

THE TRINITY TIMES

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH 430 Juliana Street, Parkersburg, WV, 26101
304-422-3362, www.trinity-church.org

The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is to seek and share the love of God made known through Jesus Christ with all people through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

MAR. 2015

THE STAFF

The Rev.
Larry Jackson,
Rector
The Rev.
Paul L. Hicks,
Pastoral Associate
The Rev.
Art Bennett,
Pastoral Associate

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Choirmaster
Allan Zipf, Organist
Susie Fitcher,
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Cathy Dawson,
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TIMES EDITOR

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Padre's Ponderings

The Sacrament of The Reconciliation of a Penitent

~ ~ ~

As we continue on our Spiritual Pilgrimage through Lent, I want to share with you a Spiritual discipline that is available in our Church but is one that has almost lost its value due to the anxiety it creates in individuals. The source of the anxiety is two-fold in my opinion: [1] It reminds us too much of the Roman Catholic Church of the requirement of making a Confession and [2] one finds the act of sharing with a priest their sins that need healed awkward or something they do not

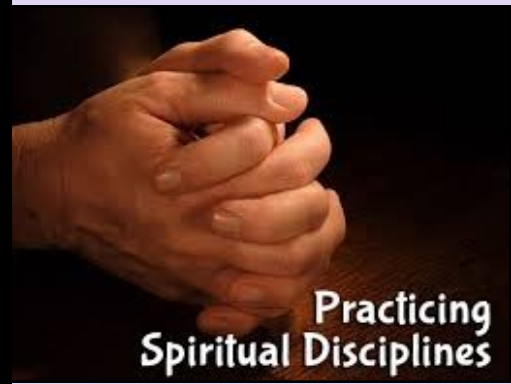
know how to do. In fact, many Episcopalians forget that The Reconciliation of a Penitent is a Sacrament of our Church.

I would highly recommend that everyone open a Prayer Book to page 446 and first read the rubrics or directions and then read through the actual service of Reconciliation. The Reconciliation of a Penitent is available to all but not required of any. Many will say that we have a corporate Reconciliation during the Confession and Absolution during the Communion service so why the need for a private Confession? My response is that there are times when a corporate Confession just does not clear the heart and conscience. There are times when a sin or deed that needs some special counseling to be cleared just can't be accomplished in a corporate setting.

There are just times when it is necessary to openly share that area which is a stumbling block of having a clear relationship with God due to an act of ourselves or someone towards us. As heard in The Exhortation, there may be times when one needs to receive the benefit of absolution, and spiritual counsel and advice to actually experience the forgiveness of God.

So, please take a moment during this Lenten Pilgrimage to look over this Sacrament of Reconciliation and to be more aware of what is available to you. If you need to talk, please feel free to contact me and ask your questions or have a conversation about this Sacrament.

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Recently, I introduced an idea of a Spiritual Discipline of seeking for the closest moment you have had to Christ. Some people attempt to do this on a daily basis while for others a weekly review is a good start. This action is to set aside a day when you reflect back over the week's activities of life and search for that moment when you felt a close, intimate time with Christ during a certain time of your life. The closest moments come in all shapes and sizes but they are there if we would search them out.

I find it helpful to write them down so I can reread them especially when I JUST KNOW that Christ was no where near me during a week. It never fails that in the rereading, I am reminded of a time when He was actually there, probably carrying me through stuff. This moment does not have to have been a mountaintop experience but may be just the touch of Christ when I most needed it and did not realize it.

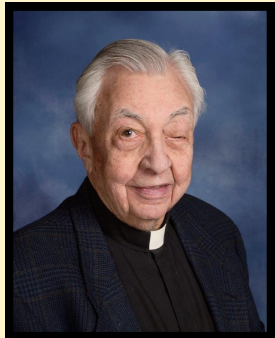
Again, I am available for discussion on this Spiritual Discipline; just contact me. May your Lenten pilgrimage be special and holy so that Easter is the joyous celebration that it must be. Remember I am praying for you all daily.

