



The Trinity Church Newsletter

Trinity Episcopal Church
 44 East Market Street
 Bethlehem, PA 18018

From the Rector.....

Sermon at the Ordination of Mother Hillary Raining and Mother Dolores Evans Feast of St. Mary the Virgin August 15, 2008

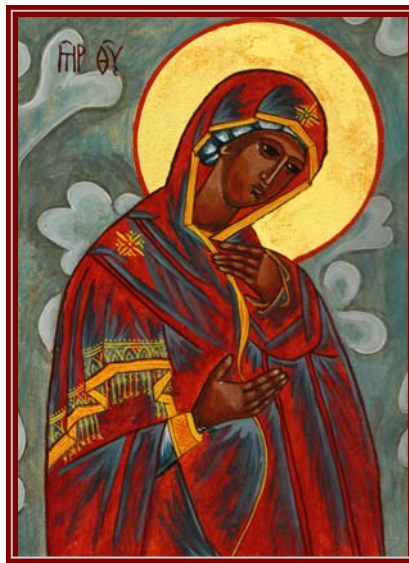
In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

I have two questions for you, Deacon Dolores and Deacon Hillary. **WHAT ARE YOU, CRAZY!!!!** ONLY fools would even consider doing a job like this. And to go beyond simply considering it, and actually doing it, you have got to be at least partly crazy. If you look around yourselves this evening, at all your colleagues in fancy dress, you will know that you are not alone.

Hillary and I were visiting a parishioner in the intensive care unit at Lehigh Valley Hospital last week. The man was just coming out of a medical coma, and when he opened his eyes and saw the two of us standing by his bedside, he said, "Oh God. The fools are here, and they're going to pray for me." I was absolutely thrilled. In part, of course, it was because he was awake after a dangerous surgery, but even more so, it was because he understood about our foolishness. It was like being seen for what I truly am. On another day, he and I had a very serious conversation about being a fool, and how that is a central part of our understanding of ourselves as Christians. Hmm, can you say that conversations among fools are serious? I'm not sure...

I still remember the sermon that was preached at my ordination on the Feast of the Visitation 16 years ago. The theme was kenosis, the self-emptying of Jesus. And that concept is something that I carry with me day in and day out in my ministry. I hope that the image that has come to me as I prepared for this sermon will be to Hillary and Dolores, a gift that they can carry into their ministry.


I invite you all to contemplate the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose feast we celebrate today. The Blessed Mother is much more than merely a historical character from ancient holy writ. She is much more than the subject of glorious paintings, sculpture and music. She is a living and powerful presence for all Christians. And she is a particular help to those of us who serve our brothers and sisters in various kinds of ministry. I have asked permission to carry one of her icons in the procession this evening, and to have it close by me as I preach. Because in addition to what Mary teaches us about a life of Christian faith and service, her icon is itself a model for the priesthood.



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 SEPTEMBER 2008

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The Prayer List

Here are the names of Trinity people who have health problems or personal problems and who wish to be remembered in our prayers. If you or a loved one has health problems or other problems, and if you would like the prayerful help of Trinity friends, you are invited to add your name to the list. Please contact the office, 610-867-4741.

Trinity is a praying church. We love to pray for people...and we keep on praying for them. But sometimes, people get "parked" on the parish prayer list. The policy is to put people on the Prayers of the People list and to read their names for two weeks in a row, UNLESS you ask us to keep them on. They will also be put on the prayer list in the Bulletin. We keep them on the Bulletin list for two months, UNLESS you ask us to keep them on. We are very happy to keep people on either or both lists, but please do tell us. Call the office or give a note to one of the clergy.



KEEP ON PRAYING!

For those in the Armed Services

- 1Lt. Andrew Bowling
- 2Lt. Andrew Dalton
- 2Lt. Benjamin Dalton
- SFC Mark A. Gordon
- 1Sgt. John Knight
- SSgt. Rob Norman
- 1Lt. Brian Powell
- A-1 Kenneth Roman
- 1Lt. Joseph Salgado
- 1Lt. Sara Toliver

For those in need

- Al Barr
- Bud Barr
- Marjorie Miller Bergey
- Ryan Bird
- Jane Breininger
- Bryan Brozoski family
- Jim Caskey

- Dorothy Comegys
- Caitlin Dickey
- Dickey family
- Clare Filko
- Ruth Fleming
- Kay Gill
- Virginia Gress
- Sally Hampson
- Janet Holtz
- Fr. Joe Leo
- Pyong Lukens
- Robert Lukens
- Fr. Mac
- Lou Maiatico
- John Malok
- Blaize McArdle
- Jay McIntosh
- Jim McIntosh
- Edwin Miller
- Deacon Elizabeth Miller
- Terry Miller
- Gilbert Negrete
- Pat Patterson
- Sherri Pavlo
- Rob Preston
- Mo. Gwendolyn-Jane Romeril
- Sean Romeril
- Joan Sheldrake
- Rick Sumner
- Edna Sweet
- Pat Talijan
- Dennis Taylor
- Tracey & Tiffany Weaver
- Normie
- Steven

SEPTEMBER



Birthdays

- 4 Kenneth Magee
- 5 Carolyn Duranko
- 5 Elizabeth Golden
- 5 Nancy Muzyka
- 7 Hattye Magee
- 9 Beth Alcamo
- 9 Lindsay Heffner
- 10 Katy Simmons
- 12 Sally Hampson
- 13 Fred Segaline
- 16 Doris Eshbach
- 16 Joan Schramm
- 16 Stephanie Stover
- 17 Jean Franz
- 18 Lindsay Muzyka
- 19 Jeanne Deets
- 21 Nelson King
- 21 Violet McCandless
- 21 Steven Fanning
- 22 Katherine McIntosh

- 22 Richard Sumner, Jr.
- 23 Christie Davies
- 23 Kay Landstrom
- 24 Carey Patterson
- 25 Janice Squires
- 25 Christopher Roman
- 26 Donna Lawrence
- 27 Rheta Matthews
- 29 Bob Alcamo
- 29 Stephen Smith
- 30 Thomas Ardizzone
- 30 Lois Howell

Anniversaries

- 1 Siobhan & Thomas Ardizzone
- 3 Sandra & Ronald Utley
- 3 Sally & James McIntosh
- 7 Beth & Bob Alcamo

- 7 Beth & Michael Schlenner
- 9 Meri & Jim Dickey
- 9 Karen Waters & Mark Reid
- 10 Nancy & Kenneth Muzyka
- 13 Loraine & Robert Geelan
- 14 Lee Ann & Warren Smith
- 16 Wendi & Richard Kerr
- 17 Tracey & Blaise McArdle
- 20 Susan & Mark Royster
- 27 Linda & Jack Norman
- 28 Barbara & Richard Subber

Celebration of Saints During September

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

- 1 David Pendleton Oakerhater, Deacon and Missionary, 1931
- 2 The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942
- 4 Paul Jones, 1941
- 9 Constance, Nun and her Companions, 1878
- 10 Alexander Crummell, 1898
- 12 John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York, 1830
- 13 Cyprian, Bishop and Martyr of Carthage, 258
- 16 Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, c.430
- 17 Hildegard, 1179
- 18 Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, 1882
- 19 Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
- 20 John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop of Melanesia, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1871
- 22 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
- 25 Sergius, Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow, 1392
- 26 Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626
- 29 St. Michael and All Angels
- 30 Jerome, Priest and Monk of Bethlehem, 420

