

The Trinitarian



News, Notes and Inspiration from Trinity Church Oxford

February 2011

In This Issue

From the Rector
300th Anniversary
Annual Meeting
Candidates for Vestry
Confirmation Class
Deacon Update
GFS Week
GFS World Council
Music Ministry
Rector's Xmas Party
Souper Bowl Sunday
Vestry Highlights
Women of Trinity
Youth Group

Our Staff

[The Rev. Richard Robyn,](#)
[Rector](#)
Mary Sampson, M.A.,
Organist/Choirmaster
[Chris Claypoole,](#) [Secretary](#)
Michael Pacillio, Sexton

Our Vestry

[Dorothy Orr,](#) [Rector's](#)
[Warden](#)

Judith Maile, Accounting
Warden
John Annand
Nellie Duddy
Lorraine Henry
Lynne Geliebter
Pamela McCracken
Robert Miller
Melinda Weaver

Website Resources

[History](#)
[Mission](#)
[Newsletter Archive](#)
[Photos](#)
[Sermons](#)

Calling All Shutterbugs

We need digital photos of Trinity goings-on: Church Services, Coffee Hour, Church School, Outings, Parish Clean-Up Days -- everything is fair game, within the bounds of Christian decency of course! Please email your photos as [ing attachments to](#)



From the Rector

Candlemas falls on February 2 each year. Do you know what it is all about? The "holiday season" contains three great feasts of light. The first is Christmas, which shines brightly, indeed. The second is the Epiphany, which is a bit more subdued. And the third is Candlemas, or the feast of the Purification, also called the feast of the Presentation. It is usually completely overshadowed by the first two, not to mention the fact that most people

(clergy included) find themselves exhausted by January 6th. (Strictly speaking, it is the absolute deadline for turning off your lighting displays!) Candlemas marks the time when the Holy Family went to the Temple, according to the Law of Moses, for postpartum purification rites as well as the "sanctification of the firstborn", for which Joseph and Mary offered the priest "a pair of turtledoves". The main drama of the feast comes from two people outside the Holy Family and outside the Temple establishment. Simeon the righteous and Anna the wise met the Holy Family at the Temple and by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, both separately and spontaneously ecstatically proclaimed that the infant Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah. The fact that this happened in the Temple and by two old and righteous people cannot be understated. This is the moment when Jesus was proclaimed to be "a light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of God's people Israel."

This feast marks a real turning point in human history. It marks the moment when God's grace was imbued to all nations, not gods' graces distributed to specific tribes and regions. One God for all the world... Blessings to you and stay warm! Father Richard



300 Years of Our Church Building

Please come to a planning meeting on Tuesday, February 15, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building with ideas to help us celebrate three hundred years of our church building. If you cannot attend the meeting, but have some ideas, please email to Dottie Orr or Father Robyn.

Annual Meeting

Trinity Church Oxford will convene its annual meeting on April 10, 2011 following the principal service. We will meet for the purposes of reviewing the reports of the previous year and for the election of three delegates to the Diocesan Convention in November, 2011; three delegates to the Pennypack Deanery; as well as new members of the parish vestry. Nominating Committee members are Mindy Weaver, Nellie Duddy, John Annand and Lorie Henry. Our ideal number of vestry members is twelve, though we can function within our bylaws with as few as nine. In order to meet



jpg attachments to
info@trinitychurchoxford.org
Use the the subject line
"trinity pix" and list the event
name, date of the photo,
and photographer's name in
the body of your email.

Words of Wisdom

"I don't preach a social gospel; I preach the gospel, period. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is concerned with the whole person. When people were hungry, Jesus didn't say, 'Now is that political or social?' He said, 'I feed you.' Because the good news to a hungry person is bread."

- Desmond Tutu

Trinity Tidbit

The next few "tidbits" will focus on the kings and queens who reigned during the pre-revolutionary history of our parish.

