

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

February 2, 2025

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." (Luke 2:29-32)

This Sunday, we are observing the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. The Presentation, also known as Candlemas, is one of the few major "feasts" (holy days) with a fixed date that, when it falls on a Sunday, takes precedence over the usual Sunday lectionary readings. So, this year we will skip the "Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany." The Presentation is based on an episode from the Gospel of Luke, in which the parents of Jesus take the newborn baby to the temple "to present him to the Lord." While at the temple, the Holy Family meets two prophets, Simeon and Anna. Simeon's speech, quoted above, became a prayer in Christian tradition known as the Nunc dimittis. "Meanwhile, Anna "began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38), but, unfortunately, none of her words were recorded and remembered in the tradition.

The Presentation is a key observance of the Epiphany season ("Epiphanytide") because it is an early instance of Jesus' messianic nature and mission being made known. Epiphany means "manifestation," and another term for the feast and season of Epiphany is "Theophany," which means the appearance of a deity. For centuries, the Presentation has been associated with candles (thus the name "Candlemas") that have often been blessed and distributed to the faithful. This would have been particularly meaningful in times before gas lamps and electricity. The candles are a clear association with Simeon's words about sight and a "light for revelation."

On this Feast of the Presentation, may our eyes see salvation at work in the world around us, and may we glimpse the light that is a revelation for all people.

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

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

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 Patricia Tier Tom Marrazzo & Family Those affected by the Kevin McDonald Tom Dempsey Avery Osis California wildfires and their families, friends and Manal Miller Jackie Campanelli Maureen Angie Jonas Roxanne Bethany Brown colleagues

Frank Mertz Linda Trevor Wilson

Steve Mandeville Stephanie MS
Margaret Jones Fred Tagliarini
Mary Perez Jim O'Hearn

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:

2/3 2/4 2/5 Corey, Kathleen 2/6 2/7

Barbara Rutan Joseph Sappio Adelind, & Theodore Deirdre Scher John Scherer

Schade

# **News & Notes**

#### Rector on Vacation January 20-February 20

The Rev. Chase Danford will be away on vacation and not available by email or phone, from the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday on January 20 through February 20. For emergencies, call the Parish Office at 732-775-5084 and choose option 5 for Pastoral Emergencies. For non-emergency pastoral situations, contact the parish office to leave a message for the assisting clergy.

#### Meet Our Guest Clergy

The Rev. Geoff Curtiss, today's celebrant and preacher today, is Trinity's Assisting Priest. Before retiring from full-time ministry, Fr. Geoff served for 33 years as Rector of All Saints Church in Hoboken, where he was instrumental in organizing for social justice in the community, diocese, and Episcopal Church. Geoff currently serves as the Vice President of the Board of Directors of Cristosal, an Episcopal-founded human rights organization working in the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Geoff is married to Linda Curtiss, the director of the Bradley Food Pantry.

# Trinity Historic Tours: Trinity's Beginnings Sunday, February 9 at 9 & 11:30am



Come on out for the second of our Trinity Historic Tours in celebration of our 150th Anniversary! February's tour will focus on the beginnings of Trinity Church in Asbury Park. You will hear facinating facts and stories and get a chance to see some artifacts of Trinity's early history!

# **News & Notes**

## Festive Ministry Coffee Hour ~ Meet the Greeters and Newcomer Team!

Join us after the 8 and 10am services today to get to know the people who help make our space a warm and welcoming one by greeting everyone at the door, getting everyone a nametag, providing information, and making sure everyone knows that they are welcome here at Trinity! This is your chance to find out more about this critical ministry, ask questions, and see how you can help. All while enjoying some tasty treats!

# Will You Go to the Prom with Us??! Friday, February 14th ~ Reception at 6:30pm, Curtain at 7:30pm

Who will you ask to the Prom? It's time to relive your high school days ~ bring your friends, bring your family, bring your date, bring yourself to ~ The Prom! The Spring Lake Community House of Theatre has generously donated all their tickets for opening night of their production of *The Prom* to Trinity Center for Community. We hope you will join us for this joyful musical comedy where the Broadway elite take on homophobia in the Heartland. The fun begins at 6:30pm with a pre-show reception and the curtain rises at 7:30pm on Friday, February 14th. Trinity Members can pick up their tickets every Sunday until Feb 9th.

#### Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Join us during Epiphany for our Wednesday 5pm Bible Sharing! We are reading and discussing the wonderful book of Daniel and we will visit the Lion's Den! Everyone is welcome from 5 to 6:15pm. Wednesday night mass follows for those who choose. Join us!

#### The Poor People's Campaign Information Session ~ February 20 at 6:30pm

Come Learn about Martin Luther King Jr's last organizing project, The Poor People's Campaign on February 20th at 6:30pm at Second Baptist Church in Asbury Park(124 Atkins Ave, Asbury Park, NJ 07712) Rev. Rupert Hall Jr., Chair of The Poor People's Campaign in Trenton, will talk about the history of the Poor People's Campaign as well as what the Campaign is doing today. Rev Dr. James Jackson will open the event by talking about the importance of Black History month and Martin Luther King Jr.

# Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!

**Sunday School -** Join us each week as we explore God's presence in ourselves, our community, and our world! We will gather in the Sunday School room each week at 9:45am for fun and spiritual exploration and then rejoin our families after The Peace. For questions, contact Jill Osis at Jill@trinitynj.com.

**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.

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

We are continuing to work on the Book of Revelation. John, the Seer, has been moved by the Spirit to write seven unique letters to seven different congregations in seven different cities that he is very familiar with. He has been placed in exile and no longer can travel to be with them. His concern is how are these communities being faithful to Jesus and how are they adapting to, resisting the influence of or challenging the Empire. We have been exploring the worship material that John uses to talk about how congregations can resist the influence of the pagan world we live in. If you are interested in joining the Bible Study or receive the recorded sessions please email lindacurtiss@gmail.com

Mobile Giving at Trinity



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