Until I "ponder" this way again,

In Christ's Spirit,

Fr. Larry+





# Good-bye, Father Jack!

The Rev. Jack D. Neilson passed into his next life on Jan. 29, 2015. By his side was his beloved wife of over 66 years, two daughters and close clergy colleagues. An important part of the life of Trinity since 1981, Jack's loss is deeply felt by all, as evidenced by the large turnout at the service February 7 celebrating Jack's life. In Father Art's Words of Comfort at the service, he told of many lengthy theological discussions with local clergy where Jack's comment would be "that's fine, but how does that help the person hurting in the pew?" Father Art said, " Jack loved people—you and me" .

A glimpse into Jack's thoughts can possibly be provided by a plaque he had on his desk since the 1960s :

*"It isn't the mountains ahead that wear you out, it's the grain of sand in your shoe."*

Parishioners expressed their love for him: "I count it as a gift from God to have known Fr Jack. He truly was an inspiration to me" and "We have lost a great and gentle man. Our lives have been blessed by his life with us, but now he has received his well-deserved reward. "



1936



1944 Lynette & Jack at Penn State



1947 engagement to Lynette



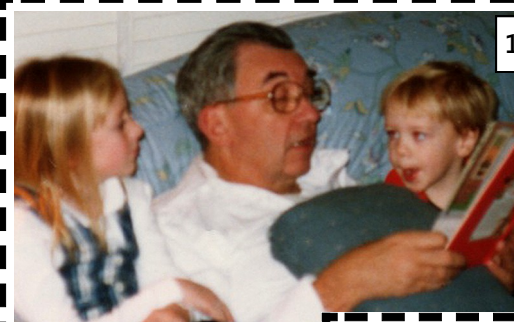
1981 ordination



1981 first grandchild



1982 four children & Jack's mother



1987



1988



1993 Father of the Bride



1997 50th anniversary in Jamaica



2014 Baptism of first great-grandchild



## Remembering the Rev. Jack D. Neilson

by the Rt. Rev. Ken Price, Feb. 7, 2015

What a blessing to have had Jack Neilson on this earth for eighty eight years. Jack came among us here in Parkersburg when I was Rector of Trinity Church. I knew him as a parishioner who, as a successful businessman, simultaneously became a student, scoring among the highest on the ordination exams in his class. I worked with him as a deacon, a priest and especially a close associate. But, regardless of the title or role, one thing never changed about Jack, he was one of the kindest, most generous and most self-sacrificing human beings I have ever known.



Once, Jack went out of his way to make sure a popular, but scarce toy— A Pound Puppy was sent to us by Greyhound bus from some distant Penney's store on Christmas Eve so it could appear under our tree the next day. This same generous soul also never failed to tell me if he observed something I was neglecting and needed to be doing as the Rector of this church! By the way, he was almost always right.

Jack was one of those rare clerics who never sought glory for himself, but always seemed to be there for others. Jack was hard to embarrass (although giving him a belly dancer for his birthday about pushed the limit). He easily moved from one role to another, being a no-nonsense store manager in the daytime and a shady detective on the Actors Guild stage in the evening, while making a sick call or two between those two times, even if it meant changing his collar in the car.

Jack was a family man through and through. All of the children save Ingrid had left home by the time our paths crossed, but the successful people those children have become is proof in the pudding. As a parent, I have always envied the way he provided a stern but loving positive example for his kids.

He and Lynette have been the backbone of this parish for the past thirty or so years and I cannot imagine Trinity without them. Each has had his or her own ministry and the impact has been huge. It has been thirty years since I moved on and Rectors have come and gone, but Jack and Lynette have remained constant ...the rocks of this place.

I am grateful that Mariann and I could return to join Jack and Lynette as they celebrated their 65th anniversary and thank the children for including us. We regret not being physically present today, but please know that your family is in our prayers.

I pray also for the people of Trinity Church and for Bishop Klusmeyer and the people of the Diocese of West Virginia. Jack's death leaves a big hole in your life, but think how much richer you are for his having been a laborer in your vineyard.

*May the glory and heavenly strength that has surrounded Jack throughout his life and ministry shine brightly this day as we praise God for now receiving this faithful servant into God's nearer kingdom.*



## Trinity Outreach Programs

Monthly Outreach Envelopes

March – Trinity Monday Feeding Program      August – Highland Education Project  
April – Peterkin Scholarship Fund              September – Trinity Food Closet  
May – Episcopal Relief and Development      October – Thanksgiving Outreach  
June – Parkersburg Reading Camp              November – Christmas Outreach  
July – Companion Diocese of Columbia

## LENTEN DINNER SERIES



## WHO WERE THEY?

Presented by Father Art Bennett

Our Lenten Dinners continue on Wednesdays in March with Fr. Bennett's presentation of important, but not very familiar, people from the New Testament. The evenings begin with a covered dish dinner at 6:00pm in Trinity Hall.

And..... **we need help!!!**

We are asking parishioners to sign up to help either before dinner with set-up or after dinner with clean-up. Our DOK members took care of the first dinner in February, but we now need more help for the dinners in March. You can sign up as an individual, a family, or a group. Thank you!!



to Gabriel Bookman, son of Connie and Bernard Bookman, for his participation in the American Choral Director's Association's Children's Honor Choir at their National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. The children were also invited to sing with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

# MARCH 2015

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                               | Mon                                                                       | Tue                                                                   | Wed                                                                                 | Thu                                                                                        | Fri                                                                         | Sat                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br><b>LENT 2</b><br>8:00 am—Eucharist<br>9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh.<br>10:15-Sunday School<br>10:30-Eucharist<br>11:45-Youth Choir                                       | <b>2</b><br>11:00am - Feeding Program                                     | <b>3</b><br>8:00am-Men of Trin. Breakfast<br>6:00pm-Blenn. Stamp Soc. | <b>4</b><br>7:30/12:10p-Eucharist<br>11:00am-Food Closet<br>7:30pm-Choir rehearsal  | <b>5</b><br>10:00am-Bible Study<br>11:00am-Knitters, Food Closet<br>6:00pm-Zumba (T. Hall) | <b>6</b><br>5:30pm-Stations of the Cross (Nave)                             | <b>7</b><br>9:00am-New group Breakfast meeting @ Churn in Belpre<br>8:00pm-AA  |
| <b>8</b><br><b>LENT 3</b><br>8:00 am—Eucharist<br>9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh.<br>10:15-Sunday School<br>10:30-Eucharist<br>11:45-Youth Choir<br><i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i> | <b>9</b><br>11:00am - Feeding Program                                     | <b>10</b><br>8:00am-Men of Trin. Breakfast                            | <b>11</b><br>7:30/12:10p-Eucharist<br>11:00am-Food Closet                           | <b>12</b><br>10:00am-Bible Study<br>11:00am-Food Closet<br>6:00pm-Zumba (T. Hall)          | <b>13</b><br>5:30pm-Stations of the Cross (Nave)                            | <b>14</b><br>8:00pm-AA                                                         |
| <b>15</b><br><b>LENT 4</b><br>8:00 am—Eucharist<br>9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh.<br>10:15-Sunday School<br>10:30-Eucharist<br>11:45-Youth Choir, DOK<br>Renewal class                | <b>16</b><br>11:00am - Feeding Program<br>6:00pm-Finance<br>7:00pm-Vestry | <b>17</b><br>8:00am-Men of Trin. Breakfast<br>1:30pm-St. Anne's       | <b>18</b><br>7:30/12:10p-Eucharist<br>11:00am-Food Closet<br>7:30pm-Choir rehearsal | <b>19</b><br>10:00am-Bible Study<br>11:00am-Food Closet<br>6:00pm-Blenn. Stamp Soc.        | <b>20</b><br>5:30pm-Stations of the Cross (Nave)<br><i>"Times" deadline</i> | <b>21</b><br>10:00-3:00 (T. Hall) Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus<br>8:00pm-AA |
| <b>22</b><br><b>LENT 5</b><br>8:00 am—Eucharist<br>9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh.<br>10:15-Sunday School<br>10:30-Eucharist<br>11:45-Youth Choir<br><i>Discretionary Sunday</i>       | <b>23</b><br>11:00am - Feeding Program                                    | <b>24</b><br>8:00am-Men of Trin. Breakfast                            | <b>25</b><br>7:30/12:10p-Eucharist<br>11:00am-Food Closet                           | <b>26</b><br>10:00am-Bible Study<br>11:00am-Food Closet<br>6:00pm-Zumba (T. Hall)          | <b>27</b><br>5:30pm-Stations of the Cross (Nave)                            | <b>28</b><br>8:00pm-AA                                                         |
| <b>29</b><br><b>PALM SUNDAY</b><br>8:00 am—Eucharist<br>9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh.<br>10:15-Sunday School<br>10:30-Eucharist<br><i>Birthday Sunday</i>                            | <b>30</b><br>11:00am - Feeding Program                                    | <b>31</b><br>8:00am-Men of Trin. Breakfast                            |                                                                                     |                                                                                            |                                                                             |                                                                                |

### BIRTHDAYS

4. Whitney Justice  
5. Connie Bookman

6. Paula Oliphant  
11. Kerry Hensley  
12. Jim Dauphin

Mary Jane Zivkovich  
15. Randy Francis  
Terry Handlan

16. Megan Gyongyosi  
Joe Handlan  
Kim Sees

19. Sarah Patrick  
20. Frank Northrup  
21. Midge Simperts

Gage Staats  
23. Jesse Taylor  
24. Erica Parrish

26. Kim Couch  
31. Denny Prather  
Dan Thomas

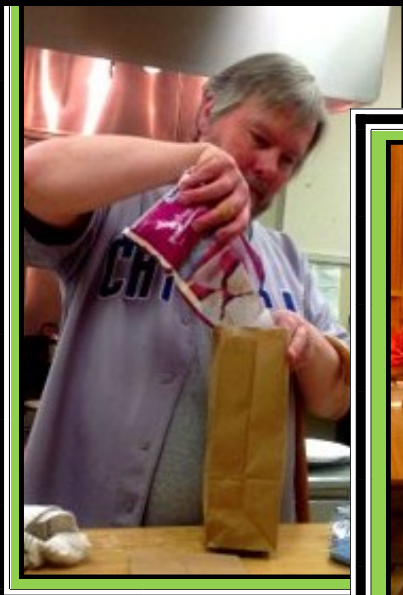
### ANNIVERSARIES

12. Paula & Kevin  
Oliphant

18. Julie & Tom Gyongyosi  
20. Stephanie & Charles  
Yates

SHROVE TUESDAY  
PANCAKE SUPPER

*Thank you, men and boys!!*





### Notes from the Senior Warden

First, I'd like to thank everyone for their support of our 2015 Vestry. The January Vestry Retreat was extremely successful. I would like to thank the many volunteers who made this event possible. We reconfirmed our Mission



Statement, reviewed the budget, assigned Functional Areas, and inspected some facility areas of concerns. Positive fellowship was had by all.

As we enter the year, I'm confident we are on strong fiscal footing. However, we will be challenged by some facility items such as Trinity Hall renovation, kitchen flat roof replacement, and improvements to the office building. I fully support our Junior Warden, Dan Thomas and would appreciate your support, time, and energy for him. Dan will be bringing these and other items before the Vestry and the church as a whole.

In addition to the facility improvements, we have divided into seven other **Functional Areas** to better serve you. Should you have a need or recommendation, I would highly encourage you to contact any Vestry Member or myself.