Sunday Readings

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Lord Jesus

September 7 (17th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Exodus 12:1-14
- Psalms 149:1-9
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 18:15-20

September 14 (18th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Exodus 14:19-31
- Psalms 114:1-8 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
- Romans 14:1-12
- Matthew 18:21-35

September 21 (19th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Exodus 16:2-15
- Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45
- Philippians 1:21-30
- Matthew 20:1-16

September 28 (20th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16
- Philippians 2:1-13
- Matthew 21:23-32

(Ordination Sermon—Continued from page 1)

I'm not sure who was the bigger fool, Jesus or his mother. At least, by the world's standards. Who else but a fool would accept an assignment that he knew up front would lead to poverty, humiliation, torture and death in a particularly shameful way. But Mary was no slouch in foolishness, either. Why would an intelligent, sensible woman, enlightened about her prospects and the possibility for success in the world, willingly agree to bear a child, whose very existence was prophesied to bring her sorrow? Whatever you can say about Jesus and Mary, you cannot say that they allowed concern for the proprieties of the world to govern their actions. They consciously made choices that were counter-cultural and scandalous, both in first century Palestine and in 21st century America.

What could it have been that motivated the Blessed Virgin Mary? Becoming famous? Probably not. Infamous, maybe, given that she was to be an unwed mother, and then the mother of an outlaw. Was she acting on some kind of crazy delusion? What else do we think, when people hear the voices of spirits? We're much more likely to label them mad, than to accept them as holy. Obedience to the will of God? Well, yes, her response, "be it done to me according to your will," indicates obedience to God's dictates.

But, I believe that Mary's response was primarily one of love. Love that rose up from the depths of her being in response to God's invitation to be a vessel for the Holy One. We often think of Mary's life as one of great self-sacrifice. And that certainly was part of it. But if she was responding purely out of love, her focus was on the one she loved. She delighted to do the will of the one she loved, simply *because* it was his will. The outcomes of her acts were not what she was most concerned about.

Almost all icons of the Blessed Virgin include Christ in some form, either as a child or as an adult. Those icons where the Blessed Virgin is by herself, like the Lamenting Virgin here at the pulpit, usually indicate through a bowed head or pointing hands that the eye of the beholder should move away from the Virgin, out of the painted panel, toward the Christ. The focus of Marian icons is never Mary herself. It is always her holy Son.

The icon that I love best is called the Virgin of the Sign. Mary is standing with her arms up in prayer, looking straight out at the viewer, and on her torso is a large sphere, with Jesus giving a blessing. This is supposed to be Mary with Christ in her womb. After looking first at the mother, the eye is immediately drawn to the child. If you should be so stubborn as to insist on focusing on Mary, her hands raised in prayer lift your eyes upward towards heaven. We see Mary and recognize her presence, but she will not allow us to stop there. Her love is so great, she wants us to see the beloved, not her. Even her icons carry the message of the feast at Cana, "Do whatever he tells you to."

In my mind, there is no better way to understand the sacred priesthood that Hillary and Dolores are about to enter. Each of you are entirely human women, with histories, with concerns, with talents, and with problems. You will continue to be entirely human. The hands of the Bishop, laid upon your heads, the fragrant holy oil, anointing your hands, and the awesome responsibility of the stole placed across your shoulders, will not make you one iota less human than you are now. Nor will your ordination heal any psychological or social wounds. Just like Mary, who developed a whole new set of problems once she had accepted God's invitation to become the mother of Jesus, in my experience, ordination usually creates-- or perhaps brings to the surface-- more problems.

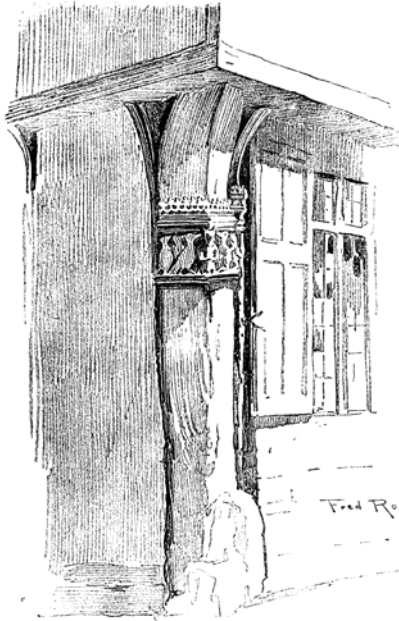
As a priest, you take on the task of becoming for the rest of us an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary. While remaining wholly human, you are to point the way to the divine. When we look at you, we should see and acknowledge Dolores and Hillary. But at the same time, the eyes of our spirits should be turned toward Jesus.

Is this unbelievably difficult? You betcha. Is it pretty much impossible? Absolutely! That's where Grace and Foolishness come in. Only fools would dare to become priests, knowing with certainty that we will fail at our high calling. We are promised, though, that Grace is so vast, God's people can benefit from our ministries, even with our flawed efforts. We should pray constantly a prayer of humility: that whatever it is we priests actually do and say, people will hear and see what God wants them to, thanks to the intervention of God's grace. We are called to love so much that we are willing for people to hear God instead of us. Can you do it? Or at least try to?

As you enter into your priesthood, there is a very subtle trap laid before you. It develops ever so slowly and gradually, over time. You will recognize it the first time someone is rude to you, and you feel inclined to correct them with the information that you are The Rev. So and So. Or when you stop for a moment to wonder if you will be able to accomplish a task more easily if you put your collar on. Or if you take your collar off. The trap is forgetting that the focal point of

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The Curate's Corner



Spiritual Autobiography

Mother Hillary Raining, Curate

My personal faith journey has its roots with my mother and father. I was blessed to be raised by two strong Christians who helped to instill in my younger sister and myself, a “trusting inquisitiveness”. By this I mean that I knew I could go to Christ with any question I had, knowing that it was all right to doubt because there was no problem bigger than God. I was never made to feel “young” or “foolish” when I did not understand something. Rather, my childlike faith was strengthened and nourished through loving patience and guidance.

I would say that one of the greatest gifts that my parents ever bestowed upon me was an understanding of the importance of prayer. It is through my personal relationship with God, which is fostered through my prayer life, that I have been able to get through the hard times as well as had the joy of happier times intensified. I consider my prayer style to be an ongoing conversation with God. This does not have to have any sort of “formal” practice attached to it. Rather, I address my Lord as a constant companion and will have inner dialog continually with Him. I believe that God can and does communicate with us through our prayers, dreams, friends, foes, and, often, from sources that we least expect. What we give to this process should be an ever mindful spirit that hungers to hear these messages and a discerning heart to try and understand them.

I also pray through music. I cannot understate the importance that music has played in my life. I play the piano, violin and guitar (slightly) and have come to a better understanding of God through this practice. Music can truly elevate the liturgy to new highs that mere words may not be able to obtain. This was one of the reasons that I felt so privileged to see how liturgy and music issues are formed in the Episcopal Church when I was chosen to serve on the Prayer Book, Liturgy and Church Music Committee during the General Convention in 2003 & 2006.

I feel that my prayer life has been a matter of comfort and strength that has kept me connected with God. I have always known that no matter what challenges lie before me, God is with me sharing in my load. Sometimes this experience of God's answer to my prayers can be very quiet, while at other times, God has made the answer more obvious, so that even I could hear the message.

