



Lifeline

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church

office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org

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



Ukraine



Hat Day



Movie Night





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Much appreciation and gratitude to all who served and serve this county. We honor and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.
- Gratitude and admiration to **Monte Maxwell** for performing at the Dedication of our new Walker organ. You made it and us sing!
- Many thanks to **Rev. Charlie Osberger** and **Rev. Mark Delcuze** for presiding at our services on May 17th and 10th!
- Thank you to the **Roadies** who helped without a moment's hesitation to help us manage the hall set up and in May to move the organ for the Dedication so all could appreciate its beauty.
- 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.)
- We appreciate the many elegant, beautiful and playful hats worn by all of you to our annual Hat Sunday. You had us looking GOOD!
- Thank you to the generous donors to the **Senedd4Ukraine**. We donated over \$33,000 to help bring medical supplies to the brave men and women fighting for their freedom.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed food for the Summer Elementary Food Program.
- Heartfelt thanks to the members of our **Mission Committee** who help us carry show Jesus' love to a world in need. God is well pleased.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Connie's Corner



"Life is what happens to us while we are making other plans."— *Allen Saunders*

"You are the sum total of everything you've ever seen, heard, eaten, smelled, been told, forgot — it's all there. Everything influences each of us, and because of that I try to make sure that my experiences are positive." — *Maya Angelou*

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you." — *Walt Whitman*

"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*

"Fairytale do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairytales tell children that dragons can be killed." — *G K Chesterton*

"With a smile and a song, life is just like a bright sunny day. Your cares fade away." — *Snow White*

Summer flew in on the wings of a bird

We hardly had a Spring or so I've heard

Life becomes a melody to stay cool

Sure bet the kids are glad they are out of school

Bring all that sunshine to your face

No matter if life becomes a rat race

Someone, even a stranger, will need that look

To stir in them a feeling, like a babbling brook

And remember always that God will always love you

In the bright times, the dark times, no matter what
you do

An eternal everlasting love

Borne to you on the wings of a dove.

Written by Connie Greenhawk

If you would like to submit a favorite saying or thought,
email to [Connie at office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org](mailto:connie@office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org)



Dinner Church

Wednesday, July 18th at 5:30 pm

We are continuing our series of potluck dinners this month. These dinners have all the epicurean and fellowship delights of a typical potluck dinner combined with a church service. Our fifth Dinner Church of 2026 is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18th at 5:30 pm. The dinner will include an evening prayer service. The potluck theme is the Merry Month of May. Let your imaginations run wild and let's share each other's gastronomic vision of merriment. A sign-up list is posted in the Parish Hall or you may call the office at 410-226-5134 to RSVP.

Sened4Ukraine Letter of Gratitude

Reproduced below is a moving letter of thanks from a member of Senedd4Ukraine. Your mission team coordinated fundraising for this amazing organization after Peter Clancy and Hunt Hendrickson informed us of their merciful work and need for funds. In addition to the funds mentioned in this letter, which all came from individual donations, a contribution from the Mission fund was made to bring the total donations to £25,000 (British Pounds Sterling). This but one of many ways that you enable Christ's mission of healing and love to be carried out to the world.

Dear Father Michael Cross,

And all members of the Holy Trinity Church of Oxford, Maryland, USA

I write to introduce myself to you on behalf of the "Senedd4Ukraine" group of the Senedd (the Welsh Parliament). I am Mick Antoniww LL. B; a second generation Ukrainian, lawyer and former Member of the Welsh Parliament (I have recently at the age of 71 stood down from elected office). During that time, I held a post as Minister of the Constitution in the Welsh Government and on three occasions appointed by Her Majesty the Queen and His Majesty the King upon recommendation from the First Minister of Wales as Counsel General for Wales, (Attorney General). I am now just an ordinary pensioner but determined to keep supporting Ukraine.

My father was a refugee from Ukraine after the war, and my mother came to the UK from Denmark to look for work, but I was brought up in a Ukrainian community. I have I suppose a vested interest in supporting Ukraine where I have family fighting on the front line. It is therefore a great honour for me to be able to drive to Ukraine with members of your Church, who do not have that connection and are motivated solely by their personal and Christian convictions, to support Ukraine which has been invaded by Russia and where war crimes are committed on an almost daily basis. Their personal commitment and bravery is a tribute to the good in humanity.

