


We are a community of Christian people seeking to love God with all of our hearts, souls, minds, and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.



The Chimes of Trinity Church

December 2005

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

Dec 4	10 am	Lessons and Carols
	3 - 7 pm	ACS Concert
Dec 11	4 - 7 pm	Caroling to the homebound
Dec 18	10 am	Christmas Pageant
	4 - 6 pm	Trinity Choir Concert
Dec 24	4-5 pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service
	10:30 - 12	Midnight Mass
Dec 25	10 am	Christmas Day Eucharist
Dec 31	9 - 11:30 pm	Party and 1st Eucharist of 2006



In this issue...

It has been asked...
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Milestones

It has been asked: Why do we use oil at baptism?

The answer comes from the Commentary on the American Prayer Book.

Oil is a symbol of Baptism in the New Testament. We see reference to baptismal anointing in St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians where he wrote: *"But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit."* The very title Christ means anointed One.

The use of oil at baptism dates to the second century. We read in the Apostolic Constitution, a sort of book of order for the earliest church which dates from 380 A.D., that if oil is not available water is sufficient for the anointing and the seal.

The use of oil signified the anointing of kings and priests in the Old Testament. From the earliest times two oils were used at Baptism, the oil for exorcism used before the baptism and the oil of thanksgiving applied after the baptism.

By the fifth century anointing with the oil or chrism after baptism was common practice. At that time church councils forbade anyone but bishops to anoint with oil.

Because Biblical references to baptismal anointing are somewhat ambiguous, many parts of the church quit the practice during the reformation. Anointing at Baptism was in the 1549 Prayer Book but it disappeared in the revision of 1552. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer restored the chrismation or anointing with oil.

The oil used from chrismation at Baptism is blessed only by the Bishop either at his annual visitation to a church or at a special service at the Diocesan Cathedral.

Lots of changes on the Vestry

Steve Blodgett resigned as Rector's Warden on September 22. Steve has a demanding job, a community ministry as a fire fighter in the Wissahickon Fire Company and he is a single father of two daughters. Steve resigned so that his girls would remain his first priority.

Steve has served on the Vestry, on the Search Committee that called Fr. Dave and as Rector's Warden. Steve, who has a special gift for writing and compiling attractive booklets, put together the last Parish Profile and many Annual Reports. Steve's smile and humor will be greatly missed at Vestry meetings.

Bill Davis, who has served for a year as the Property Chair for the Vestry, has had a job change since he was elected to the Vestry.. Bill is now on the west coast the third week of every month. Because the Vestry meets the third Tuesday of each month he is unable to complete his service on the Vestry. Bill will continue to sing in the choir and assist the property committee in its many tasks.

Jane Saunders, born and raised at Trinity Church who has served several years as stewardship liaison for the Vestry was appointed by Fr. Dave to serve as Rector's Warden. Nancy McGarvey was elected by the Vestry to complete Steve's term. Nancy who has served on the Stewardship team for several years will take over as the Vestry liaison for Stewardship. The property chair remains empty at this time.



Christmas Treasures

There will be a table set up in the Narthex Sundays through December. Please stop by and purchase treasures to put under your Christmas Tree. Funds raised go to the Community Outreach Program.

Anne Canan & Barbara Shields



FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT TRINITY



This is a busy time for the choirs at Trinity. In addition to singing on the first Sunday of the month, the Cherub Choir is preparing for the Christmas Pageant and the Christmas Eve service at 4:00. The Trinity Choir has a busy schedule, and we're gearing up for the additional special music that comes with celebrating the Advent and Christmas seasons.

The Service of Advent Lessons and Carols on Advent 2.

The Trinity Choir and other members of the parish will present Trinity's annual Advent Lessons and Carols Service on December 4, at the 10:00 Eucharist. This has become a Trinity tradition, with members of the various organizations within Trinity taking part by reading the lessons, the majority the wonderful prophecies of Isaiah and others. The hymns and anthems serve to illuminate the scriptures. This is one powerful service with beautiful music! It reaches its climax with the reading of the Gospel and the proclamation of the Advent message, "Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you!" I guarantee you that your understanding of the wonderful promises made for us as well as your own, personal observance of the season will be much enhanced by this service.

Christmas Concert December 18 at 4:00.

The Trinity Choir along with instrumental soloists will be presenting a concert of Christmas music. This is the Trinity Choir family's celebration of Christmas, and we want you to be a part of it. The fact that Trinity has so much talent in its members will be obvious. We have a chance here to "kick things up a little" that we don't usually get the chance to do on a Sunday morning. Besides choir music, music for organ, flute, cello and solo voices will be heard. Steve is even trying to bring over his harpsichord! Come hear *Silent Night* in its original version. It's a little more different than you think! You'll get to sing some carols, too, with "over the top" interludes to *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* among them. Please come join us and support the choir!