For example, I can remember sitting in church as a little girl, watching Fr. Howe performing the Eucharist. When he would lift the bread and cup up for all to see, the sun from the side windows would hit the silver of the chalice in just such a way as to make a reflection on the wall that looked like a pair of eyes to me. I thought that those were God's eyes, they were so brilliant and beautiful; I would see that and feel a stirring within me. This would happen every week, and every week I would ask God who he was looking at when His eyes would appear on the wall. Without fail, I would get the answer: “I am looking at you.” This message would come through dreams, through others, or just hearing it in my heart. At first this brought me great wonder and excitement, but also disbelief, which is why I kept asking. Later, as a teenager, I tried very hard to deny that message because I knew that I was being called on by God to lead others, a job that I was sure He was mistaken in giving to me; I wanted Him to look at someone else.

My early years of participation in the Youth Program were very healthy and important in understanding my call. As so many teenagers, I suffered from lack of self-esteem. I did not feel that I could be worthy to accept such a call to ministry from God, and I told Him so. A LOT. I would demand that he stop showing me signs that were only confusing me in what I “knew” was the actual truth: that I was unworthy of ever being an example to anyone, let alone an entire congregation of people. I convinced myself that I was doing God and His community a favor by denying His call. Looking back on it I see how presumptuous I was being, trying to convince God that he was wrong. Believe me; it was not easy to be so defiant.

I am now at a place and time in my life when it seems that the possibilities for growth are endless. I have found a great fulfillment in my marriage; I have been blessed with a husband who not only supports my growth for ministry, but challenges me to look at my faith in new ways. I have also been blessed with a sweet little baby girl. Seeing the

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StarWatch

God and the Space Junky

I had been talking about the Ancestral Puebloans to my senior level astronomy class at Dieruff H. S. in Allentown. These Native Americans, who flourished between 850 and 1300 AD, inhabited the Four Corners region of the desert Southwest, where the states of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona join. In order to have achieved success in their harsh environment, these people needed to formulate an accurate and reliable calendrical system. That was where astronomy and observations entered into the discussions. Their calendar schemes were ingenious, using the interplay of light and shadow—created by the sun—on rock walls and masonry structures. Over time, these sky watchers who traced the cyclic nature of Sol became powerful, religious priests. They steeped their observations in rituals which demanded the participation of commoners as well as warlords to keep the heavenly vault in order. In front of me there is a waving hand. “Yes, Emily,” I respond. There is a pause as Emily Plessl connects with my eyes. “Do you believe in God,” she asks forcefully? “Absolutely,” is my almost immediate response. There is another pause. I gesture for Emily to expand on her query. Finally I verbalize, “Would you like to continue?” Emily, who I later find out is a devout Mormon, quietly says, “No.” Usually my discussions about God and the universe are a little bit lengthier, but they happen in every semester astronomy class that I teach. In fact, often these types of inquiries arise numerous times. They underscore a basic need in teens for someone—anyone to give them an honest evaluation or confirmation about God and spirituality. For me, a space junky, the answer to the age old question about the existence of God is as simple as going outdoors on any star-splashed night and looking up—YES!

Gary A. Becker—www.astronomy.org

Who Writes *StarWatch*?

Gary A. Becker has had a lifelong passion for astronomy, astrophotography, and sky watching. As an educator and director of the Allentown (PA) School District Planetarium for the past 37 years, Gary has taught astronomy from the preschool to graduate levels under the electronic as well as the natural sky.

An ardent traveler, Gary has hosted tours to observe comets and eclipses and has taken urban students to the Southwest to view the heavens from some of the darkest regions in the US. He and his pupils volunteered at the Chaco Observatory in Chaco Culture National Historical Park near Nageezi, NM between 1999 and 2001. More recently, Gary has been a part of the Night Sky Team at Bryce Canyon National Park, while locally his StarWatch Team of student observers and volunteers continue to make the heavens accessible to urban audiences across the Lehigh Valley.

Gary Becker’s 50-year interest in astronomy and his career as an educator have provided him with a natural avenue for writing. He has authored the book that his astronomy students use, founded the website www.astronomy.org as an educational outreach for his pupils and the public, and has for the past dozen years been writing a homespun, but informative weekly column called *StarWatch* which is syndicated and appears in 25 newspapers nationwide.

Gary, along with his wife, Susan, an English teacher, have been members of Trinity for five years, but you won’t catch them in attendance on Sunday mornings. They are, however, regulars at Trinity’s no frills Saturday services. An astronomer has got to sleep sometime, and Sunday mornings are it!

Outreach Committee in Crisis

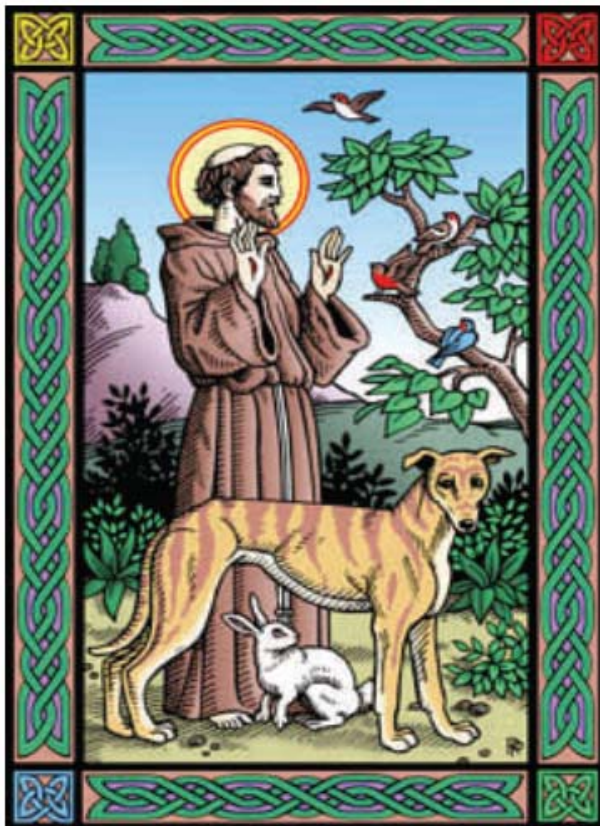
Trinity Bethlehem has long been known for its strong outreach programs. Right now the Outreach Committee is in crisis.

Outreach is responsible for overseeing programs at Trinity that meet people's human needs. The committee disburses about \$5,000.00 per year to programs near and far that serve vulnerable and poor people. Outreach has sponsored an annual outreach fair hosted by Trinity and brings several speakers each year to the Adult Forums. There is no limit to what Outreach could do to serve, but this is what it has been doing recently.

I agreed to chair the committee several years ago but I now find that the primary job of the chair – to set meeting dates and times, is not possible because of my constantly changing work schedule. I am willing to do much of the work of the committee, and I am still very committed to the outreach, but I need someone else to schedule and chair meetings. There are several active Outreach Committee members, and we all work hard. Do not fear being alone with the tasks.

If you could step into this role, please contact Marcie Lightwood at mlightwood@hotmail.com, or talk to Deacon Liz or Mother Laura.

(A note from Mother Laura: When Trinity constructed its Rector Search Profile, Outreach was very high on the list of what is important to the parish. I certainly hope that members of the parish will step up to meet Marcie's challenge. Jesus said, "Whatever you did not do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did not do for me.")



St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis Day Celebration

October 5, 2008

Forum

with

Dr. Gene Witiak, V.M.D.

