



# Trinity Topics

**April 2017**

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## ***Let every man say not merely “Christ is risen,” but “I shall rise.”***

*Phillips Brooks, American Episcopal Priest and Author*

The Paschal Triduum, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter, represent the culmination of all human history. All human goodness, all of our wickedness, all of our mediocrity culminates in the passion and death of Jesus on the cross, only to be met by the mercy and love of God in His Resurrection. Our annual reenactment of these events is an invitation to every one of us to enter into the Resurrection life of Jesus, where the sorrow becomes comfort and joy, strangers become neighbors, and sinners become redeemed. These days are even more than that—they become the model for how we live as Christians during the rest of the year in offering our whole selves to God and to one another in love.

These days are packed with centuries old symbolism. Maundy Thursday commemorates the institution of the Eucharist as the prologue to the suffering and death of Jesus. This year we will include the washing of feet, as Jesus did at his Last Supper. This is a reminder that I, your priest, am your servant, and also a reminder of how all Christians should care for one another. After the Eucharist, the reserved sacrament is placed on the altar of repose, and we will reenact the watch the disciples kept at Gethsemane as Jesus waited for his terrible fate. The church will be ritually stripped of decoration so that it stands stark and empty on Good Friday.

Good Friday is a stark memorial of the death of Jesus. This year we will read the Solemn Reproaches, which is a poem describing a court case between God and his people. The merciful works of God are placed in ironic contrast to humanity’s treatment of Jesus. While the Reproaches are read, we will celebrate the ancient ritual of “Creeping towards the Cross.” A wooden cross is set before the people, and all have an opportunity to come up and offer the Cross adoration as a sign of gratitude for Jesus’ work for us.

Finally, the Great Vigil of Easter stands as the climax of the Christian year. This year we will be celebrating the Vigil here with our friends from St. Luke’s, Springfield. We will begin in the courtyard with the lighting of the new fire, for Jesus is the light of the world, and process into the dark church. As the sun sets, we will recount God’s works of mercy throughout history which are called “the Prophecies.” This has long been considered the prime moment to be baptized—going under the water is said to represent death, while coming out of the water represents rising again in the resurrection with Jesus. Finally, as the Gloria is sung, the lights are thrown on, bells are rung, and joyful songs break out at the final triumph of Jesus over sin and death. Of course, Easter actually concludes after church, when we gather with our friends and family for a great Easter dinner and are glad for God’s works for us.

Last month I wrote about the theological concept of *anamnesis*. This is reenacting the events of the past in order to make them present in the here and now. There are lots of moving pieces in this Great Mystery Play we undertake every year as we make God’s works of grace present in our liturgy. I invite everyone to find some little part to do. Having our feet washed on Maundy Thursday, keeping watch with Jesus at the Altar of Repose, serving as an acolyte or doing a reading—no part is small in a play! A sign-up sheet is available in the lobby. Happy Easter to all of us. The Lord is risen indeed.

*Fr. Zach Brooks +*

### *Windows in The Lady Chapel*

As we go through Lent and Eastertide, be mindful of our beautiful windows:



### *Christian Initiation*

The Easter Vigil and Easter Day have been considered the most appropriate occasions for baptism since the earliest days of the Church. If you would like to have a child baptized, or be baptized yourself, please contact the parish office soon to schedule baptismal preparation.

### *About our Church Yard*

The Vestry is pleased to announce a major renovation of our church yard set to begin in April. A church yard is a living, growing thing, and the decades have slowly but dramatically changed the character of our lawn. Small trees have become large trees that crowd each other and block the sun from the other plants, which has resulted in erosion in some places. The yew hedge has begun dying off as there is less and less new growth to trim every year. The wooden retaining wall along the path is collapsing. The project will replace the yew hedge with boxwood and flowering plants, give the trees more room to grow by taking down one of the trees, and the wooden retaining wall will be replaced with stone. The plans for the yard are on display in the lobby. Thank you to Chuck Crim, Adah Mitchell, and Jim Herget for leading this project for us!

### *Funeral Planning*

Losing a friend or loved one is never easy, but having clear plans for their final farewell is a big relief. If you would like to express your wishes for your funeral service, such as the location of the visitation or the hymns for the liturgy, please contact the church office for a form. If you have previously filed a form in the office, you may wish to review it.

## News & Announcements

### ***The Heifer Project International***

The Church School Children raised \$470 for the *Heifer Project International* at their March 19<sup>th</sup> annual Trivia Lunch. All of the participants enjoyed the fun. We thank the Church School teachers and parents for donating all the great food.

Please support the Bake Sale on April 2.

Keep filling your mite boxes; they will be collected on April 23.

### ***Church School Children***

The children have been rehearsing and will sing at the 10 o'clock service on April 23.

### ***Easter Egg Hunt***

All children are invited to stay after the 10 o'clock Easter Day service for an Easter Egg Hunt. Who knows what they will find?!

### ***United Thank Offering***

The Spring Gathering of the UTO totaled \$534.92. Thank you to all who contributed.

### ***Thank You, Men and Boys!***

What a lovely breakfast we had on March 26. The Women and Girls of the Parish would like to thank you for the wonderful breakfast and service.

### ***A Special Thanks***

Have you ever thought about what goes on behind closed doors at church? We have many closets and storage areas. Last summer Ginda Woodruff looked at the closet in the sacristy and saw a need for some organization. By replacing all the hangers, she was able to make the closet much tidier. During the last several weeks Gayle Pollock has taken on an even bigger task by organizing the Acolyte Room. Besides organizing the garments and replacing hangers, she has taken almost all of the cassocks and cottas home to launder.

Thank you, Ginda and Gayle, for seeing a need and acting on it!

### ***Good News***

On March 14, 2017, **Kyias Rowan Potter** was born. He is the third son of Alison Crim and Aaron Potter. He is the grandson of Chuck and Joann Crim and the late Carole Crim. Kyias' family resides in rural Anadarko, Oklahoma.

### ***Death***

**Billie Kohlbecker**, wife of the late Eugene Kohlbecker, died on March 5, 2017, in New York. Her children are planning to have her burial in Jacksonville in June. The Kohlbeckers were active members of Trinity Church for many years.

*May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

*\*If you have news you wish to share, please contact the Parish Office.*

**Sunday, April 2**

**Bake Sale**

**After the 10 o'clock service**

(to support the Church School's Lenten Project –  
*Heifer Project International*)

**Trinity Fellowship**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 7 pm**

We will be discussing  
*The First & Second Letters of Paul*  
*to the Thessalonians.*

**ECW**

Build your own salad. Bring a salad ingredient. Lettuce  
and beverages are provided.

**Monday, April 10**  
**5:30 – 7:00 pm**

**Vestry Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 18**  
**7:00 pm**

**Receiving of the Mite Boxes**  
**Sunday, April 23**

(to support the Church School's Lenten Project –  
*Heifer Project International*)



The Parish Office is accepting  
donations for the Easter flowers.

Envelopes are on the table in the lobby.  
Please use the envelopes.

**SERVICES IN APRIL 2017**

**Sunday, April 2:**

**FIFTH SUNDAY in LENT**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Wednesday, April 5:**

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, April 9:**

**PALM SUNDAY**

8:00 am = The Proper Liturgy & Eucharist

10:00 am = The Proper Liturgy & Eucharist

**Wednesday in Holy Week, April 12**

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Maundy Thursday, April 2**

7:00 p.m. Proper Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

**Good Friday, April 3**

7:00 p.m. Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

**Holy Saturday, April 4**

**Easter Eve**

12 noon - Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday

7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

**Sunday, April 16:**

**EASTER DAY**

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Wednesday in Easter Week April 19:**

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, April 23:**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Wednesday, April 26:**

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, April 23:**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

***Morning Prayer is said at 10 o'clock***  
***on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.***