

Announcements and Updates – Trinity Church, Swarthmore

THIS SUNDAY, March 23



Video Homily by Fr. Ted

- + Posted by 8:00 am Sunday to Trinity's Facebook account
- + Link, accessible to all, sent by Constant Contact email (*Are you connected?*)

Today's Readings ([linked here](#)): 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41; Psalm 23

Drive-Through Communion, with Food Drive

- + 10:00-11:00 am in the Circle Drive
- + Drop off nonperishable food items for distribution. See details in *Other News*, below.
- + **Flowers** will be on display in the Circle Drive, then brought to sick or homebound parishioners as safety allows. *Last week's flowers went to Lois Johnston and to DottieJeanne and Ben Dangerfield. Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Georgianna Gillespie Keaton, by Jay Gillespie.*

Education Time: Trinity Digital Children's Ministry

+via Zoom video-conferencing, 10:30 am on Sundays

We'll sing, pray, hear a Bible story, chat, and be in community together online. Check the website for the link. There will also be a parents' Zoom chat on Wed. nights at 9 pm. Details below.

LATER THIS WEEK...

Weekly Lenten Offerings: Fr. Ted and Mary Thompson are working on ways to continue with communal Lenten practices online. Notice will be sent via the *Constant Chronicle* (our weekly Constant Contact email). *Stay tuned!*

Parents of Children & Youth: *Parents' Zoom Chat* will continue Wed. nights at 9 pm. To join the chat, see Natalee's weekly email blast to parents.

Do you receive our weekly *Children & Youth Ministry News* via email? This is now more important than ever! If not, please contact Tina Hogan at office@trinity-swarthmore.org with your email address. It's a great way to learn about our current and upcoming events for the children and youth of Trinity.

AA: The "Little Group" continues to meet, but the number of people allowed at any meeting is limited per CDC guidance. *Questions?* Please contact Fr. Ted through the office.

Thrift Shop is Closed: Please be aware that the Thrift Shop is closed until further notice and cannot accept any donations.

OTHER NEWS

THANKSGIVINGS, GIVING BACK, AND OTHER MINISTRIES

Thanksgiving for

- + AnnMarie Stanton and Rich Englebach, who helped with last week's Drive-Through Communion, and also for Cassidy and Kevin Gardner for their assistance in uploading Fr. Ted's video homily.
- + For all those who are seeking to continue in loving-care and ministry to others in this time of social dislocation and isolation.

Giving back

Food for the Hungry – The Outreach Committee is organizing how we can contribute food to St. Mary's Food Cupboard and Chester Eastside, Inc., without contributing to the public health crisis. This Sunday, food drop-offs can be made during the Drive-Through Communion, 10-11am. *Stay tuned for news of further developments on how to contribute as we balance food needs with the need to reduce opportunities for transmission of COVID-19.*

Homelessness knows no virus – IHN/Family Promise is housing homeless families at the day center the week of March 22 to 27. Please use the Sign-Up Genius link, below, to volunteer to make a meal for 3 adults and 4 kids: a 17 y/o girl, 14 y/o boy, 6 y/o boy and 3 y/o boy. It is not necessary to stay, just drop off the food, and go or have fellowship if you desire. Everyone at the shelter is healthy and close to getting their housing. Thank you all for your support in these troubling times. We know homelessness does not stop because of the world; it continues, and we might see it on the rise because of the circumstances. We are all doing our part. *Thanks!* — Joe German <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094da5a629a2f85-dinner>

LENT MADNESS – The Saintry Smackdown goes on...We are now in the middle of the Elate Eight! Vote at www.lentmadness.org each weekday to advance your favorite saint. While doing so, you can learn about the Holy Spirit working in God's people across generations and cultures. Can you pick who will win the Golden Halo? Ann Marie Stanton is tracking your wins and losses. Which Trinity member is the best saintly picker?

