

# The Trinity Times

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH • 430 JULIANA ST., PARKERSBURG, WV 26101 • 304.422.3362 • TRINITY-CHURCH.ORG

## MAY 2025

### THE STAFF

The Rev. Geoffrey Mackey  
Rector

Marie Mallory,  
Dir. of Music Ministry

Julie Rathbone,  
Administrator

Bree Fleming,  
Dir. of Religious Education

Paul Miller,  
Treasurer

Jacob Miller, Sexton

### THE VESTRY 2025

Jeannie Gallagher  
Michael McKibben  
Mary Thomas

2026

Anne Deputy  
Katie Perrine  
Mickie Richardson

2027

Jennifer Currey  
Mark Edwards  
John Tharp

### TRUSTEES

2025

Denny Prather

2026

Paula Sellers

2027

Tim Northrup  
Chad Mildren

*The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church:  
We exist to love God and our neighbors!*



*"...Love is come again  
Like wheat that springeth green..."*

# A note from Fr. Geoff



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This past week, since Easter Sunday, I've been thinking about two things. One is the passing away of Pope Francis. The Pope is not only the spiritual leader of 1.4 billion Catholics worldwide, but also someone who is often looked up to ecumenically as a spiritual and moral guide. Whatever else historians might someday write about Francis and his pontificate, it was clearly marked by an openness to the poor and disenfranchised and a willingness to "go to the margins" of society in service of the Gospel.

Also during this past Easter Week, on one of our sunny weekdays, one of our staff members looked out the window and saw, in our courtyard, a homeless gentleman napping in the warmth of the sun. He did not stay long - just enough to catch a few winks. When this was related to me later, it immediately reminded me of something I had noticed on a visit to the Vatican a few years ago.

In St. Peter's Square - I noticed something remarkably different from any other landmark or tourist site I've been to. When evening falls in Rome, around Bernini's magnificent Tuscan Colonnades, which reach out like arms from the Basilica, the area is filled with tents and sleeping bags as those without housing prepare for the night. Thinking of the other landmarks I've been to, they have all sought to "clean up" the area. I cannot imagine seeing a homeless person sleeping under the Eiffel Tower, or at the foot of the Space Needle, or in the Lincoln Memorial. But those in Rome who have nowhere else to go, are welcomed into the arms of the Church.

I will be celebrating my first year as your Rector this month on May 15. And one of the elements of our parish life that attracted me to this place was your care for the needy. Our Monday feeding program is an excellent example of Christian hospitality which asks no questions of the stranger but that he or she come, sit down, and receive without cost. I have also seen how members of our congregation interact with and welcome the needy when they come to our doors on

**Those who cannot see  
Christ in the poor are  
atheists indeed.  
- Dorothy Day**

Sunday mornings or throughout the week. Our Lord has explicitly identified himself with those who are homeless, hungry, and in need. The Gospel of Matthew recounts that, on the day of judgment, Christ the King will say: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" and "whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me" (Mt. 25.40, 45). And the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews encourages us: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (13.2).

My dear friends in Christ: one of the surest ways we can show that we are the disciples of Jesus Christ is by how we welcome "the other." The New Testament word used for this hospitality is "xenophilia" - that is, "love of the stranger or foreigner." It is the opposite of the word "xenophobia" which is the fear of the other.



St Peter's Square viewed from the cupola of  
St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City



Pope Francis with the Primates (i.e. Presiding  
Bishops/Archbishops) of the Anglican Communion,  
May 2, 2024. © Vatican Media

In the One who had no place to lay his head,  
Fr. Geoff

As the Scriptures teach us, "perfect love drives out fear" (1 Jn 4:8). The love of the risen Christ "has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Rom. 5.5). Therefore - because we are being perfected in love by that Spirit - we can reach out our hands and hearts in love as well, and welcome others.

As I approach the 1st anniversary of my Rectorship, I am grateful to be your fellow-laborer for the Gospel in this place. Let's continue to roll up our sleeves and show the love of Christ in our words and deeds together!



## Parkersburg Easter Parade Outreach

On Saturday, April 12, the day before Palm Sunday, members of the parish gathered on Market Street to provide refreshment to participants in the annual Parkersburg Easter Parade. Many thanks to all the parishioners who made *MANY* cookies to give out!