I write to confirm receipt of the sum of £8,392.40 and earlier sum of £12,100 donated by the Church and Church members. These donations are not only incredibly valuable in enabling us to carry on our work but will genuinely contribute to saving lives in Ukraine.

Wales is a country that has historic links with Ukraine and indeed with the United States of America (16 of the 56 founding fathers who signed the 1776 declaration of independence had Welsh heritage). It was Welsh miners and engineers led by John Hughes who established the Ukrainian (then Russian empire) coal and steel industry, originally known as Hughesovka and later Donetsk, currently occupied. The link between Welsh and Ukrainian miners goes back a long way and continues to this day, as so many of them are fighting on the front line to protect their country, its independence and democracy. They also fight to protect their Ukrainian orthodox and Greek Catholic churches, so many of which have been destroyed, and which are suppressed in the occupied areas.

We have made 16 deliveries of 61 vehicles (including this July when we take over another 6 vehicles) and now several million pounds worth of humanitarian aid for those on the front line, for the rescue workers, and for civilians. Earlier this year we drove to Ukraine, across Europe to Kyiv, Pavlograd and Dnipro, all cities under regular drone and missile attack. The vehicles were collected by soldiers who had come straight from the front line. Individual first aid kits, oxygen bottles for those subject to the increasing gas attacks, thermal clothing, power banks, general medical equipment, defibrillators and many other donated and funded items. We know that many lives have been saved because of this support.

Our driver volunteers also pay all their own expenses, to ensure that every penny donated goes to where it is intended so we have no middle organisations. The rescue workers were hit by a missile attack so our donation of a thermal drone to identify bodies in destroyed buildings was invaluable. The hospitals behind the front line, receive the pain killers, the bandages, and all the other items necessary for treating severe fracture and shrapnel wounds.

As a team it is so great to see how we have come together, from Wales, (and England) and the USA for a common objective. We are only one of many teams from around the world doing such incredible work.

I have met such incredible people. One British soldier, married to a Ukrainian, who volunteered, was captured, tortured, sentenced to death and then exchanged, told us that if you ever have doubts about the goodness in people, come to Ukraine because there you will see the best of humanity, people who risk their lives and who volunteer to help others.

So again, I want to thank you all for your generosity, for your support. We hope the war will soon end, but until that day we will deliver in July, we plan to deliver ambulances in September, we will deliver more vehicles in October.

Without your support all this would not be possible.

I will send a more detailed thank you in due course. I will bring you back a flag from some of the men and women fighting on the front line who are so thankful not just of the support but especially the fact that you haven't forgotten them. I will send you some pictures and an update. In the meantime, here are a few photos. I hope you will continue to support us and tell others about the situation in Ukraine.

Thank you, Diolch yn fawr I chi gyd, Slava Ukraini

Mick Antoniww



Summer Reading List

Some scholarly, inspiring and light recommendations for your summer reading.

Theo of Golden- Allen Levi: *One of the most beloved novels of the past year. An unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder.*

Mona's Eyes – Thomas Schlessler: A novel. *Over 52 weeks, ten-year old Mona and her grandfather visit 52 works of art before Mona loses sight. A beautiful book about art history and the loving relationship between a young girl and her beloved grandfather. Note: buy the hardbound book which includes pictures of the artwork.*

The God of Our Fathers: The Great Stories of the Bible – A Vivid Retelling of the Old Testament from Creation to the Song of Solomon – Aldo Cazullo: *“In a time of increasing biblical illiteracy, even some very well-educated people are unfamiliar with the treasury of stories in the Old and New Testaments, stories that are the backbone of much of Western culture. In his joyful new book, Aldo Cazzullo invites us, through sparkling prose, to dive into some of the greatest stories ever told.*

James Martin

The Splash of Words: Believing in Poetry – Mark Oakley: *“A very moving and wise meditation centered around the ‘soul language’ of poetry opens new windows in the shared house of both poetry and belief.”* Dame Carol Ann Duff, Poet Laureate

The Soul of America: The Battle For our Better Angels- Jon Meachem: *Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jon Meacham helps us understand the present moment in American politics and life by looking back at critical times in our history when hope overcame division and fear.*

The Thursday Murder Club – Richard Osman: *A delightful who done it with quirky group of septuagenarians coming together to solve a local mystery.*

Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel – Shelby Van Pelt: *A charming, witty and compulsively readable exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus. Now a major motion picture.*

Summer Thoughts

This summer issue of Lifeline is full of articles about where we have been and where we are headed over the next couple of months. While summer is a quieter time of year, we have many upcoming concerts and events, our mission activities continue unabated, and of course we gather at 8 and 10 am on Sundays for our services (the first Sunday of each month we come together as one body at 9:30 am).