Animals and Our Spiritual Life

"Hugs: Easily Given and Never Forgotten"

9:15 a.m.

in the Parish Hall

The Blessing of the Animals

2:00 p.m.

on the lawn

- All your pets are welcome in person. Or bring a picture if they do not enjoy travel.
- There will be treats for the animals and their people.
- Bring a donation of canned or dry food, or toys for the Animal Food Bank.

Trinity Episcopal Church

44 E. Market St.

Bethlehem, PA 18018

The Rev. Laura Thomas Howell, Obl.S.B., Rector

The Rev. Hillary Raining, Curate

The Rev. Elizabeth Miller, Deacon

Copies of this card are available in the back of the church. Please take some to give to your animal friendly friends, veterinarians and businesses. Help us to spread the word!

Bonaventure Study Group to study Lewis's "*Space Trilogy*"

This Fall the Bonaventure Study Group will read three novels of C. S. Lewis (1898-1963): *Out of the Silent Planet*, *Perelandra*, and *That Hideous Strength*.

These stories are commonly called Lewis's "Space Trilogy." But the label is unfortunate. The term "Space" suggests an interest in, or at least some concern with, advanced technology, and it becomes apparent after only a few pages of the first novel that Lewis isn't much interested in the technological side of interplanetary travel. The concern of the first story is rather the moral nature of the cosmos, and how the truth as to this nature might gradually be disclosed to a human mind which was both intelligent and yet subject to common terrestrial (and therefore mistaken) views as to that nature. The concern in *Perelandra* is the obligation which this truth imposes upon the Christian soul. In these two stories the battle is waged in the heavens. In the third story, *That Hideous Strength*, the battle comes home; the enemy's insidious and mighty assault ("The shadow of that hideous strength / Six miles and more it was of length") is right here on earth.

Our group will meet from 6:00 to about 7:30 in the Parish Hall all five Wednesdays in October (October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29), also November 12 and 19, and finally on December 3.

The books can be obtained from Mother Laura sometime in September. Jack Vickrey will be the discussion leader.

In the Spring of 2009 our readings will be some of the poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J.

(Ordination Sermon—Continued from page 3)

your personal icon is Christ, not you. It is a deadly one for clergy. And for all Christians.

Being a family member, preparing sermons, attending meetings, making pastoral calls, switching gears ten times in an hour, for many hours a day, can subversively convince us that our job as priests is to make decisions and to accomplish tasks in the church and for the sake of the people. It is true, we do have those responsibilities. And most of us do them conscientiously. But there is the temptation to create badges of honor. "See, look at what I have accomplished?" And being legitimately too busy is even more of a trap. Yes, this fool absolutely includes herself in this category.

The trap results in our external responsibilities to "do things," eroding our internal responsibility to let our life and work point to Christ. The way out of the trap is to spend time at least daily, perhaps even hourly, asking ourselves whom we see when we look in the mirror of our souls—ourselves or Christ? And therefore, whom will the people around us see?

We need not spend vast amounts of time in solitary meditation—most parish priests don't have it to spend. But we can remember the image of the humble Blessed Virgin Mary, lovingly pointing to the Savior, and breathe a prayer that we will be able to love enough to let him be the center of attention. And when we fail, we can repeat the prayer of the foolish tax-collector, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Sisters, I pray that you will keep your eyes on Christ and remember the ways in which we are called to be fools for him.

AMEN.

(Curate's Corner—Continued from page 4)

world through her eyes has truly let me stretch my imagination and wonder. I feel that it is our human nature to be inquisitive; without this propensity for learning, we would never gain any knowledge about the universe that we live in. This thirst can plainly be seen in children. When I am working with children, I am often struck by how pure and genuine their questions are. They look at the world with a wonderment that is so refreshing. This is not to say that we must try to understand all things, for there are some things that we can never know about God's astonishing plan. I see someone who thinks that they have all the answers, or thinks that they are on the road to having all of the answers, as a very dangerous person indeed! But there is wonder to be found in the quest. I am so looking forward to sharing this journey with this church family at Trinity.

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Saturday, October 25th and Sunday, October 26st have been selected by the Vestry and Stewardship Committee as Consecration Weekend. I urge you to plan now to attend two important events: one of the regularly scheduled Eucharists and the Celebration Time immediately following each Eucharist.



The special theme for this year's Consecration Weekend Program is **"Feeding All in Body, Mind, and Soul"** to emphasize the importance of the stewardship and caretaking of all of God's Creation. Throughout the month of October, speakers will share how they are grateful to God with special focus on each topic – **Body – Mind – Soul**.

The events throughout October and especially Consecration weekend are designed to enrich our biblical understanding of Christian stewardship and spiritual growth.

We hope that you will be present on Consecration Weekend and also make your financial commitment as an act of worship during the Eucharist. This is indeed an occasion to express your gratitude to God for all the blessings in your life.

May you be aware of your many blessings each day of your life, and may God continue to richly bless each and every one of you.

Cordially,

Sara Klingner
Vestry Warden



P.S. In order to conserve resources (envelopes and postage), the Stewardship Committee is using the newsletter to provide information and updates about the Consecration Weekend Program.

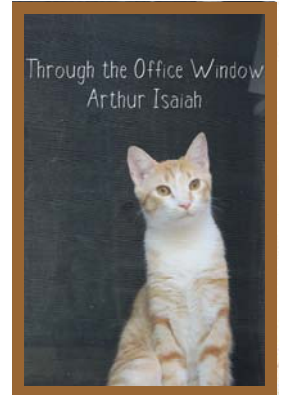
Arthur Isaiah's Daily Office

Thank you all for your votes. The winning picture (on the right) was submitted by Suzanne Boundy, and she is welcome to claim her prize (some nice fur to decorate her dark-colored clothes) by coming into the office. Our contest raised \$31.26 for the Animal Food Bank.

I have become quite the homebody this summer. The puppies and I are getting along OK and I like having the freedom of running around and causing mischief in a whole house instead of just this little office. I have come to understand the dynamics of mornings in the house and manage to hide just as Gaby is trying to find me to take to the office. Once or twice she has out-witted me by feeding me breakfast just before she was ready to go out the door....enabling her to catch me at my food dish. But I now know that trick and refuse to come out to eat until I hear the garage door closing as she is heading out of the driveway in the car.

But, once or twice a week I decide to brave that awful car trip and go to the office with her. I do miss all the people there. I'm usually in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays (if Gaby can catch me). I don't come on Sundays any more...there are some people who just don't appreciate my beautiful countenance :-)

At home I am learning how to "help" with things other than the computer. The bead studio is a lot of fun. I rearrange beads so that Gaby can get some inspiration from different size and color combinations. Don't you think that purple and orange are lovely together? I also am helping in the Iconography studio. I started out helping to wash the brushes, and then dabbled a little in mixing paint colors....also not appreciated by some of the Iconographers. Gaby did shut me out of the studio when I tried to help guide her brush strokes. I guess I'll have to sneak down there when she's at the office and write an icon of one of my favorite saints....Francis, perhaps. (Don't forget....his feast day is quickly approaching...October 4...and I hope to see many of you and your furry children at the blessing! Rumor has it that there will be home-made cookies for all humans and animals!)



PRAYER BEADS MINISTRY

Members of our parish, and from a variety of other parishes in the Diocese, are active in a "Prayer Beads Ministry". This group prayerfully makes and distributes prayer beads and provides workshop leadership both in the creation of and use of prayer beads.