King William & Queen Mary

The phrase William and Mary usually refers to the coregency over the Kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland, of King William III and Queen Mary II. Their joint reign began in February 1689, when they were called to the throne by Parliament, replacing James II, Mary's father and William's uncle/father-in-law, who was "deemed to have fled" the country in the Glorious Revolution of 1688. After Mary died in 1694, William ruled alone until his death in 1702 (our congregation first met in 1698). William and Mary were childless and were ultimately succeeded by Mary's younger sister, Anne. She was daughter of James II.

Next time, our most munificent monarch, Queen Anne.

our minimum of nine vestry members, we need to elect five members on April 10. Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee if you or anyone you know is interested in serving in one of these important roles.



Candidates for Vestry

The Vestry meets one Monday night a month (usually the third Monday) for about 2 hours to conduct the business of the parish. Each member's term of office is three years. A second term may be sought, but no one can serve for more than six consecutive years, after which one must rotate off for a minimum of one year. Vestry members are expected to participate in the life of the Parish by attending services regularly, pledging financially to the parish, and by attending some of the social and special events of the parish. Members serve on two committees of their choice, perhaps chairing one. Members will be scheduled with another vestry member to count and post the Sunday offering about once every five weeks. Members can expect to serve about three to four hours a month in addition to regular worship. The ministry of vestry service is an important one without which our parish could not legally function. Please consider prayerfully whether you are called to this essential ministry.



Confirmation Class

Church School members who will be 13 as of June 2011 are eligible to join our Confirmation class. Preparation will take place during Church School, and in the spring, Fr. Robyn will instruct the Catechumens after the 10 am service. The focus will be on learning the basics of the faith, and it is important that participants attend each session. There will be a camping retreat in the spring (to a campground, not the backyard of the rectory, as has been rumored), and Bishop Lee will be with us on Trinity Sunday (June 19) to celebrate and confirm. For more information, see Mrs. Orr or Fr. Robyn.



Deacon Update

There are seven postulants in the process to become deacons in our diocese and the process began with a recent overnight retreat. The program is three years long and involves numerous seminary classes. I have started where it all began, by studying the Old Testament. In this first year we each have to do an internship with a "social service agency" either a secular or church related program. I have started mine by working with Father Don Graff at the Free Church of St John in Kensington. I will be doing a number of things, but one of my main duties will be assisting in getting the word out to the community about the outreach services that they offer. I am excited about the prospects of this internship and ministry. The diaconate program as it is now envisioned by the diocese has a large emphasis on social service ministry to the weak, poor, oppressed and the sick. This is, of course what the living the Gospel is all about. Phil Geliebter

Rector's Note: Bishop Michel once described the Sacred Order of Deacons as "the pebble in the shoe of the Church." Our renewed interest in this order calls deacons to their historic role, without co-opting or diminishing their place in the liturgy, of reminding bishops, priests and lay leaders of those whom it would be easy in our busyness to forget. Have questions? Please see "Preface to the Ordination Rites" BCP p. 511 or ask Fr. Robyn or Phil Geliebter.



GFS Week

Girls' Friendly Society will celebrate GFS Week from January 30 to February 6. GFS Week began in the late 60's to make parishes more aware of the [mission and ministry of the organization](#). Trinity has celebrated this week in recent years by having the members of the organization participate in the service and admitting new members formally into the society. We hope that you will join us on Sunday, February 6, at 10am when GFS

members will take part in the worship service (postponed from the prior week due to snow). We will also be having a Bake Sale that morning to raise money for GFS Sri Lanka to repair a meeting hall that was destroyed by flooding. Some of the profits will also go to Emily Gelieber to help pay her World Council fees for the 2011 meeting in Ireland.



GFS World Council

Trinity Girls' Friendly Society is planning to sell Krispy Kreme gift certificates as a fund-raising project to pay for travel and registrations for those attending World Council. Emily Gelieber will represent Trinity as well as the Diocese of Pennsylvania at the Council which will be held at Kings Hospital, Palmerstown in Dublin, Ireland from June 24 through July 4 this summer.

Orders can be placed with any GFS member or Dottie

Orr. More information will be in the Weekly Bulletin.



Music Ministry Notes

Due to severe weather conditions, the following choir schedules have changed: the Bell Choir Rehearsal originally scheduled for February 3, has been moved to Thursday, February 10 at 7:30pm. The Junior Choir will sing their anthem on Sunday, February 13 at 10am, instead of February 6.