- Christian Education – Lynn Fury-Prather**
- Communication – Julie Gyongyosi**
- Evangelism – Tiffany Deem**
- Fellowship – Connie Bookman**
- In-Reach – Kelli Marteney**
- Out-Reach – Michael Cameron**
- Worship – Dianna Quick**

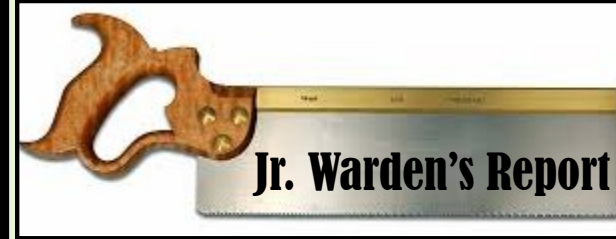
Each vestry member will be bringing forth areas of emphasis. But, I was impressed to learn our church has over 40 sub-committees throughout the seven Functional Areas, with an all-encompassing reach: local, diocesan, and world. It is these leaders and members who are the ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Thank you. I would like to highlight just a few for your support:

**Scholar Singers ~ Acolytes ~ Prayer Chain Ministry ~ Monthly Outreach Projects**

I look forward to serving you throughout 2015.

Respectfully,  
Michael Rauh  
Senior Warden



For me, this has been a busy year serving as Jr. Warden and it's only February. As you may or may not know, Larry Tucker and I installed a hand washing station in the kitchen next to

the prep sink. This station will help bring our kitchen closer to meeting Health Department standards. Two new stainless steel table top/dish cabinets have been ordered and should arrive before the end of February. These tabletop/cabinets will also help us meet Health Department standards. Other changes to the kitchen are also planned. Bids are now being taken to replace the kitchen roof and other flat roofs close to Trinity Hall. As soon as the roof is replaced, new smooth surface ceiling tiles will replace the existing tiles in the kitchen.

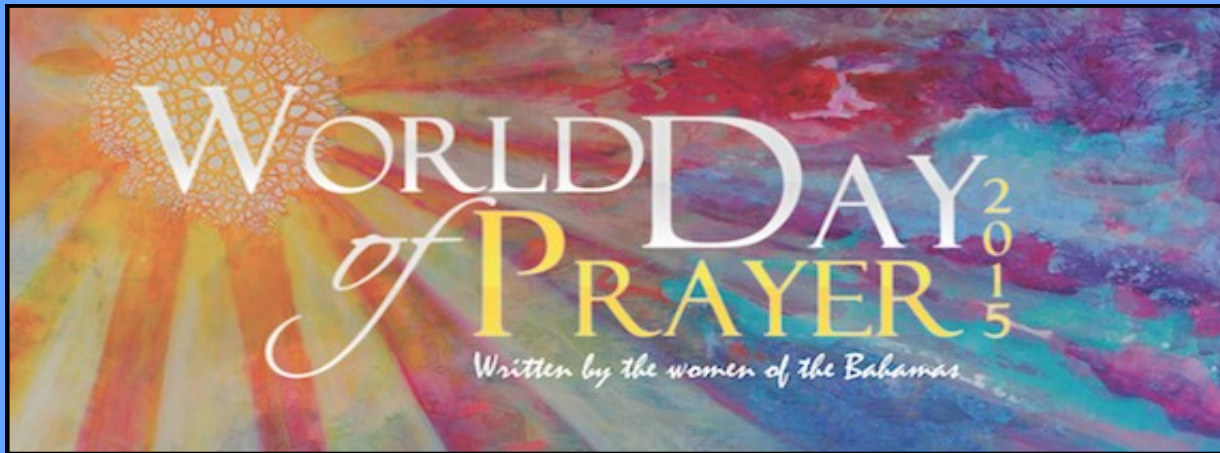
Of special note is the fact that bids are now being taken to repair and paint the plaster walls of the sanctuary. It has been four decades or more since a complete repair and painting of the walls has taken place. Portions of the plaster in the sanctuary are cracked and loose. Frequently, large paint and plaster chips have been found on the floor in Trevor Chapel. Plaster is also loose in the altar area of the sanctuary as well.

Finally, plans are now underway to completely renovate Trinity Hall. Mike Rauh, Mike Cameron and I have spent a good bit of time addressing many items related to the renovation. Mike Rauh has taken several pictures of the original Hall ceiling and found that the supporting structure appears to be strong even though it is well over one hundred years old. We are also looking at making alterations to the hall with respect to the stage and storage areas. Maintaining the stage and storage areas is important, but proposed changes will make these areas even more user friendly. The men's bathroom off the Hall will occupy a smaller space and will probably be located more toward the ramp area. The former bathroom area would then become an extension of the storage area located near the northwest doors (toward the Smoot Theatre) of the Hall.