## Fifth Sunday Funfest — March 30, 2025



## Holy Wednesday - Holy Hike



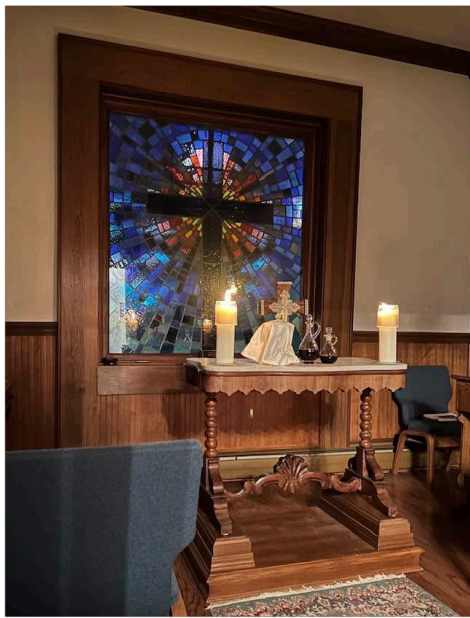
Twenty-seven faithful and adventurous parishioners gathered at McDonough Park for a special evening liturgy in the form of a "Holy Hike." We heard Holy Week readings from the Gospels, administered anointing of the sick, and celebrated the Eucharist together in preparation for entering the Sacred Triduum (the three Holy Days).



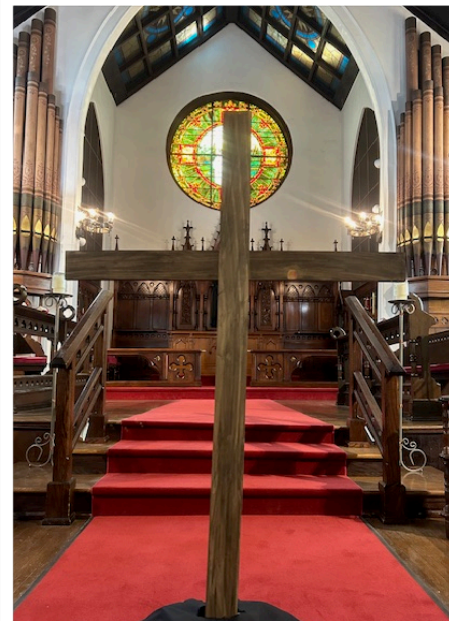
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>BIRTHDAYS</b> 2. Kevin Oliphant, Jr; Ann Grubisha 3. Irma Grotey 10. Ellie Rose Parsons 17. Butch Shock Dr. F. David Richardson	18. Lynne Francis 20. Grace Staats 23. Jack Ralsten 25. Pam Parsons Zane Ullmann 26. Callin Hudson 28. Mary Thomas	29. Lauren Adkins 30. Dianne Hess	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b> 11. Becky & Jeff Stump 19. Margie & Mark Miller 24. Liz & Scott Ramsay 27. Jane & Bob Harris 30. Julie & Mike Matheny Dorsey & Frank Northrup	<b>SS PHILIP &amp; JAMES</b>  10:00 am — Bible Study	2	3  5:30 pm —Vigil Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
4 <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>  8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 am — Sunday school 10:30 am — Eucharist, Rite II	5  11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	6 8:00 am — Men's Breakfast 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	7  12:15 — HE & Anointing	8  10:00 am — Bible Study 11:00 am — Knitters	9	10  5:30 pm —Vigil Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
11 <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (MOTHER'S DAY)</b>  8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 am — Sunday school 10:30 am — Eucharist, Rite II	12  11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	13 8:30 am — Men's Breakfast (Trinity Hall) 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	14  12:15 — HE & Anointing	15 10:00 am — Bible Study 6:00 pm — Blennerhassett Stamp Society (Trinity Hall)	16 6:00 pm — GH Dance Club (Trinity Hall)	17 9:00 am — WV Music Teachers Spring Adjudication 5:30 pm — Vigil Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
18 <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>  8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 am — Sunday school 10:30 am — Eucharist, Rite II  <b>Discretionary Sunday</b>	19 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry 5:45 pm — Finance Committee 6:30 pm — Vestry	20 8:00 am — Men's Breakfast 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall) <b>Trinity Times Deadline</b>	21  12:15 — HE & Anointing	22 10:00 am — Bible Study	23	24  5:30 pm —Vigil Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
25 <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (ROGATION SUNDAY)</b>  8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 am — Sunday school 10:30 am — Eucharist, Rite II	26 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry  <b>MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27 8:00 am — Men's Breakfast 10:00 am — Clergy Bible Study 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Trinity Hall)	28  12:15 — HE & Anointing	29 <b>ASCENSION DAY</b>  10:00 am — Bible Study	30	31 <b>VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>  5:30 pm — Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA



## Holy Week & Easter at Trinity



Maundy Thursday —  
The Altar of Repose



Good Friday —  
The Veneration of the Cross

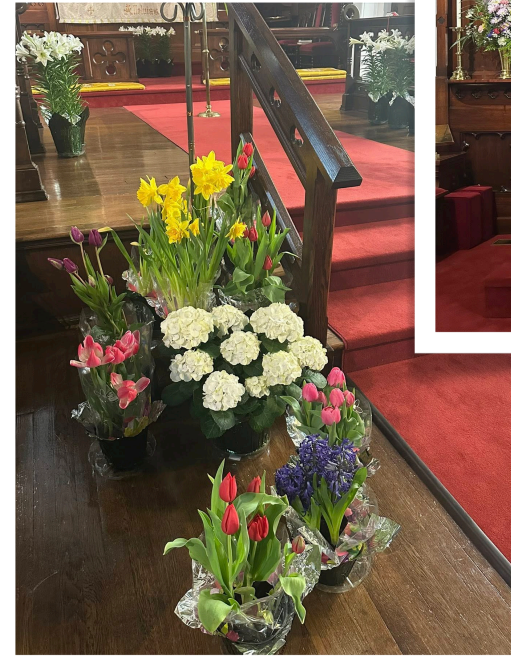


The "Shroud" at  
Good Friday Vespers



Father Geoff and Mother Katie Beth  
prepare the Paschal Candle at the  
Great Vigil

## ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!



THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!



# The Rector's Bookshelf



## Some Suggested Books on Prayer

In early April, we held an ECW-sponsored Quiet Day here at the church. The topic for the morning was Prayer. Out of that event has come a lot of good fruit and I thought that, rather than a book review this month, I would suggest a few books on prayer that I have found valuable.

- ◆ *Prayer for Beginners* by Peter Kreeft (Ignatius Press, 2000)  
This wonderful little book is ideal for those who feel that they have not progressed very far in their spiritual life, but it has wisdom for those who have been praying their whole lives. It is short, accessible, easy to read, and practical.
- ◆ *The Lord's Prayer: A Guide to Praying to Our Father* by Wes Hill (Lexham Press, 2019)  
A phrase-by-phrase guide to understanding the Prayer that Jesus taught us.
- ◆ *On the Invocation of the Name of Jesus* by Lev Gillet (Template, 1985)  
Written by a monk of the Eastern Church, this book was sponsored by the Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius, an association of Anglicans and Orthodox together. It is a practical guide to praying the **Jesus Prayer** or the **Prayer of the Heart** - which is none other than the frequent and intentional invocation of the Holy Name.
- ◆ *Prayer: Encounter with the Living God* by Hilarion Alfeyev (SVS Press, 2015)  
Orthodox Metropolitan Hilarion goes through several practical considerations on personal prayer.
- ◆ *Prayer in Practice* by Simon Tugwell (Template, 1974)  
The most in-depth of the books listed here, this is a classic on the subject by a Roman Catholic Dominican friar. Like the Kreeft and Alfayev books above, the chapters are based on practical considerations, but his treatment is much more in-depth.



The Trinity Blood Drive has been set for **Tuesday, June 3, from 11am to 4 pm** in Trinity Hall. Donors can sign up for an appointment at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. Signing up on your own will insure the best available times, but everyone who indicated they were interested in donating will be contacted and we can set up an appointment for you. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments take priority. For questions on Red Cross eligibility, visit [RedCrossBlood.org/Eligibility](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Eligibility) or call 1-866-3276.

## TRINITY BY THE NUMBERS MARCH

### Attendance

Weekend Liturgies (5:30/8:00/10:30)

- Mar 1/2 — 22/8/58 (88)
- Mar 8/9 — 21/11/67 (99)
- Mar 15/16 — 10/8/46 (64)
- Mar 22/23 — 23/11/52 (86)

Ash Wednesday — 61 (three services)

Annunciation — 6

Stations of the Cross (average) — 6

Wednesday Liturgy (average) — 4

### Community Resources / Thrive

Number Served: 108

Utility Assistance: 0

## Bulletin Boards Updated with a Spring Theme



A special thank you to Michelle Turner for the spring decorations on the bulletin boards in Trinity Hall. They are a festive, Eastertide way to beautify our fellowship space. Thanks, Michelle!





Trinity Episcopal Church  
430 Juliana Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

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Dated Material Please Deliver Promptly*

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The Resurrection  
by Piero della Francesca, 1460s

## A Very Heartfelt “Thank You!”

The rector and staff wish to thank the many, many people who helped prepare for and celebrate Holy Week and Easter at Trinity Church. It takes **MANY** hands, minds, hearts, and voices to beautify and prepare our church, decorate, plan, and execute the many services we celebrated. All the more so, given the storm on Holy Saturday evening! We give thanks to God and to you for the part **YOU** have played. Happy Easter!

## Christ is risen!