Summer is a time that we hope you all can slow down a bit and smell the roses. God has blessed us with beauty throughout creation. Take time to enjoy it. (I have it on good authority that even God takes some time for a Sabbath on the Maine coast in the summer!)

Summer can be a time to catch up with family and friends, enjoy our beautiful waters, read a good book or two enjoy the fresh produce of the eastern shore, and maybe even take a lazy summer nap.

What ever you do take comfort that God loves you and you are made for goodness.

Blessings,
Fr. Kevin

Sabbath Poem v.5

How long does it take to make the woods?

As long as it takes to make the world.

The woods is present as the world is, the presence of all its past, and of all its time to come.

It is always finished, it is always being made, the act of its making forever greater than the act of its destruction.

It is a part of eternity, for its end and beginning belong to the end and beginning of all things, the beginning lost in the end, the end in the beginning.

What is the way to the woods, how do you go there?

By climbing up through the six days' field,

kept in all the body's years, the body's

sorrow, weariness, and joy. By passing through

the narrow gate on the far side of that field

where the pasture grass of the body's life gives way

to the high, original standing of the trees.

By coming into the shadow, the shadow

of the grace of the strait way's ending,

the shadow of the mercy of light.

Why must the gate be narrow?

Because you cannot pass beyond it burdened.

To come in among these trees you must leave behind

the six days' world, all of it, all of its plans and hopes.

You must come without weapon or tool, alone,

expecting nothing, remembering nothing,

into the ease of sight, the brotherhood [and sisterhood!] of eye and leaf.

+ Wendell Berry



GROUP ACTIVITIES.



Our prayer shawl ministry is an extension of our pastoral care to members of our community who are ill and/or home bound. Members of this ministry knit our Prayer Shawls and while doing so he or she is in prayer for the person who is to receive it. *"As I make this prayer shawl I prayed for the one who will receive it. I prayed for that one to receive from God the help needed. I prayed that they would be reminded that they are not alone. I prayed that they would find in this shawl a place of comfort and strength."* At our monthly healing Eucharist service, the shawls are blessed and then gifted to those in need by Fr. Kevin and our pastoral ministry team. We need volunteers to knit shawls for distribution. If you like to *"kinit one, purl two..."* this is the ministry for you! If you are interested in joining this vital ministry, please call the parish office or Suzanne Fischer.

Scotts Food Pantry on the Go

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12: 11-13.

Our new partnership with Scotts Methodist Church Food Pantry on the Go has led to opportunities for us to work with this critical partner of the local food pantry network. For several months a group of volunteers from Holy Trinity has shown up once a month to help distribute fresh protein, vegetables, and fruit once a month from the parking lot of Scotts Church. This ministry typically serve over 100 local families per month.

The next distribution day is Thursday, July 23rd. You are invited to join us at 7:30 am in volunteering to help this wonderful mission. If you are available and interested, please email or call Fr. Kevin.



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 14^h, 2025 at 9:00 am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

The Trinity Forum at Holy Trinity



The Trinity Forum gathering led by Al Sikes, met on June 3rd and had an interesting, thought-provoking and stimulating discussion of the Trinity Forum Reading, Politics, Morality & Civility written by Vaclav Havel. The participants agreed to continue to explore these readings (the best of classic and contemporary literature and letters introduced by today's experts and tailored for individual reflection and group discussion) of which there are over 100 to choose from. We will plan to meet once a quarter. Watch for an announcement of the next Reading, date and time. We encourage all to participate.

Pastoral Care Volunteers

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ," Ephesians 4:11-12

Do you feel called to reach out to community members who would appreciate an occasional visit? We are seeking compassionate individuals to carry out pastoral care visits to our homebound, elderly, and sick community members. Volunteers are sought to provide companionship and spiritual support to supplement pastoral visits by Fr. Kevin. Training and background checks will be provided to ensure safe and meaningful connections.

