



Lifeline

VOLUME 17
ISSUE 5

May 2024

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church
office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org



A Message from Our Rector, *Fr. Kevin M. Cross*



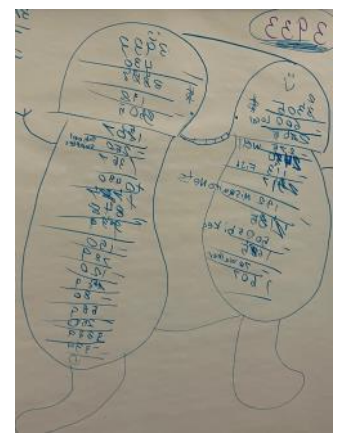
Oxford Day



Oxford Day



Ferry Blessing



Change for Change Decisions



Change Count



At Diocese Convention



Hope Lecture

Soup Masters



Sunday School





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Great appreciation to everyone who helped make this year's Plant Sale a tremendous success. Whether you volunteered or purchased plants we thank you for your participation. The success of the event will help fund local missions. Special thanks to our chairs: **Beverly Rohman, Carla Todd and Stephen Weisenberger.**
- Thank you to **John Malin and Victoria Chandler** for taking on the communications role for HT. You will help us spread the Good News of this community.
- Gratitude to our Sunday School teachers, **Barbara Cross, Kathy Becker, Susie Dillon, and Pucky Lipincott** for leading another year of marvelous sessions for our children, helping them learn of the love of God. Thank you also to our Sunday School children and parents. You inspire all of us.
- A special thank you to **Deacon Lisa.** We are blessed by your pastoral presence amongst us and inspired by your sermons.
- Thank you to **Kelly Steele** for joining our happy crew of Souper Men and Women,
- Great appreciation for **Mary Beth Guerreri** for serving as our new Lunch Bunch Baker! Yum!
- Thank you for **Sue Schultze** who has joined the Office Angels team. We are glad to have you on board!

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Dinner Church – Wednesday May 29 at 5 pm

We are planning a series of monthly potluck dinners starting in May. These dinners will have all the epicurean and fellowship delights of a typical potluck dinner combined with a church service. Our first Dinner Church is scheduled for Tuesday May 28th at 5 pm. The dinner will include an evening prayer service. This evening, our worship service will be the Evening Prayer Service from The New Zealand Book of Common Prayer. It is a beautiful poetic and calming service for the end of the day. The potluck theme is Springtime. Let your imaginations run wild and let's share each other's gastronomic vision of Springtime. A sign-up list is posted in the Parish hall or you may call the office to RSVP.

Connie's Corner



- "Nothing is impossible. The word itself says 'I'm possible!'" — **Audrey Hepburn**
- "Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you." — **Walt Whitman**
- "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." — **C.S. Lewis**
- "Just don't give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong." — **Ella Fitzgerald**
- "When you put love out in the world it travels, and it can touch people and reach people in ways that we never even expected." — **Laverne Cox**
- "To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people just exist." — **Oscar Wilde**
- "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: It goes on." — **Robert Frost**
- "You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching, Love like you'll never be hurt, Sing like there's nobody listening, And live like it's heaven on earth." — **William W. Purkey**

There stands our flag, so proud
 Never darkened by a cloud
 She has draped many a man
 Who defended our country, our land
 She flies at half staff to honor those who
 Deserve that honor for all they do
 Life is short but you can depend
 On that flag who will never end
 We always must honor her pride
 As she has never had a free ride
 So celebrate her life, her sacrifice
 To honor those that gave up their life.

"Written by Connie Greenhawk

If you would like to submit a favorite saying or thought, email to Connie at office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org

**Check back of calendar for
 2024 Committee Information**

Today I am Going to Change the World

Recently I have tried to develop a deeper understanding of the people central to Jesus's life. Mary, Joseph Lazarus, Martha and Mary, the disciples...They are central figures in our faith story. Yet we just know a bit about each of them. When we read Scripture, we can try to imagine what it was like to be in the shoes of Joseph or even the prophets, Mary, the apostles, Paul... Yet our imaginings and their real-life experiences are separated by a great chasm of time. While we are similar in many ways, our imaginings of their lives and our life experiences are far apart from theirs.

However, we too, like these models of faith, are asked to make choices in our lives that can seem overwhelming. These challenges may seem to be on a level beyond our capabilities. Let's face it, God does not often ask us to make simple, logical choices. Joseph's choice was one of faith and trust. It was a choice that had to be based on believing what was to be, not what simply was. Jesus always created quite an uproar during his lifetime, even as a baby, He upset the status quo. And thus his family, friends and followers were asked to make momentous decisions that would affect the history of the world.



Today our faith asks us daily to take up seemingly insurmountable challenges. We are often asked to take actions that seem illogical to the world. In a world ruled by logic who can possibly take seriously efforts to eliminate poverty, feed the hungry, and end war? These all seem like impossible dreams. Yet are such actions illogical? They are certainly daunting in their hopefulness. Yet, in the life of Jesus, we see one who against all earthly odds, did indeed change the world just as He continues to change it today.

