



# Trinity Topics

**August 2019**

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**“I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him...”**

—1 Cor. 1:4-5a

I dreamed of preaching the Word of God and celebrating the Sacraments for a long time, and this month I praise God for granting my prayer on the third anniversary of my call to Trinity Church. It seems like just yesterday that I was packing up our little Boston apartment and saying goodbye to our big city life. Words cannot express my gratitude for being given the holy task of being your priest. It has been an incredible privilege to be invited into the life of this community and into the lives of its members. I have felt so supported and welcomed here. Coming to Jacksonville has also been a blessing for my family. Leah and I are happy to settle down here, and we are certain this is the right place to raise our children.

A three-year anniversary is a good occasion to reflect on what I have learned. First, while the bishop might have made me a priest, it is the enormous amount of patience and trust you have invested in me that has made me the priest I am today. This congregation took a chance calling me directly from formation. The Search Committee could have called a more experienced candidate, but instead it made the commitment of helping form the new ministry of a man who had (and still has!) so much to learn. There is a lot they don't teach you at seminary, a fact I am frequently confronted with in this job. My understanding of my own ordained ministry has been formed here at Trinity Church. The grace you have offered me will be part of my ministry for the rest of my life. I still find it hard to fathom that you take time out of your week just to hear me talk, and I can only strive to be worthy of this trust.

Second, I've come to a deeper and deeper understanding of how a parish church is a community, or even a family. The Bible says, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity (*Psalm 133:1*)!” It's an idea we think of in the abstract in seminary. The reality is something I have learned by watching the deep commitment of this church's members to our common life and worship. This parish family is capable of such beauty and joy, and we strive to make Jacksonville a better place through community action. In an age of consumerism and isolation, we are committed to the hard work of being together. It does take hard work, all committed relationships do, but Trinity Church has assured me that it is worth it.

Third, I have seen how a parish church is a project where we all have our contribution to make. Church happens all week, inside and outside of our sanctuary. There are innumerable tasks, small and great, that are necessary for the functioning of this community. The people of this parish have known this for a long time, of course. I thank God that so many members of this community are not afraid to roll up their sleeves and make the commitment of their own time to make Trinity Church happen. Truly we understand the command of Our Lord to store up for ourselves treasure in heaven.

These three years have been a blessing for me, and I thank God for them. I pray that I will continue to grow in the graces of this community for years to come, sustained, of course, by your prayers and support. I also pray that my ministry will show more and more the reality that Jesus is with us. Amen!

*Fr. Zach Brooks*

### ***A Course in Anglican History: Part XIV***

While King Edward VI's regents immediately began the project of setting up a Protestant Church after the death of his conservative father, there is evidence that the English people overall were not eager to give up their Catholicism. When the order came down in 1548 to remove all holy images from church, most parishes quietly obeyed, though many parishes hid them away or sold them to faithful Catholic lay people for protection. To leap forward a few years, when the pious, Catholic Queen Mary came to the throne, the images were immediately restored to churches, and few would guess that Protestantism had ever happened. The people needed convincing. In those days, a vicar needed a special license to write his own sermons. Most vicars were restricted to reading published homilies, which in 1547 began feeding the people a steady diet of Protestant ideas. English prayers were inserted into the Latin Mass in 1548, and Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, a staunch Protestant, began composing a whole new book of prayers for the English Church. Despite the simmering resentment of the English people at the attacks against the old order, a distinctly English Christian identity was beginning to take shape.

*This column is the fourteenth in the monthly series on the history of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church.*

### **Founders' Day**

One hundred eighty-seven years ago, on August 11, 1832, Trinity Parish, Jacksonville, was organized, making it the oldest parish in Illinois.



**Join us this August 11, when we celebrate this anniversary!**

### **Stained Glass Window Reminder**

Be sure to look closely at the window above the east entrance as you enter the sanctuary. In the Stained Glass Window book, it is described in detail as *The Coming of the Church to Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1832*. The center lancet has a representation of our church building. In the left lancet you will see the cornerstone of our church.

## News & Announcements

### ***Help Needed!***

After Labor Day regular church school will resume. We are blessed at Trinity Church to have dedicated teachers lead our children in worship and study. It takes many hands to conduct weekly lessons. There is a wide range of ages of our children. Our teachers want to be able to meet the needs of them all.

How can you help? Volunteer to be a teacher or teacher's aide. Volunteer to stay in the nurse's office with our youngest ones while the teachers conduct lessons. All extra hands are welcome. Although weekly help is needed, you can also offer help one or two Sundays a month. There will be a signup sheet by the nursery door.

These children are the hope that this church will continue to be filled for years to come.

### ***Outreach***

- Over \$500 has been delivered to the *Take It to the Streets* summer lunch program at Grace United Methodist Church in the name of Trinity Church. Thank you to all who made donations.
- We continue to take food items at the end of every month to the Jacksonville Area Food Center. The box is in the upper hallway.
- Trinity Church delivered three boxes of items to the College Welcome Kits sponsored by the Jacksonville Area Council of Churches. Kits will be assembled on August 8, at Faith Lutheran Church, and delivered to new students at MacMurray College on August 23, and at Illinois College on August 27.

### ***New Addition to the Library***

MarySusan Farmer has donated a beautiful book, *The Glory of Angels*, to the library. What makes this extremely special is that Don Eldred gave her the book and she thought it was only fitting that it finds a permanent home in the Trinity Church library. Remember to visit our beautiful library in the basement level. There are many treasures!

### ***Choir***

Choir Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, August 29, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join! Sunday, September 8 will be their first Sunday to sing at the 10 o'clock service.

### **The Readings for the Sundays in August**

	<b><i>Old Testament</i></b>	<b><i>Psalm</i></b>	<b><i>New Testament</i></b>	<b><i>Gospel</i></b>
August 4	Hosea 11:1-11	107:1-9, 43	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
August 11	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	50:1-8, 23-24	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
August 18	Isaiah 5:1-7	80:1-2, 8-18	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
August 25	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17

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

**Vestry Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 20**  
**7:00 pm**

Please join us  
for a potluck lunch / cookout

after the 10 o'clock service  
on Sunday, August 11,  
to celebrate

### **Our Founders' Day**



Meat, drinks and table service will be  
provided. Please bring a dish to share.

There will be a sign-up sheet  
on the table in the foyer,  
or you may contact the Parish Office for  
suggestions of what to bring.

## **SERVICES IN AUGUST 2019**

### **SUNDAYS:**

August 4:

#### **The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

August 11:

#### **The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

August 18:

#### **The 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

August 25:

#### **The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

### **WEEKDAY EUCHARISTS AT 10:00 am:**

Tuesday, August 6:

#### **The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Wednesday, August 7

Wednesday, August 14

Thursday, August 15:

#### **St. Mary the Virgin**

Wednesday, August 21

Saturday, August 24:

#### **St. Bartholomew**

Wednesday, August 28

### **MORNING PRAYER AT 10:00 am:**

On Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays