



Trinity Topics

May 2016

Phone = (217) 245-5901

info@trinitychurchjax.org

Website = www.trinitychurchjax.org



A Call to (a Wave of) Prayer

by Bishop Daniel on March 23, 2016

Beloved in Christ,

For some years now, one of my regular petitions in prayer has been for an unmistakable and powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit on and in the Diocese of Springfield—indeed, a *disruptive* outpouring, one that might tempt us to regret having asked for it in the first place! I continue to offer that prayer, and I know many have joined me.

Revival cannot be confected. There is no recipe or formula that will make it happen. The Holy Spirit of God is sovereign. However, those who have studied revivals in retrospect uniformly report that a revival is invariably preceded by a season of concerted prayer on the part of God's people. We cannot control the Holy Spirit and produce revival-on-demand. But we *can* decide how and when we pray, and what we ask for in our prayers.

A few weeks ago, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York announced an initiative that they characterized as a “wave of prayer” for the evangelization of England, focused on the ten days between the feast of Our Lord's Ascension (May 5) and the Day of Pentecost (May 15). This news immediately and compellingly struck a chord in my heart. After holding this concern in prayer, and then consulting an *ad hoc* and informal Council of Advice made up of about a dozen clergy and lay leaders, **I am inviting the baptized faithful of the Diocese of Springfield to join me in our own “wave of prayer” for the evangelization of central and southern Illinois**, also focused on the period between Ascension and Pentecost. Both Matthew and Mark tells us of an occasion when Jesus looked out on the crowd coming toward him and “had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd” (Matthew 9:36). Our first concern as we pray for revival and evangelization is that we be given hearts that beat in sync with the heart of Jesus, that we look out on the people among whom we live in the cities, towns, campuses, and rural communities of this diocese and be moved with the same compassion that moves Jesus.

You may have heard the expression *novena*. It doesn't enjoy wide popularity in Anglican vocabulary, but it's exactly what we're talking about here—a nine-day period of concentrated prayer focused on a particular intercessory concern. While various Christian communities (parishes, dioceses, religious orders, schools) observe novenas at different times of year, the historical origin of the practice lies precisely in the time between Ascension and Pentecost, as we wait with the disciples in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

My hope is that every Eucharistic Community in the diocese will have a public celebration of Ascension on May 5 (or the evening of the 4th), either individually or in cooperation with others on a regional or deanery basis. I realize this will be challenging for some, but I nonetheless ask you to make it a priority, and can virtually promise that you will be blessed in doing so. My further hope is that some or all of the liturgical materials that my office will shortly distribute to clergy (and in some cases, laity) in charge of congregations will be widely used. These include a Collect, a form for the Prayers of the People, a Eucharistic Prayer, and devotional forms for use by individuals, families, and small groups.

(continued on the next page)

I am greatly encouraged by much of what I see already happening in several parts of the diocese. The Spirit is already loose among us! What I am proposing here is not some sort of desperate measure. Rather, it is a petition that the Holy Spirit enable us to crank up the volume on a song that we are already singing. Will you add your voice to this chorus?

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,

+Daniel Springfield

Report From The Wardens

WANTED/NEEDED: ACOLYTES - Our acolyte pool is shrinking. This is YOUR CHANCE to serve the parish in this important role during worship services. Please consider joining this group of dedicated lay persons. Contact the church office to volunteer your services. Thank you.

May contains two of the Church's most important feasts: Ascension Day and Pentecost. Archdeacon Denney will be the Celebrant for both of these services; and on **Ascension Day** he will bring members of his congregation at St. Luke's to worship, and participate, in our 6 P M service. We will follow the service with a light supper (sandwiches, etc.) for both congregations. Please help us celebrate this occasion.

On **Pentecost** Archdeacon Denney will return for the regular 10 A M service as his deacon is going to be ordained a priest and will celebrate the main service at St Luke's, thereby freeing Archdeacon Denney to be with us. (Pentecost, also referred to as Whitsunday, is the day we receive the offerings for the Endowment of the Diocese of Springfield.) We are so very fortunate to have Archdeacon Denney as "our supply;" and also as a resource for diocesan matters that we, as lay persons, are unfamiliar with. Here is a good example of recent help.

Terminology has changed. Chalice Bearers are now Eucharistic Ministers. Lay Readers are now Worship Leaders and can lead Morning and Evening Prayer (as was true in the past.) Lectors do not need to be licensed, and Acolytes remain the same. For Trinity, this means Forrest Keaton, David Mumford, and Donald Tracey are 'grandfathered in' in their respective roles, and Forrest is being licensed as a Worship Leader. That is necessary as he will lead Morning Prayer on May 29, when Deacon Langford will be on vacation---being the grandfather that he is. Congratulations to the Langford granddaughters who will be graduated from colleges the last two Sundays of May.

May 22 is **Trinity Sunday**, our Feast of Title. Fr. David Boase, rector emeritus of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alton, is delighted to be our Celebrant. See his comments on another page. We will follow the worship service with a Parish potluck to celebrate.

Building - The Vestry is concentrating on repairs and improvements to be initiated over the summer months. We will keep you posted as plans are finalized.

Finally, we wish to congratulate the Sunday School teachers and students for making 2016 yet another banner year for **Heifer Project**. We also wish to thank those dedicated teachers and all members of the **choir** as both groups move toward "summer mode."

Remember: volunteer to become an acolyte! Summer is an ideal time to get "hands on" experience.

News & Announcements

The Heifer Project International

After the April 10th service, the church School announced that they had exceeded the goal they set at the beginning of Lent. They raised **\$2251.39** for *The Heifer Project International*. This enables them to buy a camel, a heifer, a water buffalo, an irrigation pump, sheep, pigs, rabbits, tree seedlings, bees, ducks, geese, and chicks.

Graduations & Recognitions

May and June are usually filled with celebrations. In the June edition of *Trinity Topics*, we would like to recognize and congratulate those who have graduated or received special recognition. Please send your information to the Parish Office by May 18 to be included in the June edition.

Trinity Fellowship

On Tuesday, May 3, members of Trinity Fellowship will gather for a potluck supper at 6:00 pm. It has been a different kind of year since we were unable to meet for a couple months, but we hope all will gather again for fellowship. **All are invited.** There is a sign-up sheet next to the kitchen counter.

Visiting Clergy

How wonderful it will be to have Archdeacon Shawn Denney and some Members from St. Luke's with us on Ascension Day and Pentecost!

We are also honored to have Father Boase celebrate The Holy Eucharist with us on Trinity Sunday, our Feast of Title. Trinity Sunday is special to Fr. Boase. He wrote:

"I grew up in a Holy Trinity parish in England, was made Deacon and ordained Priest, both, in Holy Trinity Cathedral Carlisle England, served at Holy Trinity Cathedral Gibraltar and retired from the Episcopal Parish of Alton, which included Trinity Chapel. To say that the Feast of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity is an important day for me would be, to say the least, an understatement!"

Web Site

Check out our new website. It's still the same address (www.trinitychurchjax.org), but you will see a more vibrant page. And now you can read *Trinity Topics* from it!

Good News

Archdeacon Shawn Denney officiated at the marriage of Sam Leak and **Molly Vidakovich**, daughter of Rob and Maureen, at Trinity Church on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

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

Trinity Fellowship

Tuesday, May 3, 6 pm

Please join us for our annual potluck supper.
A sign-up sheet is by the kitchen counter.

ECW

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

Monday, May 9

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Whitsunday Offering

For the Endowment of the
Diocese of Springfield

May 15

Special Envelopes are
at the entrances to the Church.

Vestry

Tuesday, May 17

Search Committee meets at **6:00 pm**,
followed by the
Regular Vestry Meeting at **7:00 pm**.

Sunday, May 22

Trinity Sunday

is Our Feast of Title.

We will have our **Parish Potluck**
after the 10 o'clock Holy Eucharist

SERVICES IN MAY 2016

May 1:

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 am: Liturgy of the Word &
Holy Communion

May 5:

ASCENSION DAY

6:00 pm: The Holy Eucharist

May 8:

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Sunday after Ascension Day

10:00 am: Liturgy of the Word &
Holy Communion

May 15:

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

10:00 am: The Holy Eucharist

May 22:

TRINITY SUNDAY

10:00 am: The Holy Eucharist

May 29:

The 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am: Morning Prayer



Wednesdays at 10:00 am:
Morning Prayer

May 4

May 11

May 18

May 25