Christmas Eve services at 4:00 and 10:30.

The 4:00 Eucharist at Trinity is primarily geared for children. Our cherubs will be singing under the guidance of Maureen McCauley. Maureen will also be playing beautiful music for harp during the Communion. Music for the 11:00 Christmas - Christ's Mass - Eucharist actually begins at 11:00. Hopefully the presents are wrapped and now you can sit back and enjoy the season! The Trinity Choir, soloists and instrumentalists will present prelude music beginning at 10:30. I promise that you won't want to miss a bit of it! Steve will also play something loud to let everyone know that the organ is working. Please come and experience the wonder of God through beautiful music.



CLEAN-UP DAY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22,
2005

Although it rained all day, Skip and Scotti Kershner along with Missy Leinbach weathered the rain drops and cleaned up the flower beds preparing them the long winter ahead. Thanks for the outstanding work!

Stewardship: It's Not (Always) About the Money

First, a big thank you to all of you who made the Ministries Fair such a success! Thank you, thank you to all who signed up for new things and those who are continuing with their former ministries. This year's Stewardship theme is "We are the church we create" and judging by the success of the Ministries Fair we're well on our way to making a great church even better.

My topic this month is bottled water. Huh, you say?

I'm a big fan of National Public Radio and over the summer I caught a segment of Weekend Edition about Americans' consumption of bottled water. Consider this information (from [San Manuel Bottled Water Group](#)):

- Of all beverages, bottled water sales are growing the fastest
 - Sales of bottled water are second only to soft drinks
 - The bottled water industry in the US is valued at almost \$6 Billion
- Per capita consumption of bottled water is 15 liters per year in the US

This in the world's richest country, where potable water is freely available and extremely inexpensive; where in the hardest of times we're asked not to water our lawns or wash our cars, but we can still take 30 minute showers if we choose. There are few if any areas where a drink of safe water is unavailable.

Juxtapose that information against this (from: the [World Bank](#)):

- Throughout the world close to one billion people do not have access to safe water
 - Almost two billion people in the world have no access to sanitation
 - Because of this lack of access, nearly one billion people suffer from diarrheal diseases annually, and millions more suffer from other water-related illnesses
- Because of this lack of access millions of women and girls remain uneducated since their time must be spent carrying water to their homes from distant water sources

As I was asking myself whether we really need to spend our resources on bottled water, the NPR reporter interviewed someone from WaterAid. From their [website](#) :

WaterAid is an international charity dedicated to helping people escape the stranglehold of poverty and disease caused by living without safe water and sanitation...

What I found really cool about this is that anyone can donate to them just by clicking on their website! For a donation of just \$25 (3 cases of bottled water?) I could support a lasting supply of safe water for one person!

When I started "researching" for this column I was surprised, and pleased, to learn that our own Episcopal Relief and Development sponsors many programs in developing countries to provide safe water and better primary health conditions. Their [website](#) outlines their various programs and yes, they accept online donations as well!

Not only that, but there are even bottled water *companies* that are supporting this kind of effort; [Ethos H2O](#) (now owned by Starbucks) and [Euphoria](#) are two that I found.

The idea for this column occurred to me well before Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast. What a stark image to see our fellow citizens, surrounded by flood waters, desperate for the bottles of water being air-lifted into them. Can we imagine what life must be for those with no hope of an air-lift?

We are reminded of the meaning of water to our lives every time we participate in a baptism. The next time you reach for that bottle of water remember to be a good steward.

Nancy McGarvey

<http://www.bigbearsprings.com/press/pdf/swbIndustryFacts0402.pdf>

<http://www.worldbank.org/depweb/english/modules/envirnm/water/print.html>

<http://www.wateraid.org>

http://www.er-d.org/programs_36755_ENG_HTM.htm

<http://www.ethoswater.com/>

Behind the scenes - Parish Tellers

Most of us don't think about church finances when the collection plate comes around each Sunday, and we know little about what happens to our envelopes or pocket money once they pass from our hands.

So it's not surprising that the work of a small but dedicated group of people known as Trinity's "tellers" goes largely unnoticed year after year.

These are the folks who make sure the weekly plate is properly counted and recorded. Their important work assures accountability of Trinity's finances and allows Trinity parishioners to be accurately credited for their donations for tax purposes.

"It's a very little-known ministry but one that touches everyone in the parish," describes Dennis Reid, who as Trinity's Accounting Warden coordinates the teller "teams."

As the rest of us head for our cars or a cup of coffee after Sunday services, a "check and balance" team opens envelopes, counts cash and checks and carefully records donations. At the end of an hour, they have tallied up the donations and then prepare the bank deposit.