The point is that we all have difficult work ahead of us. It is not enough to carry faith in Christ within us. We must be transformed as Joseph, Mary, and the apostles changed when they consciously made efforts to actualize God's kingdom. A world where love, peace, and justice would reign. The kind of personal change that is needed is not small. It is big, daunting, and seemingly impossible. It just does not happen, but it is driven by agents of change. The apostles experienced a change in the way they thought about themselves as they responded to the universal call of Christianity. Jesus' ministry introduced a new way of faith and action. Jesus was the original agent of change in this ever evolving transformation of hearts and minds. Jesus passed the responsibility for being such a force for change on to ordinary people like Joseph and later the apostles and from them onward to us today.



Our inspiration today remains the same as for them. Jesus. Jesus did not hold himself above humanity. The Son of God plunged into the waters of the Jordan and in doing so showed the desire of God to be one with us – in this new covenant there would be no walls between God and his people and there are to be no walls between the people of God. We come together in the body of Christ. In the end, good people, it comes down to our opening our ears, eyes, and hearts to hear the proclamation of our faith. It is up to us today to follow the example of our ancestors in faith and countless others to change the world. Yes, it is an awesome challenging task. Yet we can rise to the occasion. Our predecessors in this faith have shown us what we all are capable of becoming and doing. This is all possible because as with Jesus our God proclaims to us "You are my children. You are my beloved and with you I am well pleased."

"Today I am going to change the world. I am going to make it a safer place, a more hopeful place, than when I awoke this morning. By sunset I will have done all I can to bring love to this small corner of the universe that has been entrusted to me. I will be mindful of all I can do to help and heal where I live, praying that others are doing the same where they live. Together, we will change the world." – **The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston**

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

MISSION SECTION



Talbot Interfaith Shelter Drive

The mission project for the month of April is focused on meeting the needs of the Talbot Interfaith Shelter. Talbot Interfaith Shelter was formed in 2008 by a group of concerned members of Talbot County faith communities. In 2014, they received a permit to operate a year-round shelter facility at a former bed and breakfast called Easton's Promise. They have since developed their S4 Program (Shelter, Stability, Support, Success), which includes case management, educational programming, and subsidized transitional housing. In 2022, they opened a second shelter, which now serves single men and women. All of this has been made possible by YOUR generosity, money, time, fellowship, and compassion. This year TIS has faced very challenging financial times as donations to all non-profits are down. We will be collecting donations for TIS throughout the month of April. A list of needed items is included below. The drop off bins for donations are in the River Room of the Parish hall. If you would like to make a financial donation you may make a check out to the church with TIS listed on the note line. Juli Wells, Executive Director of TIS will join us at both services and Sunday School on Sunday April 14th.

Fresh fruit & low-sugar snacks for diabetics	Hand washing detergent	Coffee-drip grind both regular & decaf & Keurig coffee & tea pods
Paper towels, selectable sized ones appreciated	Creamer-powdered or liquid	Murphy's oil or hardwood floor cleaner
Laundry detergent, hypo-allergenic for HE washer	Automatic dishwasher detergent	Antiseptic wipes-both for hands & counters
Dryer sheets, hypo-allergenic, non-scent	Trash bags, kitchen and larger	Low scent floor cleaner for tile
Toilet paper	Sugar	Individual bottled water
Towels & Washcloths	Endust/Pledge or dusting aid	

Milestones

Passed On

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Ellie Taylor | Kate Carraher |
| Donald Shuck | George Mitchell |
| Bill Darragh | Jerry Hinkle |

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet via Zoom at 5 pm on May 14^h and May 28th. We are continuing our journey through the prophets.

Daughters of the King

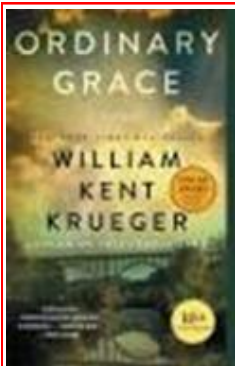


The Daughters of the King, a worldwide order of women dedicated to prayer and service, will meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 on Tuesday May 14th. All are welcomed to attend.

Prayer Requests

It seems we can all use prayers at some point in our lives. Some people are fine about others knowing they are being prayed for, and sometimes people want to be prayed for quietly and in confidence.

Here at Holy Trinity, our Holy Comforter chapter of the Daughters of the King prays daily and keeps those requests confidential. We do not need to know what it is about - God knows. If you would like us to pray for you or someone else, please contact either Midge Menzies, Barb Cross, or Sharon Paz.



WOMEN ON A JOURNEY

We are starting a new book in May.....

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger

Come join us as we read and discuss this powerful story about discovering the terrible price of wisdom and the enduring grace of God.

