



Lifeline

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June 2025

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church

office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org

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



Al Smith
Birthday



Care Packs

McConnel College
Reunion
Go Tigers!



Mother's
Day
Flowers



Lucy



Pentecost Sunday





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Much appreciation and gratitude to all who served and currently serve this county. We honor and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.
- Many thanks to Rev. **Charlie Osberger and Deacon Michael Valliant** for presiding at our services on May 11th and 18th!
- Thank you to the **Oxford Garden Club** for adding to the care provided by our Lunch Bunch program that serves the homebound in Oxford and Trappe through creating beautiful flower arrangements on holidays. Your gifts bring much cheer and joy.
- Thank you to the **Roadies** who help without a moment's hesitation to help us manage the hall set up for our various events.
- Much gratitude to **Justin Callahan and Ray Sattler** for joining our team of acolytes. Your service is greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to our **Jr. Wardens** who keep our buildings and grounds in fine shape. You have no idea how much time and effort they put into these volunteer activities. Please give thanks to them next time you see them.
- Gratitude to our **Music Director Cora**. Not only does she, the choir and guest musicians add inspiration to our services, she also creates an outstanding music program for the church. (Look elsewhere in this issue for upcoming concerts.)
- Thank you to everyone who planned, hosted and attended our May Newcomers reception. A wonderful time was had by all.
- We appreciate the many elegant, beautiful and playful hats worn by all of you to our annual Hat Sunday. You had us looking GOOD!
- Heartfelt thanks to the members of our **Mission Committee** who help us to carry and show Jesus' love to a world in need. God is well pleased.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

**See Back of Calendar for
2025 Committees**

Connie's Corner



"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." —**Henry David Thoreau**

"A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new." —**Albert Einstein**

"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**

"Optimism is a happiness magnet. If you stay positive, good things and good people will be drawn to you." —**Mary Lou Retton, American gymnast**

"Where there's hope, there's life. It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again." —**Anne Frank in The Diary of a Young Girl**

"The Sun himself is weak when he first rises, and gathers strength and courage as the day gets on." —**Charles Dickens**

"I never dreamed about success. I worked for it." —**Estée Lauder**

"Try to be a rainbow in someone else's cloud." —**Maya Angelou**

"There is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it." —**Amanda Gorman**

What have you done to put a smile on someone's face
Often so hard to do in a world in such a fast pace
However, that smile starts deep inside from you
By striving for happiness in everything you do
Others will be quickly catching that bug
Of offering a smile, a kindness, a hug
Don't you think this is what God wanted for us
Caring, compassionate, sharing, without a fuss
So everyday it is up to you to share, to reach
Showing that love and helping to teach
That God taught us all how to love
With His angels' passion from above.

"Written by Connie Greenhawk

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

Inspiring words from Pope Leo XIV

This meditation by Pope Leo XIV was sent to me by our Sr Warden, John Dillon. I offer it to you in place of my usual monthly message. Why? Because this inspirational message needs to be heard. This is what the life of a Christian is all about. It is through action such as he describes that Jesus love for the world is carried to those in need – and who among us is not in need of words of comfort, compassion and love?

" Brothers, sisters...I speak to you, especially to those who no longer believe, no longer hope, no longer pray, because they think God has left.

To those who are fed up with scandals, with misused power, with the silence of a Church that sometimes seems more like a palace than a home.

I, too, was angry with God.

I, too, saw good people die, children suffer, grandparents cry without medicine.

And yes... there were days when I prayed and only felt an echo.

But then I discovered something:

God doesn't shout. God whispers.

And sometimes He whispers from the mud, from pain, from a grandmother who feeds you without having anything.

I don't come to offer you perfect faith.

I come to tell you that faith is a walk with stones, puddles, and unexpected hugs.

I'm not asking you to believe in everything.

I'm asking you not to close the door. Give a chance to the God who waits for you without judgment.

I'm just a priest who saw God in the smile of a woman who lost her son... and yet she cooked for others.

That changed me.

So if you're broken, if you don't believe, if you're tired of the lies...

come anyway. With your anger, your doubt, your dirty backpack.

No one here will ask you for a VIP card.

Because this Church, as long as I breathe, will be a home for the homeless, and a rest for the weary.

God doesn't need soldiers.

He needs brothers.

And you, yes, you...

are one of them."

