



Trinity Topics

October 2019

Phone = (217) 245-5901

info@trinitychurchjax.org

Website = www.trinitychurchjax.org



“I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.”—*Psalm 40:10*

We find ourselves at the midpoint of the long season after Pentecost, known in some circles as “Ordinary Time.” This part of the year isn’t centered around the anticipation of Advent, the joyful tidings of Christmas, the penitence of Lent, or the exultation of Easter. The drama of the story of Jesus in our Gospel readings concludes with the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Church on Pentecost before it gives way to little miracles and workaday parables. The color of this season is green, to represent the growth of the grace of the Christian story in our lives.

Perhaps church windows and other religious art have given us the impression that Christian life would involve a lot of lounging around in togas and striking poses of pious awe in serene pastoral settings, but it is actually the case that our ordinary, 21st century lives, ruled by ordinary routine, will be the place where we encounter Jesus. We are given Ordinary Time to reflect on the Christian story and to live out its lessons in a world that can seem so frightening and meaningless. Ordinary Time is the place where we must live our lives as Christians by carrying out these routines like we believe that Jesus is true.

We act out this process in church every week. Each Sunday is a reflection of the greater story of the Resurrection of Jesus and the gift of his Spirit to the Church and the world. At the beginning of the week we hear the story of Jesus at Sunday service. Jesus gives himself to us in the Holy Eucharist as our food for the way. Finally, hopefully transformed by this encounter with God’s grace, we are dismissed with a blessing to love and serve Jesus in the world through word and deed. This final dismissal was historically such a central part of Christian life that the word for the whole service, “The Mass” comes from the Latin conclusion of the service: “*Ite, missa est.*” “Go, the service is ended.”

Ordinary Time poses to us the question of what it means to be a Christian parent, a Christian spouse, a Christian friend and neighbor. We must even ask ourselves what it means to be a Christian accountant, lawyer, secretary, doctor or even priest because being a Christian isn’t only a Sunday affair. The Christian story should make a difference in how we live and work throughout the week, and we must know what that difference is because we are commanded to proclaim to the world what Jesus has done for us. We are commanded to testify to God’s work for us in a world that so desperately needs the assurance that God is alive and loves us. Even in our secularizing age people still want to hear that Jesus can make a difference for their lives, and I believe the health of a parish church begins with the ability of its members to reflect on the work of Jesus in their own lives and their readiness speak about it before each other and the world.

My faith as a Christian and as your priest is that Jesus is at work in all our lives, and my goal for this parish is that every one of us will always be looking for that work and ready to testify before others that God is good because of it. Christian lives, after all, are not ordinary. They are a place to encounter God, whose miracles are everywhere if we had the faith to see them.

Fr. Zach Brooks +

A Course in Anglican History: Part XVI

Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's first draft of the *Book of Common Prayer*, officially published in 1549, was very much dictated by what he thought he could get away with. The biggest changes were to the theology of the Eucharist. Catholic theology then and now asserts that the Eucharistic bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Jesus by participating in the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. This is called the dogma of the Real Presence. Cranmer and other Calvinists, however, vigorously rejected any idea that Jesus was present in the bread or wine. They asserted that the sacrifice of Jesus was in the past, and Jesus was in heaven, not on the altar. Adoration of the Eucharist, that central institution of Catholic piety, was therefore idolatrous worship of bread. The 1549 service contained no concept that the Mass was a sacrifice. The priest was forbidden from lifting up the bread for the adoration of the faithful. The service asserted that Jesus was present in a spiritual manner, though without explicit polemic against the Real Presence.

Cranmer was keenly aware, on the other hand, that the English people were still mostly Catholics in their hearts and were enduring a lot of rapid change under King Edward VI's zealously Protestant regents. He retained many symbols of the old order, though in toned down forms. He had a Calendar of the Saints, though with many popular observances like Corpus Christi removed. He mandated vestments, though only the more ordinary garments were permitted. He retained the idea that baptism was itself the gift of God's salvation. Most of all, the office of bishop was retained in the *Ordinal* published the following year. More extreme Protestants saw these concessions as transitional compromises that could be later purified from the Church. Later generations would call this party the Puritans as these compromises found a permanent place in the English Church.

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



The Readings for the Sundays in October

	<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>Psalms</i>	<i>New Testament</i>	<i>Gospel</i>
6	Lamentations 1:1-6	137	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
13	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7	66:1-11	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
20	Jeremiah 31:27-34	119:97-104	2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5	Luke 18:1-8
27	Joel 2:23-32	65	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14

October 4: St. Francis of Assisi

Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor.

In 1210 Pope Innocent the Third confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

Francis left few writings; but, of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun." The Hymnal #406 version begins:

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord,
To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured,
And blessing without measure.
Let creatures all give thanks to thee
And serve in great humility.

It's hard to separate Francis of Assisi and animals. Stories abound of how this great saint could communicate with animals and felt at one with all creation. During the 13th century Thomas of Celano recorded several of these encounters with animals: preaching to birds; releasing a rabbit from a trap; warning fish to not be caught; and taming a wolf, to name a few.

On **Sunday, October 6, at 4:00 pm**, Trinity Church will have its second annual Blessing of the Animals. This year the statue of St. Francis donated by Elizabeth Aldridge will also be dedicated.

News & Announcements

Thank You!

For the third year we offered meaningful **activities for children** during the 10 o'clock service in the summer. It was a success due to the generosity and dedication of those who volunteered.

We thank K-Lou Ashmore, Janet Cisne, Laura Evans, Melissa Evans, Bob & Greta Hardwick, Donna Metcalf, Jo Ann Nelson, Abby Radcliffe, Hilda Radcliffe, Allison Scott, Alice Tracey, and Ginda Woodruff. They were willing to spend some time with our children and to help them learn more about the Bible by sharing stories and leading activities.

We would like feedback from these leaders and parents of the children who participated to see what we should plan for the summer of 2020.

Outreach

Please remember that our container for donations to the Jacksonville Food Center is always located in the upper hallway. We deliver our donations at the end of each month.

Congratulations!

Michael and Carly Jo Quinones welcomed their daughter **Ryleigh Noelle**, on August 16. She is the granddaughter of Mickey and Michele Quinones. Welcome to the world, Ryleigh!

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

Trinity Fellowship

This year we are following *The Bible Project*,
beginning with the Gospel of Luke and Acts.

Tuesday, October 1
7:00 pm

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi *is October 4.*

We will have a
Blessing of the Animals
on Sunday, **October 6, 4:00 pm**
on the west porch and in the churchyard.

ECW **Build Your Own Salad Supper**

Monday, October 14
5:30 pm

Vestry Meeting **Tuesday, October 15** **7:00 pm**

Synod of The Diocese of Springfield **October 18-19** in Alton

Fr. Zach, John Clancy, and Donna Metcalf
will represent Trinity Church.

SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2019

SUNDAYS:

October 6:

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

October 13:

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

October 20:

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

October 27:

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm = Evening Prayer

WEEKDAYS AT 10:00 am

Wednesday, October 2

Wednesday, October 9

Wednesday, October 16:

Wednesday, October 23:

St. James of Jerusalem

Monday, October 28:

St. Simon & St. Jude

Wednesday, October 30