We have been invited to lead workshops in churches and at retreat centers in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Maryland, Delaware and West Virginia.

We are completely self-sustaining, depending on donations and sales of high-quality prayer beads available at workshops and on the Internet (www.gigibeads.net).

We met on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Gaby Whittier's home, gathering at 5:30 for a shared meal at 6:00, followed by an evening of fellowship, beading, prayer and workshop preparation. Please contact Gaby at the church (610-867-4741 x301), at home (610-867-0736) or via email (gaby@trinitybeth.org) for more information or to let her know to expect you.

We are also always on the lookout for used beads that we can incorporate into our work. **If you have any old beads or find any at yard/garage sales, we would appreciate the opportunity to recycle them into prayer beads.** Simply put them in Gaby's mailbox in the mail room or drop them through the slot in the parish office door.

JOIN THE FUN!!!!

Tomatoes, Zucchini, and Beans – Oh My!

The garden has come into its glory and every day brings more good things to eat – and to share. Ah, the abundance that is August in Pennsylvania. How many ways can YOU fix zucchini?

We have been following a wild vine – a start from the compost bin – that grew, and then grew even more. Perhaps a retelling of the *Jack and the Beanstalk* story in our backyard? Maybe a divine comedy? It turns out that it's butternut squash! Lots of them, at this point. This plant has grown over and around the garden itself and now has climbed the fence and is making its way across the lawn. What fun to go out and check them every morning.



Please remember to bring your produce to share with those who don't have the opportunity to garden. Those garden fresh tomatoes, zucchini, beans, cucumbers, peppers, and onions are much appreciated.

You (and your vegetables) are Cordially Invited!

On Sunday, September 7, plan to be part of a *Fall Get Together Luncheon* in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 AM service.



Bring a dish to share – featuring if you possibly can – your garden produce. Won't it be fun to see how many kinds of vegetables we all have grown!

Trinity Group Involving Fellowship

POT LUCK SOCIAL

On **Friday, September 5th** at **6pm**, Trinity's Group Involving Fellowship invites everyone to meet for a potluck social in the Parish Hall. If you are new to Trinity, we encourage you to join us for food and fellowship. Please sign up on the bulletin board or call Jennifer Bradley at 610-694-9805.

Trinity's Tai Chi Class and Health Ministry Invite You....

To a Qigong workshop

September 20th, Saylorsburg PA

Qigong is a Chinese form of exercise/meditation that comes from two Chinese words: Qi (chi) means energy and gong (kung) means skill/practice. Qigong therefore is a practice of cultivating energy. Practitioners of Qigong develop an awareness of Qi sensations (energy) in their body and use their mind to guide the Qi for improving their health.

Brother Bernard Seif will be coming from the Salesian Monastery to teach a one-day workshop on **Qigong** on **September 20th** at the Arsha Vidya Ashram in Saylorsburg, PA. **10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost \$45.00.**

Brother Bernard Seif is a Catholic monk and clinical psychologist as well as being board certified in behavioral medicine. He is also a doctor of naturopathic medicine, and skilled in the Chinese practice of Medical Qigong. He has traveled to China, Tibet and India to learn deeply of the eastern healing traditions, bringing together the best of the eastern and western healing philosophies in his teachings.

Though he considers himself a perpetual student, Brother Bernard is an articulate and learned teacher who manages to bring humor and light to all his teachings. His cultural sensitivity has given him entrée into countries and cultures that might otherwise hesitate to share their ancient wisdom with curious westerners. He has a passion for understanding what motivates both human health and suffering from spiritual, psychological and physical levels.

Application available from Mo. Laura.

Calling all potential Confirmation Class Members:

In the upcoming week, be on the lookout for a special invitation to be a part of our upcoming confirmation class. Our program this year will be better than ever-and will even make others in the parish jealous! You may find yourself gazing through a window into heaven by making icons, exploring the vastness of God at the planetarium, or even trying to save the world with an eco-justice service project. All that is just to name a few of the things we will be doing! We will spend several weeks going deeper in our faith as we prepare to make our confirmation vows. Confirmation is more than a rite of passage, it is journey into forming a way of life and a deeper relationship with God.

If you have any questions please contact:

Mother Hillary
(hillary@trinitybeth.org)
or

Ellyn Siftar (ellyn@trinitybeth.org)

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY COMES TO TRINITY

As Rabbi Lionel Blue puts it: "But life is already difficult enough and religion is there to help people solve problems, not to make them more difficult."

The Church has many resources to help people with the problems of life. One of these is the Bible. The difficulty is that the Bible was written in a time and place long ago and far away. To get the most help from the scriptures we need some help and guidance. The Kerygma program provides this: exploring what is actually in the Bible, the context in which it was written and guiding a discussion of how we can actually apply it in our own lives. If you are new to Bible study it will provide an accessible introduction. If you are an old hand at Bible study it will add something new, since our lives are constantly being renewed and in need of renewed applications.

As to practical matters, please see Mother Laura about obtaining a book for the course. There is a large, and very rich, workbook/resource book which you will need—cost is \$30. Mother Laura says that scholarships are available if you need them.

The meetings will be weekly at 6pm Thursdays, starting on 18th September and running for 8 weeks until 6th November. Each session is planned for 90 minutes, and will be at Trinity.

Please sign up soon, so Mother Laura will know how many books to order.

I hope to see you there,
Howard Fegan

Alternative Worship Service Possibilities

On Sunday, September 14, at 12:15 in the library, interested parishioners are invited to join in a discussion concerning the possible formation of new worship services at Trinity. While "alternative" means different things to different people, the type of service that we initially envision would:

- Be welcoming, casual & relaxed
- Invite people of all ages to participate actively in most aspects of the service – for example, instead of having a choir or organ, worshippers would "pray" using offerings from a variety of sources, including, but not limited to: the *Episcopal Hymnal 1982*; *Taize*; and St. Gregory's Church in San Francisco (www.saintgregorys.org). Eventually, we'd like to gather a mix of all kinds of instrumentalists.

Please join us for this exploration if you are so led. For more information, contact Heather Black at heatherdb@verizon.net.

Ask the Rector...

Sometimes, several people will ask me the same questions. So I thought it might be worthwhile to answer them in a monthly column, with the assumption that people might be interested, but don't get a chance to ask. If you have questions you would like answered, please send me a note.

This month's question: *Will Arthur go to Heaven?*

More than once, a tearful child has asked me if their ...(fill in the blank: kitty, bunny, fish, puppy)...is in heaven. Adults tend to ask the same question, but often with the preface, "A minister/priest/teacher told me that animals don't have souls and so they can't go to heaven. Is that true?"

This is a serious question for those of us who have companion animals. Beyond that, however, it raises important theological questions. *Are we humans something separate from nature or are we part of nature?* I would argue that we are part of nature—we are all creatures of our Creator God, humans, animals, plants, rocks, oceans, and so forth. And after all, ashes to ashes, dust to dust applies to you and me, as well as everything else in the world. God made us caretakers and stewards of nature, but our job is to work from the inside. We are not exempt from the blessings and burdens of nature, any more than our animals are.

Another question: *Who/what was affected by the incarnation, death and resurrection of Christ?* Some people believe that Christ became human in order to save us humans. Some people believe that all creation was redeemed in his saving acts. I fall into the second category. If all creation was redeemed, that includes ALL creation.

Do animals have souls and is that what gets them into heaven? Quite frankly, I have no idea. I live with animals and love them, but I have not been given any revelation about the inner workings of their beings. I know they have personalities, memory, reason (as appropriate to their natures), decision-making capabilities, and emotions. Does that mean they have souls? Hmmm....

And how do you define heaven anyway? Heaven for someone who adores thick juicy steaks is not going to be heaven for the gentle and companionable cows I grew up with. The big fat deer mouse, cavorting in the parish hall, who was the cause of Arthur's employment as Church Cat, probably has different views of heaven than Arthur does. Or than I do.

In short, I trust that if God loves all of creation (including naughty Arthur and naughtier me), and if the whole universe is redeemed by Our Lord, then animals are, too, and will share a joyful eternity with us in God's presence.

Next month: Why do you talk about God as light?



The Quiet Contemplative Life at Trinity

Mondays-Fridays	9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Chapel 4:30 p.m. Evening Prayer, Chapel
Mondays	6:00 p.m. Going Deeper, Chapel (1 st and 3 rd Mondays BEGINS SEPT. 15)
Wednesdays	9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing
Thursdays	5:30 p.m. Prayer Bead Group (3 rd Thursday, at Gaby Whittier's home)
Saturdays	10:00 a.m. Tai Chi, Chapel 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Sundays	5:00 p.m. Taize Evening Prayer, Chapel (1 st and 3 rd Sundays: BEGINS SEPT. 7)

(Look for items in blue on the Calendar on page 18,

or articles with  on them.)

Sunday School Calendar

2008-2009

Sunday School Year begins the first Sunday following Labor Day.

Nursery care is available every Sunday from 9am until 12 noon for babies and toddlers. Staffed by the wonderful Vanessa Segaline, Heather Lawrence, Caitlyn Vauter and Sweena Sarang!

Godly Play meets every Sunday from 10:15 am and the children join their families at the Peace of the service. This religious education for children is a mixed aged classroom serving children from kindergarten through fifth grade. Co-taught by Jennifer Bradley and Ellyn Siftar.

Youth Group is now forming. We plan to gather at a time TBA in the very near future and will alternate fellowship with some study and worship mixed in for a little kick! Led by Mother Hillary.

Confirmation classes begin this fall and will culminate in the confirmation service when Bishop Paul visits Trinity February 22, 2009. Led by Mother Laura and Mother Hillary.

Any questions? Call Ellyn Siftar, Director of Youth Ministries at 610.867.4741 x307

August 31	Registration forms available		
September 5	TGIF kick-off dinner	January 4	Sunday School
September 7	Sunday school 1st day!	January 11	Children's Sunday/No Sunday school
September 14	Sunday school	January 16	TGIF dinner
	Crop Walk talk by Steve Filko	January 18	Sunday school
September 21	Sunday school	January 25	Sunday school
September 28	Sunday school	February 1	Sunday school
October 5	Sunday school	February 8	Sunday school
October 10	TGIF dinner	February 15	Sunday school
October 12	Sunday school/Crop Walk	February 22	NO Sunday school-confirmation
October 19	Sunday school	February 24	Pancake Supper-TGIF
October 26	Sunday school	March 1	Sunday school
November 2	NO Sunday School	March 8	Sunday school
	All Saint's Day/Children's Sunday	March 15	Sunday school
November 9	Sunday school	March 20	TGIF dinner
November 16	Sunday school	March 22	Sunday school
	Blessing of Thanksgiving food	March 29	Sunday school
November 23	NO Sunday school-Thanksgiving	April 5	NO Sunday school-PALM SUNDAY
November 30	NO Sunday school—	April 12	NO Sunday school-HAPPY EASTER!
	St. Andrew's Day celebration	April 19	Sunday school
	Children's Sunday	April 26	Sunday school
December 7	Sunday school	May 3	Sunday school
December 13	Neighborhood caroling and potluck dinner	May 10	Last Sunday school-
December 14	Sunday School		Please join us for a special all family
December 21	Last Sunday school 'til January		celebration!
December 24	Christmas Pageant	May/June	Camping trip TBA

Sunday School Beginnings

By the time you read this, most of Trinity's children will be installed in their school life. Trinity's children and youth are welcomed back to their religious education in the manner of the old days—after Labor Day. I cannot wait to hear their voices and welcome them into their classrooms and I hope they are all looking forward to it as well. In order for the teachers to be adequately prepared for them, please take a moment to fill out a registration form in the case just outside of the church sanctuary and return it to the labeled basket nearby. Also available in the rack are schedules for the children and youth programs for the next year. Be sure to take two-one to add these dates to your calendar and one for a friend. Remember, our faith grows when we share it!

ADULT FORUM 2008

SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Mother Laura

“What’s going on at Trinity”

A preview of the many programs and opportunities going on at Trinity this fall for people of all ages and interest. “Ask the Rector” time.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2008

Mother Hillary

“Faith Journey”

Continuation of our series on Parishioners’ Faith Journeys. Get to know more about Mother Hillary and how she came to be with us.

SEPTEMBER 21 & 28, 2008

Loraine Johnson

“Exploring the Enneagram: The Nine Spiritual Dimensions of Personality”

In this two-part series, Loraine will introduce the Enneagram, an ancient tool for learning about personality. Discover your own personality type, your strengths and weaknesses, and ways to move toward your spiritual center. Unlike the Myers-Briggs, it is a tool for continual learning, and allows the individual to move out of unhealthy responses toward fuller, balanced life in the Spirit. The exploration of the process is part of spiritual maturation. Loraine Johnson is a Trinity parishioner, and a spiritual director.

ADULT FORUM 2008**OCTOBER 5, 2008****Dr. Gene Witiak, DVM*****“Hugs—Easily Given and Never Forgotten”***

Come and celebrate St. Francis Day with Dr. Gene Witiak as he asks the age-old question, “Why Am I Here?” Dr. Witiak, a member of The Cathedral Church of the Nativity, is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and has been a practicing veterinarian for over forty years. He founded the Lehigh Valley Animal Hospital, which specializes in the care of small animals. After 29 years, he sold the practice but continues to practice there caring for his patients and their owners. He is the author of numerous articles for the “Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association” as well as the popular book, True Confessions of a Veterinarian: An Unconditional Love Story.

OCTOBER 12, 2008**Rita Pursel*****“Nature and Spirituality”***

Rita Pursel is a Roman Catholic spiritual director, in practice locally, and at the Jesuit Center in Wernersville.

OCTOBER 19, 2008**TO BE ANNOUNCED****OCTOBER 26, 2008****CONSECRATION WEEKEND
CELEBRATION**

“Standing on one foot...”

A sermon for 8/3/08 Proper 13A—by Mother Laura

Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17: 1-7, 16 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

This last week, a friend of mine has been visiting from Southern California. She is a professor of electrical engineering, so she was actually here to work on a professional conference. But she spent a few days with us visiting the Moravian sites and sampling MusikFest. She was as perplexed by deep-fried pierogies and funnel cakes as I was when I first arrived, but will likely return to experience the Christmas City’s delights some December. After practicing for 30 years, Phyllis also has earned a black belt in kung fu. She attended our tai chi class on Saturday morning in the chapel, where she gave a brief demonstration. One of the benefits of tai chi and the other martial arts, is that they help to develop a sense of balance. This is particularly important in preventing falls and other injuries. It’s just about impossible to move around safely and comfortably when you are experiencing balance problems.