Robert Prevost (Leo XIV)

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

May Milestones

Baptism

Chales Marion Carroll, 5/24

Turner Scully Vaughn, 5/25

Passed on

Corrine Bissell, 5/14

Nan Petersen, 5/19

Timothy Wilson, 6/1



HVAC Update

The Vestry recently discussed and approved major improvements to the heating and cooling systems of the kitchen, River Room and the Rector's and secretary's offices.

This is an expensive update but by addressing the whole space we are able to discontinue the use of the oil fired heating system and replace the units with more efficient and economic HVAC systems. This involves installing two fully code compliant ceiling mounted HVAC units in the kitchen and removing the old redundant equipment—a significant functional, esthetic and cost savings improvement. When we converted the hall to such units it achieved a 30% reduction in heating/cooling costs. The cooling only units in the River Room and the offices will have electrical heating elements installed and should address the serious heating imbalance in the upstairs offices.

Completion of this project and the earlier updates of the Parish Hall HVAC units will allow us to remove the Parish Hall oil burner, tank and related equipment from the boiler room freeing up valuable storage space and allowing the cloakroom to return to its original purpose.

This project will be fully funded through the church endowment.

Inquiring Believers Pause their Studies for a Well-Deserved Summer Break



WOMAN ON A JOURNEY

We will hold our last meeting before Summer Break to finish discussion on a special little book about Joy! Come join us

Joy!: God's Secret Weapon for Every Believer

Georgian Banov

Meetings in the Parish Hall and via Zoom

Wednesday, June 18th at 9:00 am

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



Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King, a worldwide order of women dedicated to prayer and service. Our next Daughters of the King Meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 8th, 2025 at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.



New QR Code for Donations

Holy Trinity has set up this QR code. You will see this on our bulletins and other publications. Scanning this QR code with your phone will take you to a donation page where you can use a credit or debit card to make a donation. We thank you for your generosity.

THE HOLY TRINITY CARD MINISTRY NEEDS MEMBERS

At one time or another, you may have received a "Get Well", a "Thinking of You", or a bereavement card from the Congregation of The Church of the Holy Trinity. This results from the caring, kind-hearted individuals of The Holy Trinity Card Ministry. Each member is responsible for one month of the year and the card writing process takes about an hour. That's only one hour to bring an often-needed kind word to your fellow parishioners!

Over the years, many of our members have moved away or have had to step away from this ministry for various reasons. This leaves us with seven people who are still active.

Do you enjoy sending greetings out to your friends and family? This ministry warms the hearts of its members. Would you consider becoming a member and taking a month? Please remember that when it's your month, you'll only need to spend about an hour writing out cards to our church members who are on the church prayer list (approximately 10-15 cards.)



Summer Reading List

Some of my current favorite books to recommend for your summer reading pleasure. If you have any favorites let us know so we can share them in the next Lifeline.

Change the Recipe: Because You Can't Build a Better World Without Breaking Some Eggs by Jose Andres. The world class chef and humanitarian's life lessons. An enjoyable light read with deep thoughts for living a good life.

Have Little Faith, A True Story by Mitch Albom. A rewarding, heartfelt journey of Albom and two men of God, a Rabbi and an African American Pastor, as they explore issues that perplex modern man: how to endure when difficult things happen; what heaven is; intermarriage; forgiveness; doubting God; and the importance of faith in trying times.

Hope: The Autobiography by Pope Francis. The life of a humble, saint who lived among us. A NYT best-seller published just a few months before his death.

Heaven Help Us: How Faith Communities Inspire Hope, Strengthen Neighborhoods, and Build the Future by John Kasich. "Discover the antidote to cynicism and despair in this dynamic, revelatory, hope-inducing exploration of the extraordinary work and extraordinary people who are transforming communities around the country--motivated by faith." A simply marvelous hope-filled book showing the way any of us can bring about God's dream.

...just saying! Observations and opinions of an old salt by William Stephen Dial. A thoroughly entertaining collection of tall tales and some truths by our local Dave Barry.

James by Percival Everett. The NYT bestseller and Pulitzer Prize winning novel that reimagines Huckleberry Finn told from the enslaved Jim's perspective.

Any mysteries by Agatha Christie. The master of mysteries. Always a good read.



A marvelous event was celebrated on May 24th with the baptism of Tom and Anne Scully's two grandsons, Charlie and Turner. We welcome them with great joy into the Christian family.



Mission



A Fragile Stability: Updates from Cap-Haitien

Greetings, everyone.