"It's a critical kind of thing," says Mr. Reid, noting that Trinity, like other churches, must undergo an annual audit of its finances and also is answerable to the Diocese on how its accounting of offerings is carried out.

Even the job of immediately getting weekly deposits to the bank is essential to ongoing church operations, Mr. Reid explains. If Trinity is without banked pledged funds to draw on, it is forced to tap its endowment to pay church bills.

Currently, eleven parishioners work in four teams performing teller responsibilities under Trinity's Finance Committee. They are: Don Tippet, Barbara Shields, Carole Allsop, Judy Grieve, Kathie Evans, Kelly Moylan, Bunny Ashmore, Glenda Ellis, Nancy McGarvey, Larry Bistany and Jeff Lawrence. Mr. Reid and Trinity Financial Administrator John Dziel sometimes pitch in when teller regulars are not available.

To spread out responsibilities of the ministry, Mr. Reid has set a goal is to double the number of teams so tellers have to work only five or six times a year. He also hopes to create a new pool of fill-in tellers so people are on hand when scheduled regulars have to cancel.

All new volunteers will have the opportunity to observe counting and recording procedures to learn the system before working on their own..

Trinity members interested in inquiring about or joining the teller teams should contact the church office or e-mail accounting@trinityambler.com.



RUMMAGE SALE

Trinity Church's annual rummage sale took place Saturday, October 22. Although it rained all day, there was a constant flow of shoppers from 8:00 a.m. until 3 p.m. Under the directions of Piers Prater and the many volunteers who assisted him, the Rummage Sale raised \$3,072.63 for Mission & Outreach programs.

Many thanks to all those who assisted: Glenda Ellis coordinated the Wine & Cheese Preview on Friday evening; Pat Martin, Maureen McCauley and Ernest Wells provided entertainment for the preview; Barbara Shields supervised the Bake Table; and Carol Lozzi coordinated refreshments on Saturday.



With every one's help and with all the great baked items we raised \$210.00 at the Bake Sale!

We could not have done this without all of your support. All your help has been sincerely appreciated.

Barbara Shields

TRINITY HAYRIDE



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The Daughters of the King is a worldwide group of Christian women striving to fulfill the promise of their Baptismal Covenant through the adoption of a Rule of Life, which includes prayer, study and service. Trinity's chapter was founded in 2003 and chose the name Anam Cara, which is Celtic for "soul friend". We have thirteen active members. Our meetings are a time for prayer and study. Our service project is to deliver Welcome Baskets to new families who have visited Trinity Church on a Sunday morning.

We offer evening and morning meetings, and generally meet twice a month. Our meetings are open to any interested woman.

December meetings are on the 6th at 7 pm in the Rectory and on the 7th at 10 am in the Church Conference Room.

For more information about Daughters of the King, contact Carol Szwajkos or Anne Canan.



WORSHIP AT TRINITY

8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Sundays

9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. on Thursday

*See calendar inside for
additional service times*

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2005/2006 VESTRY

Sue Adair, Pastoral Care

Tim Bauder, Communications

Steve Blodgett,

Robin Chambers-Dixon, Human Resources

Laura Gergen, Spiritual Formation

Jill Leiby, Parish Life/Hospitality

Nancy Mc Garvey, Stewardship

Piers Prater, Mission & Outreach

Dennis Reid, Accounting Warden/Finance

Jane Saunders, Rector's Warden

Donnette Staas, Worship

Heather Lee Whipple, Vestry Secretary



Transfers In:

John, Mary, Christopher & James
Tralie on October 18 from St. Alphon-
sus Roman Catholic Church.

LaTrenda Miller on October 18 from
St. Peter's, Philadelphia, PA.

Justin, Bess, Virginia & Kingsley Stroh
on October 21 from St. David's, Gales
Ferry, CT.

Kelly Shaffer on October 27 from Uni-
versity Lutheran Church.

Sally Diver and Melyn Lyons on Octo-
ber 26 from St. Thomas' Church,
Whitemarsh

Daniel, Ivette, Douglas, David & Kenny
Vigano on October 26, from St. Tho-
mas' Church, Whitemarsh

Kevin, Kristina, Daniel & Elizabeth
McGee on October 25 from St. An-
drew's Cathedral, Honolulu, HI

Transfers Out:

Suzzette Hewett & Michelle Gallant to
St. John the Evangelist Anglican Epis-
copal Church, Huntingdon Valley, on
October 25, 2005

Weddings:

Michael Duricko & Sindy Acuna on
October 14, 2005

Births:

Tara Eileen Orloski born on November
13. She is the fourth grandchild of
Jon & Eileen Warren

Baptisms:

Stephanie Frick and Madeline Olshef-
ski on November 6, 2005