Phyllis’ original teacher had an interesting solution. He said: everyone puts their shoes on and takes them off several times a day. Stand on one foot, reach down, pick up and put your sock on. Pick up and put your shoe on and tie it. And then put your foot to the floor. Repeat, standing on the other foot. If you do this every day, whenever you put your shoes on or take them off, you will have strong legs and excellent balance. As a matter of fact, I do something similar when I’m getting dressed in the morning, as a way of practicing my balance for tai chi. Standing on one foot, get half dressed. Then, finish dressing while standing on the other foot. Try it some time. It’s much more difficult than you might think it would be. I did consider preaching this sermon standing on one foot in the aisle, but if I lost my balance and fell down, someone might call 911.

What a great idea! You can get fit and strong by doing something very simple that you have to do anyway. After the first few dozen times when you topple over, it doesn’t take you any longer to get dressed standing on one foot than it does to get dressed standing on two feet. Standing on one foot is not the difficulty, though. What’s really hard is paying attention to the fact that you are standing on one foot. I’m kind of sleepy in the morning before my breakfast coffee. And I tend to daydream and dawdle over getting ready. Can you guess what happens when your mind wanders while you are standing on one foot? The best case scenario is that you end up with both feet on the ground, thus defeating the balance exercise. The worst case scenario is a close encounter of the floor kind.

So basically, most of whether I can balance on one foot or not seems to lie in my head, in my ability to be aware of where I am and what I am doing at a particular moment. I don’t need special equipment. I don’t need special workout clothes. I don’t need special training. I just need to be awake and alert. And no excuses.

If we expand a few verses in each direction on today’s Gospel, we get a much different picture than if we only read the story of the feeding of the 5,000. Immediately before this, Jesus was off alone in a deserted place, praying and grieving for his cousin John the Baptist who had just been executed by Herod. Although he needed to be alone in his sorrow, the shocking news had the opposite effect on the people. They came out from all the towns around on foot and gathered in crowds on the shore. When Jesus eventually came back, he saw them there and was touched by them. So he healed their sicknesses and arranged for them to be fed in a miraculous manner. When the meal was finished, after the disciples had picked up twelve baskets-full of garbage, he sent the crowds home, and went back to the mountain by himself to pray.

Jesus spent some more time alone, and then returned to the disciples, just in time to scare the life out of them by walking on the water and to save them from a terrible storm. What an interesting balance. One moment Jesus is alone, the next it’s like MusikFest, when he is surrounded by a crowd of thousands of men, women

(Continued on page 17)

(Standing on one foot—Continued from page 16)

and children, looking for entertainment, food and comfort. Then, he is alone again. And then, coming to join the disciples when they need him most.

In each circumstance, he is absolutely appropriate. He does exactly the right thing at the right time. Had he stayed alone in the deserted place, the people who had followed him would not have been fed or have received his teaching. Had he stayed with the people, he would not have been coming to the disciples in the middle of a storm. Jesus is our model for perfect balance: alone when he needed to be, with people when he needed to be, doing the work he needed to do, relaxing with friends when it was time for that. Wherever he is, his attention is there completely. At the same time, he seems to be always aware of his connection with God. Many times he talks about being One with his father. In the midst of some action he breaks off to speak with the Holy One. In today's passage, he looks up to heaven and blesses the food. His mundane life and his spiritual life are a seamless whole.

I'm reading a book called Sacred Chaos, subtitled Spiritual Disciplines for the Life You Have. Tricia Rhodes, the author, comments on our fixation on quiet time. She notes that many people feel that they cannot pray unless they can set aside chunks of uninterrupted time. Others feel that they cannot pray unless they can adopt a special posture—kneeling or sitting in meditation. Still others insist that they can only really communicate with God in a church, with a candle or incense. While these things can be helpful, they are not mandatory. Sometimes we get quite fond of setting conditions on when, where, and how we are going to be in God's presence. And so we unconsciously close the doors of our spirit to God. We create little fenced-in times when it's OK to talk to God, never considering that it is God's desire to be part of our lives in every moment. It sounds silly to say, doesn't it, that I can't pray because I don't have enough of the right kind of time, when I have 24 hours a day. But frequently people talk with me about how dissatisfied they are with their spiritual lives. And it's usually because they are so busy and distracted that they can't find time to create the prayer conditions they think they ought to. So they don't pray at all, except perhaps in church once a week. And sometimes, even that goes by the wayside, when life gets hectic and demanding.

OK, so if you don't have time to pray, pray in the time you have. If you don't have time to exercise, exercise in the time you have. I have to take 10 minutes to get dressed in the morning. So I use those 10 getting-dressed minutes to strengthen my balance by standing first on one foot and then the other. You might do the same with your spiritual life. If you have to commute, use the half-hour commute to talk with God about what is going on in your life, what your concerns for the day are, or to let yourself ride quietly and companionably with God in the passenger's seat. Do you see a long string of red lights in front of you on Schoenersville Road? Perhaps they are a reminder to stop for a few seconds and to be aware of God's presence as you wait. You could even set your clock or computer to chime each hour, to give you 10 seconds to be aware of God.

It is wonderful when we have quiet time with God. But tell the truth, now. Most of us do not have the leisure to go away for a week-long silent retreat. And some of us are filled with horror at the prospect. With lives full of responsibilities, work, friends, family, we are busy busy busy. If we wait to be aware of God until some perfect set of circumstances prevail, most of us never will. So we must discover that we can be perfectly centered and in communion with Our Lord even in the midst of the bedlam. Many—if not most—of Jesus' miracles happened at inconvenient times—the middle of a storm, in a hungry, desperate crowd. Jacob encountered God on the bank of a stream in the middle of the night. The perfect time to spend with Jesus is the time you do spend, even if it's in the grocery check-out line. The place where you are with Jesus is the right place, even if it's in a subway car or in the shower. No special place, no special time, no special apparatus, no excuses. AMEN.



September 2008

The Quiet Contemplative Life Offerings

NOTE: This calendar does not include various occasional outside groups that use our facilities. Please check availability with the office before scheduling a meeting.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day— Office Closed	2 6:30 pm— Daughters of the King— <i>Library</i>	3 7:30 am— A Spiritual Journey in Recovery— <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	4	5 6:00 pm— TGIF Potluck Social— <i>Parish Hall</i>	6
7 5:00 pm— Taizé— <i>Chapel</i>	8 7:00 pm— Holy Eucharist— <i>Chapel</i> 7:30 pm— Vestry Meeting— <i>Library</i>	9	10	11	12	13
14 12:15 pm— Alternative Service Conversation— <i>Library</i>	15 6:00 pm— Going Deeper: A Contemplative Community— <i>Chapel</i>	16	17 7:30 am— A Spiritual Journey in Recovery— <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Noon— Newsletter Deadline 7:30 pm— Pastoral Care Committee— <i>Parish Hall</i>	18 5:30 pm— Prayer Beaders Gathering— <i>Whittier home</i> 6:00 pm— Kerygma Bible Study Class— <i>Parish Hall</i>	19	20
21 5:00 pm— Taizé— <i>Chapel</i>	22	23 7:30 pm— Stewardship Committee— <i>Place TBA</i>	24	25 6:00 pm— Kerygma Bible Study Class— <i>Parish Hall</i>	26	27
28	29	30				

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:15 am Child Care
9:15 am Adult Forum
10:15 am Sunday School (Tentative)
10:15 am Godly Play
10:30 am Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Coffee Hour

Weekdays (Mon through Fri)

9:00 am Morning Prayer
Noon Soup Kitchen
4:30 pm Evening Prayer
5:30 pm AA (Fellowship Hall)

Mondays

10:00 am Quilters (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesdays

6:00 pm Yoga (Chapel)
7:00 pm AA Meeting (Parish Hall)

Wednesdays

9:30 am Holy Eucharist w/Healing

Thursdays

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Fridays

9:30 am Parent-Child Playgroup (Tentative)

Saturdays

10:00 am Tai Chi (Chapel)
10:30 am AA (Parish Hall)
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Sermon

Looking ahead:

A presentation on **Protecting Our Children** will be held after the 10:30 service on Sunday, October 12th. All are welcome. Staff and those volunteering with children should attend.

WORSHIP SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS, September 7 – October 12, 2008
 Compiled by Donna Lawrence

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Usher	Crucifer	Torch Bearer	Reader	Intercessor	Chalice	Nursery	Altar Flowers
9/7/2008	8:00 AM	Gloria Tarby	Elizabeth Gee	--	--	Jane Frey	Francis Frey	Lorraine Johnson Pat Sisson	--	--
9/14/2008	10:30 AM	Doris Eshbach	Suzanne Boundy Vince Garcia	Joanna Majczan	Anna Siflar Phillip McIntosh	Joyce Meinke Anna Siflar	Sheri Majczan	Sheri Majczan Michelle Fodor Joan Jones	Heather Lawrence Vanessa Segaline	Phyllis Douvanis
9/21/2008	8:00 AM	Gloria Tarby	Ann Szmania	--	--	Clarran Filko	Bill Winterburn	Clarran Filko Steve Filko	--	--
9/28/2008	10:30 AM	Doris Eshbach	Donna Lawrence Bob Lawrence	Bobby Lawrence	Caroline Vail Julia Lega	Jack Vickrey Mary Ann Swiatek	Ken Magee	Hatye Magee Marie Lisby Mary Ann Swiatek Elizabeth Gee	Heather Lawrence Caitlyn Vauter	Stobhan Ardizzone
10/5/2008	8:00 AM	Szmania Ann	Ken Tarby	--	--	Bob Mickus	Ann Mickus	Elizabeth Gee Virginia McQueen	--	--
10/12/2008	10:30 AM	Jeanne Deets	Dee Palmeri Sue Zumas	Danny Palmeri	Michael Palmeri Jonathan Palmeri	Michael Palmeri Charles O'Connell	Kathleen Knaack	Kathleen Knaack Jeanne Deets Bob Deets	Vanessa Segaline Sweena Sarang	Mary Ann Swiatek
10/12/2008	8:00 AM	Ann Mickus	Bill Harding	--	--	Bill Winterburn	Joe Fox	Dawn Winterburn Bill Winterburn	--	--
10/12/2008	10:30 AM	Kathleen Knaack	Bill Vitalos Marcie Lightwood	Lindsay Heffner	Jenna Heffner Anna Siflar	Anna Siflar Sheri Majczan	Marcie Lightwood	Lisa Heffner Michelle Fodor Sheri Majczan	Heather Lawrence Vanessa Segaline	Lynn Norman
10/12/2008	10:30 AM	--	Francis Frey	--	--	Francis Frey	Jane Frey	Lorraine Johnson Loraine Guerra	--	--
10/12/2008	8:00 AM	--	Steve Filko Tom Bradley	Clarran Filko	Caroline Vail Phillip McIntosh	Andrew McIntosh Bob Lukens	Barb Subber	Marie Lisby Hatye Magee Violet McCandless	Heather Lawrence Caitlyn Vauter	Shelly Smith
10/12/2008	10:30 AM	--	Gloria Tarby	--	--	Ann Mickus	Bob Mickus	Pat Sisson	--	--
			Lynn Norman Jack Norman	Heather Lawrence	Michael Palmeri Julia Lega	Sue Ditterline Carol Proppner	Joyce Meinke	Dee Palmeri Donna Lawrence Bob Lawrence	Vanessa Segaline Sweena Sarang	Dee Palmeri

Please keep this monthly schedule and make it your responsibility to inform the church of any changes prior to Wednesday morning. (Contact: Gabby @ 867-4741 or Gabby@trinitybeth.org)

Rolling up your sleeves is one way of getting down on your knees.

Sunday morning service isn't the only way to pray. We live our faith by serving others: in soup kitchens, shelters, hospitals, schools, disaster recovery sites, and more. Grab an apron and join us!

The Episcopal Church:
Put Your Faith to Work

www.putyourfaithtowork.org



There are a lot of things you can learn from a lecture, but Godly Play has to be learned from the inside out. On **September 11th to the 13th**, The Cathedral of the Nativity will host a **Godly Play teacher Accreditation Event** led by Kathleen Capcara and Dawn Stewart.

If you have ever wanted to learn more about the Godly Play stories or would like to implement this curriculum in your own congregation, please join us for this event.

For more information about the event, scholarships or lodging, please contact the event coordinator, Tracy Eisenreich at tracy.e@rcn.com or 610.217.9662

Make a difference in someone else's life and you'll make a difference in your own.

Serving Christ in one another - not just pretty words. Episcopal churches offer myriad ways to experience the joy of living your faith. Chopping vegetables just could be the most rewarding thing you do all week.

The Episcopal Church:
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TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Feeding all in Body, Mind and Soul

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web site www.trinitybeth.org
email info@trinitybeth.org

office hours 9-2, Monday-Friday,
appointments until 4

CLERGY

The Rev. Laura Thomas Howell, Obl.S.B., Rector
The Rev. Elizabeth Miller, Deacon and
Soup Kitchen Coordinator
The Rev. Hillary Raining, Curate
The Rev. Canon Clifford B. Carr, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Ditterline, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Canon A. Malcolm MacMillan,
Assisting Priest
The Rev. Canon Gwendolyn-Jane Romeril,
Assisting Priest

STAFF

Karen Ernst-Reiner, Treasurer
Director of Music—*Open*
Peter & Wendy Lega, Directors of Children's
Choir
Ellyn Siftar, Director of Youth Ministries
Gabriele Whittier, Associate for Administration
Shelly Smith, Clerk of the Vestry
Dennis Perkins, Sexton
Ministers: All baptized members.

VESTRY

Sara Klingner (*Vestry Warden*)
Siobhan Ardizzone
Suzanne Boundy
Jennifer Bradley
Robert Deets
Wendy Lega
Marcie Lightwood
Robert Lukens
Ken Magee
Katherine Simmons
Jack Vickrey (*Rector's Warden*)
Gabriele Whittier

How to become a member

You are very welcome to attend worship services, member or not. If you would like to become part of the parish, it is easy. Just give your name, address, phone number (and email address, if you have one) to a priest or usher, or leave it in the parish office. Part of being an Episcopalian is giving of your time, talent and treasure. We hope you will attend our special programs and join our other activities. There are so many opportunities to become a working member – by helping with worship services, or serving on a committee or outreach group.

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If you would prefer to have future newsletters emailed to you rather than a paper copy via US Mail, send an email to gaby@trinitybeth.org asking to be placed on the Newsletter email distribution list.

October Newsletter Deadline:

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Submissions for the Newsletter are welcome and should be sent to the editor at gaby@trinitybeth.org, or mailed to or dropped off in the church office. All submissions must be identified by the author with contact information (email or telephone number).