I've just returned from Cap-Haitien after meeting with our staff, colleagues, and partners. I'm pleased to report some important progress as well as growing concerns about the security situation in Cap-Haitien.

The Progress

As you know, USAID funding for Konbit Sante's work at Fort Saint-Michel was abruptly terminated several months ago, but friends and supporters like you immediately stepped up to help restore maternal and neonatal care at this vital community health center.

Today, I'm happy to report that even at a reduced capacity, the mood at Fort Saint-Michel is positive, staff members are motivated, and patients are being seen and well cared for. Most importantly, the youngest and most vulnerable in the Petit-Anse community around the hospital are starting life with a fighting chance for good health. The young mother pictured above was in good spirits, as her little girl had just received her essential vaccinations. Thank you for making this possible.

Growing Concern

Unfortunately, there is growing concern about the security situation in Cap-Haitien. While the violence that plagues Port-au-Prince and other parts of the country has not yet reached the north, thousands of displaced individuals and families from the south are moving north, and their numbers are increasing, stressing an already overburdened healthcare system.

The emergency room in the pediatric service at Justinien Hospital now lacks sufficient beds for the growing influx of new patients. Increased demands for services and medications, plus the need for additional doctors, nurses, and support staff, are stressing the system. To top it off, tragically, the rate of severe acute malnutrition in children is rising.

What We're Doing

During my visit, we sat down with hospital administrators, medical staff, and public sector leaders at all of our partner hospitals and clinics to begin prioritizing needs and developing plans for mutual support as we enter what may be a particularly difficult period. We will keep you updated about the situation. In the meantime, your support is critical. And it will be even more important as we address these growing humanitarian needs.

With deepest appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Perry Farrell".

Konbit Sante
CAP-HAITIEN HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Your mission contributions are directed locally, nationally, and internationally where we can make a difference through spreading the love of God through action. We have engaged in a process of identifying a few exemplary organizations with whom we are working to build a strong and sustained relationship. Konbit Sante is an organization with whom we have been building such a relationship. We have been impressed with their organization, and feet on the ground approach to helping women and children toward a promising future. This report from the Director Perry Farrell tells the story of how your generosity is enabling transformation. We hope to schedule a Zoom presentation for you to get to know them in the next few months.

Music News

Anyone who would like to join the choir for a particular Sunday this summer, please join us! You can come Sunday mornings we sing, 30 minutes before the service.

June Service Musicians

- June 1 9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity Choir & Melissa Wise
- June 8 Amy Morgan, Substitute Pianist
- June 15 8 a.m. Melissa Wise
- 10 a.m. Holy Trinity Choir & Melissa Wise
- June 22 8 & 10 a.m. Denise Nathanson, Cellist

Organ Project Update

Late April the pipe organ removal was completed. Walker Technical Representative has been onsite and advised us how to proceed with repairs and preparations for the new organ installation. Willet Studios has assessed the St. Cecilia window in the chamber room and the Sanctuary stained glass windows. We are now ready to begin the Sanctuary floorwork (where the console previously resided) and schedule remediation work of the organ chamber room.

July Concerts - Save these dates!

Thursday, July 10 7 p.m. Yury Shadrin and Tian Lu, Concert Pianists

The amazingly talented husband-wife team return to share an all Chopin Concert in our Parish Hall. Widely known throughout South America, Asia, and the United States as concert pianists, orchestra soloists, teachers, and clinicians these musicians have found a home with us! Come hear the lyricism, drama, and incredibly beautiful melodies of Frederic Chopin brought to life by Yury and Tian. We are so privileged to be able to present these world-class musicians in our Hall - on our special piano. Invite a friend to enjoy this exceptional musical experience!



Sunday, July 20 4 p.m. Leon Fleisher Summer Academy Student Concert

A super special music treat is coming to Holy Trinity! Child prodigies and students of all ages from all over the world come together for a two week immersive music academy in Washington DC where they study with world class musicians and collaborate with top chamber music musicians. Yury Shadrin, Academy Director, will be bringing select students to perform in our Hall. This concert is a

once in a lifetime opportunity to meet and experience these extraordinary young pianists that will grace world stages in the future. Please come and support the work of the Academy and these young musicians.



*As always, there are no tickets for our concerts. We rely solely on donations. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.
Everyone is welcome. Please share with your friends and neighbors!*



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

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