Our Senior Choir has started rehearsals on the "Requiem" by David Huff. It will be presented at the 10am service on March 27. David Huff is a contemporary composer who was largely

influenced by Mozart. The work features sections for both choir and soloists. You won't want to miss this beautiful performance. SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Mary Sampson, Organist/Choirmaster



Rector's Christmas Party

Father Robyn and I would like to thank everyone who joined in the festivities of our annual Christmas Party at the rectory. It was so nice to celebrate the season with everyone in our home with food, good conversation and fun music. We especially thank Jonathan Bowen, choir master from St. Luke & The Epiphany in Center City, for leading us on the piano with everything from the Halleluiah Chorus to YMCA. Pete Datos



Souper Bowl Sunday

SM On Sunday, February 6, our GFS will participate in the international effort to refocus the world's biggest football weekend into a weekend of "loving God, loving our neighbor"

OF CARING

known as the [Souper Bowl of Caring](#). Please bring in at least one can of soup and give at least one dollar that day. The soup that is collected will be used in a local food cupboard and the money donated will go to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund to be used for victims of disasters in this country and abroad. In 2010, \$10 million was raised with 13,044 churches and organizations participating in this project. The Souper Bowl began in the early 1990's and has raised over \$50 million to feed the hungry and aid in national and international disasters. We thank you for your support. Thanks also to those who donated gifts and money for our December Outreach projects - ECS was most appreciative.

Vestry Highlights



Buchanan Building.

At its January meeting, in addition to tending to routine business, the vestry discussed updating contracts with our two long-term tenants, Oxford Child Care Center, Inc. and the Police Athletic League. The vestry is awaiting end-of-year reports from various financial institutions in order to finalize the 2011 budget. Our next meeting is on Monday, February 28 at 7pm in the



Women of Trinity

The Women of Trinity will not have a February meeting due to the bad weather we've been having. Here's hoping that March will be a more favorable month. Stay warm! Nellie Duddy



Youth Group

Please visit the [new webpage of our Youth Group](#), which is intended to be a site managed by and for the youth of our parish. Please also join them at our Lenten Outreach project at the St. Mark's Frankford feeding ministry (more details to come).

February Calendar

Every Sunday

Holy Eucharist (spoken) at 8am in the Church

Holy Eucharist (sung) at 10am in the Church followed by coffee hour in the Buchanan Building

Church School for children during the 10am service

Senior Choir rehearsals at 8:45am in the Buchanan Building

Girls' Friendly Society Sunday & Bake Sale

Sunday, February 6, in the Buchanan Building

Girls' Friendly Society Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, at 7pm in the Children's House

Property Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 10, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 10, at 7:30pm in the Church

Planning Meeting for 300th Anniversary

Tuesday, February 15, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Special Vestry Meeting with PAL Representatives

Wednesday, February 16, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Wardens' Meeting

Tuesday, February 22, in the Church Office

Girls' Friendly Society Meeting

Tuesday, February 22, at 7pm in the Children's House

Church School Meeting

Wednesday, February 23, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Vestry Meeting

Monday, February 28, at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Other Dates to Remember**Ash Wednesday Services**

Wednesday, March 9, at 10am and 7pm in the Church (supper at 6pm in the Buchanan Building before the 7pm service)

Property Clean Up Day

Saturday, March 12

Lenten Intergenerational Program

Starts Wednesday, March 16, at 6pm in the Buchanan Building

Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 10

Your Feedback is Important

Please [email Chris Claypoole](mailto:Chris.Claypoole@trinitychurchoxford.org) or call her at (215) 745-6114 in the church office with any questions or input for next month's Trinitarian. We are especially interested in your feedback about the format for the Trinitarian and whether you know of anyone in our community who is not receiving their copy (if so, please let us know their most current email address or else a home mailing address).

[Forward email](#)

Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to peter.datos@gmail.com by info@trinitychurchoxford.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Trinity Church Oxford | 6901 Rising Sun Avenue | Philadelphia | PA | 19111