Visits will be conducted as Jesus sent the twelve *"⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two,"*

Mark 6:7

If you are interested, please contact Fr. Kevin, rector@holytrinityoxfordmd.org or call 410-226-5134.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Summer Music Lifeline News 2026

Summer Choir

The choir will be singing simple, fun anthems for services in June, July and August. Come the first Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. and join us! No rehearsals necessary!

Service Musicians

Music friends will be joining our services this summer, in addition to The Holy Trinity Choir. Amy Morgan will be substituting for me while I prepare for and undergo a right knee replacement (July 7th).

June 28 8 & 10 a.m. Amy Morgan, Substitute
 July 5 9:30 a.m. The Holy Trinity Choir
 July 12 & 19 Services Amy Morgan, Substitute
 August 2 9:30 a.m. The Holy Trinity Choir
 August 16 Services Amy Morgan, Substitute

Summer Concerts *Please bring a non-perishable food item.*

July 5th 4 p.m. Music of the American Revolution with renown Colonial Musicians & Musicologists Ginger & David Hildebrand

A wonderful afternoon of colonial music, period instruments (dulcimer, harpsichord, period guitars, etc.), colonial dress, history, and humor! **This concert is in honor of our country's 250th Anniversary.**

July 19th 4 p.m. Students from The Leon Fleischer Academy Summer Sessions. National & International Child Piano Prodigies

Piano and Chamber Music students from the US and around the world will be studying, playing together, and performing with the highest level of teachers and artists in Washington DC. A select few will come to Holy Trinity for the afternoon then share their musical selections in an afternoon concert. These are not average or superior students, they are child prodigies: children and young adults with extraordinary talents. Not to be missed!

September 27 4 p.m. Mystery Concert

A fun opportunity to attend a concert where you do not know who is coming, what they are doing, or performing. Clues will be coming in early September! Stay tuned!

Welcome New Friends – Social Hour 5-6 pm Sunday July 12th River Room

Church of the Holy Trinity Fr. Kevin with the Vestry would like to invite you to a Social Hour – cocktails, hors d'oeuvres in the River Room at Holy Trinity on Sunday July 12th at 5pm. Meet the Vestry and ask us questions – what are these groups / committees about, what are the key issues Vestry is currently addressing, what might be of interest to you? What is happening through the River Room French doors ... Do come and join us to meet, ask questions ... as we really want to learn more about you. Please RSVP by calling or emailing the office: 410-226-5134 or office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org.

Intercessory Prayer Group – Tuesdays at 8:30 am

Paul exhorts his followers in the following manner, *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”* Ephesians 6:18

We as Christians are called to prayer for ourselves, others and the whole of creation. I believe strongly in the power of prayer. One of my t-shirts carries the logo saying, **“Prayer is the most powerful form of wireless communication.”** Intercessory prayer is when we take up the welfare and concern of others mediating to bring about healing and comfort. This group will meet in person and via Zoom at 8:30 am every Tuesday. Please consider joining for prayer bringing your intentions for yourself and others. These sessions run for 20 – 30 minutes

Holy Trinity's Music Technicians!

When we hear music, at Holy Trinity, we are often unaware of the people whose skills and dedication to their craft keep our instruments in good working condition. You may not have met them, since they come at odd hours and days.



***Matt Pearson, DC Piano Works
Piano Technician Extraordinaire***

Matt has worked with our Steinway Grand Piano since the day it arrived in the DC Steinway Gallery (from San Francisco). When Holy Trinity purchased this instrument, Matt graciously accepted Holy Trinity as a client; performing routine maintenance, concert tunings, and regulations. Our piano sounds amazing largely due to Matt's superior technical abilities.



***Asher Hammond, Harbor Organs
Organ Technician and All Things Fun!***

Asher first crossed Cora's path in April 2025. Asher responded to an inquiry to remove Holy Trinity's Visser-Rowland Organ. Asher arrived with two technicians and helped us with the organ removal then later on with organ façade issues. One never knows what Asher will bring with him. Kevin was mesmerized - then the case opened!



Wonderful sounding Uilleann pipes played by Asher Hammond that graced our Sanctuary in May.



School Meals



Various Pictures



Columbarium

Ginny Wagner

Monte Maxwell

Pentecost





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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