/14 will focus on Paul's Asian and Aegean Mission (Acts 15:36-21.16). On 10/21 and 10/28 our focus will be on Paul's testimony to the Gospel in Rome (Acts 27.1 -28.31). The challenge for the Gentile Mission is to overcome the segregation of Gentiles from Jews and to create communities of belonging. Both extremely relevant issues for the contemporary church. To participate please contact Linda Curtiss at lindacurtiss@gmail.com to receive the maps and Zoom information used for our discussion.

Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Join us for Bible Sharing every Wednesday at 5pm! This month we will look together at the Sunday Scripture Readings and discuss them. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Call Joanie @ 908-216-5529

Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!

It's Sunday School Time! - Get ready for another exciting year of Sunday School! We meet weekly at 9:45am in the Sunday School room. Can't wait to see you!

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.

News & Notes

Diocesan Adult Confirmation and Faith Discovery Groups (Online) Beginning September 25

The Diocese of New Jersey is excited to present our program for Adult Confirmation! Whether you're new to the Episcopal Church and are seeking Confirmation, or a long-time member who wants to share and renew their faith, you are invited to join folks from around the diocese as we discover and re-discover our love for Christ, our joy in the Church, and the gifts that God has given each of us. This series of 10 1-hour Zoom classes will begin on Wednesday, September 25th at 7 pm. This puts us in a perfect position to be ready for our Diocesan Confirmation Service shortly after the new year, or for Confirmation at Trinity later in the spring. For more information and to register, please contact the Reverend Canon Susanna Cates: scates@dioceseofnj.org.

Beginning Sept 26: How Do Episcopalians Read the Bible? A Diocesan Bible Study Class (Online)

What IS Scripture? Who wrote it? Who decided what gets included? How are we supposed to read it? And WHY? This fall, join us for an exciting walk from Genesis through Revelation, with plenty of stops along the way for questions and reflection. This series of 7 one-hour classes will begin online via Zoom on Thursday, September 26th. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please contact the Reverend Canon Susanna Cates: scates@dioceseofnj.org.

Queer Theology 4 Week Online Course ~ Oct 1-22

Virginia Theological Seminary's Lifelong Learning invites all into the vibrant intersection of faith and identity with this four-week course taught by Dr. Eric Thomas of General Theological Seminary. Participants will examine traditional theological concepts through the inclusive lens of queer perspectives, uncovering marginalized voices and narratives. The course also will critically explore the embodiment of faith in order to empower individuals to reclaim the sacredness of the body and its manifestations within religious contexts. Discussions about activism and ecclesiology will provide attendees with valuable insights into how to foster inclusive communities. Tuesdays 7-9 pm, \$125 registration fee. Registrants will also have access to recordings if they miss a live class.

Archbishop Romero Pilgrimage Interest Meeting ~ Thursday, October 3, 2:30pm

Are you interested in Archbishop Romero or the work of Human Rights in Central America? Cristosal is planning a special pilgrimage next March 2025 to honor the anniversary of his martyrdom in San Salvador and to introduce persons to the human rights work of Cristosal. On Thursday, October 3rd at 2:30pm, , there will be an introduction to the Pilgrimmage on Zoom. Trinity is organizing a small team of people to participate in the pilgrimmage. For more information on the Zoom or interest in participating contact Geoff Curtiss or Fr. Chase.

Trauma and Loss Program ~ September 24 (Manasquan)

Our friends at Holy Trinity in Manasquan invite us to a program aimed to help attendees better understand how certain life events impact us, as well as how we can help ourselves and those we care about cope effectively. The speaker is Laurie Chiafullo. She is a Licensed Associate Counselor with a Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Monmouth University and is a Nationally Certified Counselor. She currently works at the Samaritan Center in Manasquan. Please sign up to join us on Tues., Sept 24 from 7-9 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054BADAC2CA4FA7-51138270-theimpact

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