As always, meetings will be the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month in the Parish Hall and via Zoom

May 1st & May 15th - 9:00 am

For more information contact Beverly Rohman at 410-829-9561 or beverlyrohman@gmail.com

Inquiring Believers Study the Old Testament

Currently, the group is studying the Old Testament using Professor Robert Miller's Great Courses video lectures for a class titled, *Understanding the Old Testament*, and sections from Paul Johnson's *A History of the Jews*. We are also reading sections of the Old Testament that correspond to Professor Miller's lectures.

We meet every Monday evening at 5:00 and are always happy to welcome new members. If you would like to join in, please contact Bob Kelly at kellyrf@lemoyne.edu or Dave Poe at davidrussellpoe@gmail.com



OXFORD DAY PLANT SALE SUCCESS

Another successful Holy Trinity Plant Sale was enjoyed by many on Oxford Day! Not even the cold and windy weather could dampen the spirits of the day. A beautiful selection of plants graced the front lawn and drew in many local and visiting shoppers to support our mission efforts.

As usual, Robin's Nest provided us with wonderful assortment of plants and baskets. The weather cooperated and we had such a great day. A heartfelt and sincere thank you to co-leaders Carla Todd and Steve Weissenberger and, the wonderful team of volunteers -- seasoned regulars and new participants -- who carried, sorted, arranged, sold and purchased plants. Your hard work, caring, and friendly spirits make our events effective, efficient, and so much fun!. Oxford Day is always a special day ...when we enjoy the camaraderie and community building as much as the opportunity to raise money for missions. Thank you all ...so very much!! Beverly Rohman

Educational Section

Sunday School

We are a church family, and you have **Sunday School and You!** shown your love and care for the Sunday School children. Our last Sunday School class for this school year was on April 28. We are so grateful for you. You have supported us by welcoming us on Sundays, helping us with projects like stuffing eggs for our Easter egg hunt, engaging us in conversation during fellowship time, giving a smile, and participating in our Lenten Change for Change project.

For the Change for Change project we raised \$1933 in "change" which was then matched with a \$2000 matching check! The children were so thoughtful in their discussions and decisions of how the \$3933 should be spent.

As always, we start discussing what organizations we should give to locally. The children decided upon St. Vincent de Paul Society, Talbot Interfaith Shelter, and Neighborhood Service Center.

This year we went through Child Fund International for the majority of the donations. I had researched organizations and they were one of the few that provided breeding goats and sheep. From Child Fund, the children decided on a barnyard of blessings, which includes two goats, another breeding pair of goats, children's greatest needs (as determined by Child Fund), fruit trees and seeds, fishing equipment, jackets for a whole family, five bicycles, school supplies and equipment, one walker for a child, 24 mosquito nets, to restock a health station, and a breeding pair of sheep.

The children also wanted to help to provide clean water. After learning that there was an organization started by a man in Easton, they decided to send money to Lifetime Wells international.

Once again, the children were so thoughtful and caring in their decisions. It is truly an honor to be there to witness their love and empathy. Thank you all for a great year!

Your Sunday School Teachers,
Pucky Lippincott, Kathy Becker, Susie Dillon, and Barbara Cross



March Service Musicians

Please come sing with us this summer! The choir is sing the 1st and 3rd Sundays of May, June, and July. All are welcome! No experience is required!

Anthem Sundays: May 19th, June 2nd, June 16th, July 7th, July 21st

Friday Rehearsals: May 24th, May 31st, June 14th, July 5th, July 19th

May Service Musicians

May 12th 8 & 10 a.m. Melissa Wise, Soprano

May 19th 10 a.m. Delmarva Trio

The Holy Trinity Choir

May 26th 8 & 10 a.m. Melissa Wise, Soprano

June 2nd 9:30 a.m. The Holy Trinity Choir

May Concert - Save the Date!

The Still Water Trio

May 19, 2024 4 pm

Parish Hall



Denise Nathanson, Cello, along with Ashley Watkins, Flute, and Veronica Tomanek, Piano, will be sharing an afternoon of exciting, virtuosic piano trios that showcase the music of Louise Farrenc, Undine Smith Moore, Eric Ewazen, and Blaz Pucihar. The rhythmic challenges, intertwining melodies of these cheerful compositions coupled with the abilities of these stellar musicians make for an afternoon of great music!



www.holytrinityoxfordmd.org
 Web:
 office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org
 Email:
 410.226.5134
 Oxford, MD 21654-0387
 PO Box 387

The Church of the Holy Trinity



Lifeline



MISSION

The Church of The Holy Trinity, an Episcopal Parish in Oxford, Maryland: a caring Christian community dedicated to growing in God's love through worship, study, service and fellowship.

Who We Are

We are a small parish with a big heart comprised of committed people willingly sharing their talents to help those in need.

We are all seekers on a spiritual journey; encouraging of others also on the journey, and non-judgmental of where one might be on that journey.

Service Schedule is as follows:

Sunday Holy Eucharist Services are held 8:00 am and 10:00 am. On the first Sunday of every month a combined service at 9:30 am. All services are in-person and broadcast