



Trinity Topics

October 2024

Phone = (217) 245-5901

info@trinitychurchjax.org

Website = www.trinitychurchjax.org



“I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”—*John 8:12*

The command of Jesus is “Follow me!” Jesus is always going places, and we mean to go with him. This spirit is as old as Abraham, who received the command from God, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.” (Gen. 12:1) Later, Jesus encountered Peter and Andrew carrying on the quiet lives of fishermen and said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matt. 4:19) If you wonder what Jesus says to you, “He said to all ‘If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.’” (Luke 9:23) We must therefore immediately ask what this means for us at Trinity Church. Jesus says, “Look, I am making everything new!” (Rev 21:5) St. Paul writes, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” (2 Cor. 5:17)

Every season at Trinity Church is a call to renewal, both as individuals before God, and as a community gathered together in God’s holy name. Trinity Church is always on the move into the future with Jesus, not quite knowing where God is going but always having faith that he is with us. We thank God for our past, but wherever we are in life, saint or sinner alike, the call of Jesus is to follow him into ever deeper intimacy with God and an ever clearer proclamation of the Gospel that the apostles have handed on to us. In every age the Church must consider what renewal means because we begin this renewal with our own faith and our own enthusiasm for the Gospel. The apostles and our own parents might have handed their faith on to us, but it falls to us to believe for ourselves. If we lack this faith and enthusiasm, let me gently suggest that this is often the result of inadequate amounts of prayer and study of scripture. One of my deepest convictions as a pastor is that God’s work is certainly there in all our lives if only we pray for eyes to see it.

As we ponder these issues as a community we must know that renewal is not making the Christian Faith “relevant,” whether through inserting modern ideas, subordinating it to today’s pressing social or political causes, or attempting to make it appealing with guitars and smoke machines. We must believe that the Cross of Jesus has an appeal all on its own; people today already thirst for the living water of the Gospel. It falls to us to know the faith, to believe it, and to proclaim that Gospel with clarity. Jesus tells us that the Church is a city built on a hill, and that the eyes of the whole world are upon us to see whether this Christianity business is a credible way of life. If we can find what in the Gospel makes us truly enthusiastic, what gives us joy in our present and hope for the future, I am certain the people of Jacksonville would look on Trinity Church and rejoice that God is in the world.

Fr. Zach Brooks

A Course in Anglican History: Part LXVII

If you enter our church and look up at the south windows, the second window from the right, you will see an image of three bishops placing their hands on the head of a fourth man holding the flame of the Anglican faith in his hands. This man is Samuel Seabury, the first bishop of the independent Episcopal Church in the United States, and perhaps the most influential founder of the Episcopal Church as it exists today. His career says much about the place of Anglicanism in the American colonies (though one must keep in mind that the term ‘Anglican’ was still an anachronism in that age, and it was still simply the Church of England at home and abroad). He was the son of a Congregationalist minister who joined the “Yale Apostasy” in forsaking the New England Congregationalism and converting to the Church of England. Seabury adopted his father’s zeal for the Church of England along with his ire against Congregationalism. He was adamant that having bishops was an essential part of the Church’s identity and worked to establish a Church of England bishop in the colonies (which never happened). This focus on bishops (i.e. episcopacy) was not accepted by all Anglicans at the time. In fact, it was rather unusual, and Seabury himself had a large part in the prominence of episcopacy in the Church today. His ire for the growing American Revolution was as strong as his ire of New England Congregationalism, and he was a prominent Loyalist. He wrote continual essays and pamphlets against the Revolution, and was the avowed enemy of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton. As the Revolution exploded across the Colonies, The Church of England in the colonies, like Seabury, was determined to remain English.

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

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP FOR OCTOBER 1

“The World of Jesus and the Apostles”

This session begins with two questions having to do with general historical context: What were the three biggest events that shaped the world of Jesus and the Apostles? What, in the historical context of the time, was shaping the consciousness of the Jewish people, Jesus, and the first followers of Jesus?

Profs. Bird and Wright tell us there were three “worlds” that made up the historical context of the time, and which shaped and influenced the people who lived in them. To analyze these three worlds, they pose questions about each of them:

The Jewish World: What made up the Jewish world, and what major issues did the Jewish people face because of that world? What were some of the typical responses to the conflicts they faced?

The Greek World (Hellenistic culture): What were the origins of “the Greek world?” What were some of the institutions and thought patterns of the Greek world? What were some of the Jewish and Christian responses to living in this Greek world?

The Roman World: How did the Roman world come to be? How did the Roman world organized itself (institutions and symbols)? What were some of the Jewish and Christian responses to living in this Roman world?

Historical context is an important factor for understanding and discerning the meaning of the New Testament. Profs. Bird and Wright help us to become familiar with the “three worlds” of Jesus and the Apostles, which, in turn, help us as we continue to read “the New Testament we never knew.”

Social time is from 7 to 7:30 pm, with the study from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.

News & Announcements

Blessing of the Animals



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 a Blessing of the Animals in the church courtyard.

Women's Day of Appreciation

Jo Ann and Cathy Nelson were part of a historic moment when they attended the first-ever Diocesan Women's Appreciation Day on September 7, 2024. The gathering, a unique initiative by Bishop Burgess's wife Denise, and the women of the Cathedral in Springfield, provided a platform for women's fellowship throughout the Diocese. It was a day to recognize the vital importance of women's roles in the Episcopal church, specifically the Springfield Diocese. The day began with a solemn Holy Eucharist in the magnificent St. Paul's Cathedral. Bishop Burgess's sermon, which resonated with everyone present, focused on women's significant roles in the church, whether in official or non-official capacities. He shared touching stories of his mother and her quiet influence in his childhood church. Denise Burgess, the driving force behind the event, introduced the featured speaker, Chaplain Major Alexandra "Alexis" C. King, USAFR, and a communicant at St. Michael's in O'Fallon. In a moving speech, Chaplain King shared her journey from childhood memories to her eventual embrace of the Episcopal church. The event also featured an excellent luncheon, providing an opportunity for fellowship and interaction at each table. Fifty-four women from across the diocese, including Jo Ann and Cathy proudly representing Trinity Church, participated in the event. The day concluded with everyone leaving with new friends and a shared anticipation for next year's gathering.

Church School

Volunteers are always needed so please offer to assist our Church School teachers. There is always a job for everyone.

Doorbell Dinners

Members of Trinity Church deliver meals **September 30 – October 4**. Thanks to all who have offered to volunteer.

Pledge Campaign

Letters will be mailed the latter part of October, with Pledge Sunday being November 3.

Death

Mary Ann Hardwick of Beardstown, mother of Bob, died on September 7, 2024.

*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.

Lectors

October 6 Forrest Keaton
October 13 Nancy Taylor Porter
October 20 Cathy Nelson
October 27 Paula Woods

Acolytes

October 6 Bruce Evans & Clayton Robb
October 13 Clayton Robb & Volunteer
October 20 Bruce, Allen & Clayton
October 27 Bruce & Clayton

Ushers

Please volunteer!

October 6 Chuck Crim & Volunteer
October 13 John Clancy & Volunteer
October 20 Chuck Crim & Jim Herget
October 27 Jim Herget & John Clancy

Fellowship

Tuesday, October 1 - 7:00 pm
The New Testament You Never Knew

ECW

Thursday, October 10
5:30 pm

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

Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, October 15
7:00 pm

Diocese of Springfield Synod
October 18-19

Forrest Keaton & Clayton Robb
are the Delegates from Trinity Church.

SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAYS:

October 6:

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

October 13:

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

October 20:

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

October 27:

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

WEEKDAYS AT 10:00 am

Wednesday, October 2

Wednesday, October 9

Wednesday, October 16:

Friday, October 18:

St. Luke

Wednesday, October 23:

St. James of Jerusalem

Monday, October 28

St. Simon & St. Jude

Wednesday, October 30

MORNING PRAYER AT 10:00 am:

On Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays