The Trinitarian

News, Notes and Inspiration from Trinity Church Oxford  Summer 2012

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From the Rector
My Dear People,

This season there are three weddings at Trinity. The first was the wedding of David and Deirdre Dignetti on May 12, the second was Michael and Kaitlyn Geliebter Prete on June 8, and the third will be Keith Williams to Joan Annand on June 30.

The setting of Trinity Church Oxford makes for a wonderful wedding backdrop. Indeed, I do get occasional inquiries from couples who are looking for a perfect "Hollywood Back Lot" to serve as a "supporting role" in their big day. These inquiries typically are brief, because when they find out what we expect of a couple, they quickly lose interest.

Couples who are married here understand that though the church is beautiful, it is much more than mere scenery in their production. They understand that the church and the community it represents are participants in their union; that the "community of families" which they are joining is interconnected. While each wedding is moving in its own way, each shares the common distinction of being a sacrament—a visible sign of an invisible grace—in representing to the world the mystical union between Christ and his Church. The vocation of selflessness, sacrifice, and unconditional love to which a couple is called in marriage is meant to be a direct reflection of the same characteristics shown to us by Jesus Christ, and by us to the world. This is beautifully illustrated by the collect before the nuptial blessing:

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BCP, 431).
May God’s blessing be upon those who come to his altar seeking to consecrate their lives in the sacrament of marriage.

Father Richard

Ascension
On the Feast of Ascension, May 17, Father Richard was inducted as a guardian of the Shrine of Our Lady of Clemency. The guardians are a group of lay and ordained people who are friends of the parish of St. Clement's Philadelphia, and are asked regularly to pray for the parish, its clergy and people. Father Richard has also been appointed as a priest trustee of the Yarnall Library of Theology which is held at the University of Pennsylvania.

Calendar Meeting
Before each new program year begins, we hold a calendar meeting to lay out the schedule for the coming year and try to avoid conflicts between the various Trinity committees and ministries. Please join us on Tuesday, August 14, at 7pm in the Rector's office if you represent a committee or group that uses Trinity facilities.

Class of 2012
Congratulations to all 2012 graduates, especially those members of the Trinity community:

College graduates Stephanie Campanaro and Andrew Geliebter

High school graduates Isabelle Campanaro, Anna Gail Henry, and Stewart Mills

Middle school graduates John Furlong, Kathleen McConomy, Megan McGee and Madeline Putterman

Episcopal Community Services
On June 5, Father Richard was elected as a board member of Episcopal Community Services of Philadelphia. ECS has served the Philadelphia
community for nearly 140 years and Trinity has a long history of supporting this fine organization.

Memorial
The ashes of Robert Neveling (1917 - 2011) were interred at Sunset Memorial Park on June 4 by Father Richard after a funeral at Trinity on June 2. He and his wife were long-time members of Trinity who had moved to Wisconsin to be with their family. May Robert's soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Phillies Phanatics
Nearly 50 members of the Trinity family enjoyed the Philadelphia Phillies baseball game on June 21. Bishop Bennison threw out the first ball and a good time was had by all! Please visit our website for more pictures of the event.

Prayer Vigil
Members of faith communities in Lawncrest felt called by God to do something about the violence in our neighborhood and gathered for a prayer vigil on May 6, starting at Trinity and walking south on Rising Sun Avenue. The procession stopped at several churches and a Buddhist temple, ending at the Protestant Home. In addition to being a powerful witness to the community, it provided a great opportunity for the faith communities of Lawncrest to get to know each other better. Pictured above are the ministers of the various institutions that participated in the vigil.

Pulpit Exchange
Lawncrest ministers participated in a pulpit exchange on Sunday, June 24. At Trinity, we welcomed the Rev. Ben Krey of Prince of Peace Lutheran and Father Richard was welcomed at Church of the Redeemer (United Methodist). Please go online if you'd like to hear Father
Summer Coverage
Father Robyn will be taking some time off over the summer and Father Graff will be celebrating mass most of the Sundays when Father Richard is away. In July, Richard and Pete will be celebrating Independence Day on Mackinac Island, Michigan, and then will vacationing with family in Ireland. In early August, they will be on Cape Cod with friends. The office will remain open throughout the summer on Tuesdays thru Thursdays from 9am to 1pm and can be reached at (215) 745-6114 - emergency contact numbers are also available thru the office phone.

Trinity Sunday Recognition and Picnic
On June 3, the parish family came together for our annual "Recognition Sunday," at which we show our appreciation to all who helped out in the past year - which is just about everyone! Many thanks to our Acolytes, Altar Guild, Church School pupils & teachers, Eucharistic ministers, GFS members, lectors, musicians, Prayers & Squares, ushers, Women of Trinity, Youth Group, and those who help with coffee hour, communications, finance, outreach, pastoral care, property and stewardship. After the service, we enjoyed a delicious picnic on the grounds and invited the whole neighborhood to join us. Please visit our website for pictures of the event.

Vestry Highlights
At the May meeting of the Vestry, we welcomed new members and determined committee assignments for the coming year. We also discussed a number of property issues. At the June meeting, we had a presentation from our accountant to review methods of bookkeeping and discussed ongoing projects. The next Vestry meeting will be in September.

Weddings at Trinity
The wedding display is up and running in the Buchanan Building throughout the summer. If you would like to include a picture, send it in any time. I am especially looking for a wedding or two from the Noble Smith years. Everyone
Calendar and Your Feedback

Please visit our new interactive online calendar on our website that allows you to view events at Trinity by week or month, and in a variety of formats. You can also print out the calendar in a way that works best for you. Please also email any input for the September Trinitarian to me before August 15. Cheers, Pete (your Trinitarian editor)

Schedule of Events

Every Sunday, Mass at 8am (spoken) and 10am (with music and followed by "goodies in the graveyard")

Tuesday, August 14, Calendar Meeting at 7pm in the rector's office