More info about all of these projects will be coming your way.

Stay tuned! Dan Thomas



World Day of Prayer - Trinity will be the host church for the World Day of Prayer presented by Church Women United on Friday, March 6 at 10:00 a.m. Founded in 1941, Church Women United is an historic grass roots movement of women who share a vision of Christian unity and prayerful action. Many local churches are represented in our local group and you are invited to attend this gathering.....and feel free to bring a friend. A dramatic presentation by Norm Arrington will be enjoyed. He will present in costume and first person a character from the Bible. A light luncheon will be offered in Trinity Hall after the program. Please consider attending and supporting this very meaningful event. Each person is asked to bring a can of hearty soup. All food gathered on that day will be presented to Trinity's food pantry. Paula Sellers is the hostess in charge and will be needing ladies to usher people, help with guest registration, and take the covered dishes some will be bringing. Please call Paula at 740.423.7815 and offer your assistance. It will be a nice opportunity to enjoy fellowship with ladies of the valley and to present Trinity at its finest.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS  
SUNDAY MARCH 8**

Don't forget to  
'spring forward'



Padre Jack impacted many lives, not only at Trinity but also in the community. Like so many others, I was able to experience first hand how he ministered. Fortunately, I was privileged to sometimes drive Fr. Jack to those hospitalized and /or homebound . Through this experience I was able to assist him more as his vision declined.

Pastoral Care was Father Jack's forte. He would tell me, "Marion, I'm ready to go anytime, except Mondays" (Rotary Meetings) "or Wednesdays"( Priests Bible Study Group).

Parish Nursing became a ministry for me when I retired as a family nurse practitioner. Fr Larry was also interested at that time to have parish nursing in his congregation. Although I had pastoral care in my WVU education for parish nursing, I felt led to take the Pastoral Care /Eucharistic Visitor course through The Episcopal Diocese of WV. Through his example, Fr Jack reinforced in me what I had learned.

- 1) He always **limited the time of the visit** so not to fatigue the parishioner.
- 2) The visit was always **focused on the parishioner.**
- 3) He would bring up memories in the persons past so **THEY could reminisce.** Such a healthy intervention, especially for those in our "golden" years.
- 4) **Prayer and delivering the body and blood of Christ was done with reverence.**
- 5) He always gave those he visited that **broad smile of his,** when they asked him to return. He **brightened their days.**

Two other personal notes. Once, I said to Jack, "Jack, you deal amazingly well with all your physical problems." Jack responded with "Marion, we just deal with what we're dealt"! GOOD ADVICE, JACK. I also had shared with him that I sometimes get distracted during church service. He shared with me that church service is only between him and God. Since hearing that, when I get distracted I look at the stained glass window of Jesus and am once redirected to my God. THANK YOU , dear Lord, for Fr. Jack's presence in our lives.



*Marion Culbertson*



**Sunday worship attendance:**  
8:00~10:30  
Jan. 4: 17~60 (total 77)  
Jan. 11: (9:30 service) 68  
Jan. 18: 13~72 (total 85)  
Jan. 25: 14~75 (total 89)  
Average Jan. 2015—80  
Average Jan. 2014—97

**Food closet: 15 families, for a total of 20 people**  
**Rector 's Discretionary Fund:**  
**Assistance with : Pharmacy—1, Travel -1, Utilities-1, Misc.—1, Pancake Supper seed money-1**  
**Crisis Intervention Assistance with :**  
**3 electric bills, 3 gas bills ,7 water bills (all \$30 ea.)**



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### *Holy Week at Trinity*

Palm Sunday, March 29~

8:00am, 10:30am-Holy Eucharist w/Distribution of palms

Wednesday~ 6:00 pm, Seder Meal

Thursday~ 7:00 pm, Maundy Thursday service

Friday~ noon service w/Eucharist

Sunday April 5~Easter Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist; 10:30 am Festival Eucharist with Brass