The Book Group will discuss *The Night Visitor* by Lucy Atkins at a date TBD. Perhaps others will enjoy this selection whether they are able to come to the book group or not! Prof. Olivia Sweetman has landed with a high-flying career as a TV presenter and historian, three children and a talented husband. But as she stands before a crowd at the launch of her new bestseller, she can barely pretend to smile. Her life has spiraled into deceit and if the truth comes out, she will lose everything. The only person who knows what Olivia has done is Vivian Tester, housekeeper of a Sussex manor who found the Victorian diary on which Olivia's book is based. And Vivian has secrets of her own. As events unfold, the relationship between these two women grows more entangled and complex, until a bizarre act of violence changes everything. The book group normally meets the first Wednesday of every month at 10:30 am in the Cleaves Room, the meeting for this selection will be determined at a later date. Please contact Linda Sauer at lindasauer@aol.com, for more information. *All are welcome!*

Flower Memorials continue – We will be continuing with altar flowers memorials for the Circle Drive. Fr. Ted will then distribute to our most isolated parishioners, as safety allows, during home communions or other pastoral visits. This is also a way to support local business in this time of economic shut-down.

Currently available: March 29 and April 19. Please contact Chris Larson at christinelarson400@gmail.com or 772-567-7665, to remember a loved one or give thanksgiving for a special person or event.

Easter Memorials – To make a special contribution for flowers, music, or both for Easter, please send your check, of any amount, to the office along with those names for the bulletins. Thank you! Even if we cannot worship in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, we will still use contributions for Easter flowers, to be distributed after worship, and to continue supporting our singers during this difficult time.

STORE HOURS RESERVED FOR SENIORS ONLY

- + **Target, Springfield Mall:** 7-8 am daily (1 hour before opening to the general public)
- + **Giant, Baltimore Pike:** 6-7 am daily (1 hour before opening to the general public)
- + **ACME, Baltimore Pike:** 7-9 am, Monday through Friday

Source: Strath Haven Condo Assn, with thanks to Janiece Oblak

POSTPONEMENTS

- + **Trinity's 125th Anniversary Gala** (previously scheduled for May 31)
- + **Trinity's "Moveable Feast"** (previously scheduled for Saturday, April 25)
- + **Episcopal Community Services' 150TH Anniversary Celebration**

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS THIS WEEK

WE GIVE THANKS...

For the power of God's Spirit to keep us connected in across time and space, in love and service.

For those celebrating their anniversaries: Susan and Bill Lawson;

For those celebrating their birthdays: Ron Dawson, Charlotte Hull, James Lundmark, Rosemary Fox, Linda Hauck, Samuel Perillo, Cathy Gardner, Hal Wilkinson, Matt Leonard;

For this nation and the world: For love and good works to conquer fear; for the Spirit of God to guide us through all challenges, especially in this time of global pandemic;

For the Episcopal Church: Michael, Our Presiding Bishop; and in the Diocese of Guatemala: Catedral Iglesia Episcopal Santiago Apostol, (Cathedral Church of Saint James), Guatemala City, The Rt. Rev. Bishop Armando Guerra;

In our Diocese of Pennsylvania, for Daniel, Our Bishop; Diocesan Programs: The Anglican Studies Program at the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, and for Merion Deanery, The Very Rev. Barry Harte, Dean.

AND IN THIS PARISH, WE PRAY...

For parish families of the week: Ann and Ed Harris, Ted Harris, Matt Haubrich, Linda Hauck and Tom Runiewicz, Eleanore and Theodore, Abigale Helms and Ian Donnellan

For healing and comfort: Constance, The Deppen family, Katie Egan, Tom Adams, Bob Koelle and Mona Terrell, Georgetta German, Ellie, Bernadette Blair, Martha Millett, Mark Pugh, Thomas Hill, Peggy Ferrari, Patrick Diggins, Jacqueline & Kevin Hogan, Leo Fox, May and Ethan Ball, Andrew Laverty, Peter Kane, Margaret, Judith, and Chuck Prudhomme.

For the homebound: Anne Abel, Barbara Salom, Nancy and Lin Urban, Alma Keech, Wallace Stroud, Marguerite Izbicki, Don Solenberger, Ed Harris, Suzanne Keer, Barbara St. John, Ellen Belk, and Catherine Jenkins;

For the departed: André Bramly;

And for others for whom prayers are requested, including: Lou Volpe, Eva Boudreau, Brenda Robinson, Marcy Holquist, Wes Vogel, Ellie, William & Susan Hicks, Ruth, Lucy Messick, the Harris Family, Andy, Ron Koch, Skip Werley, Christine Watson, Elizabeth, Cathy and her family, Mary & Steve Wietecha and Larry Johnson.

Prayer for People Critically Ill or Facing Great Uncertainty

*God of the present moment,
God who in Jesus stills the storm
and soothes the frantic heart;
bring hope and courage
to all who wait or work in uncertainty.
Bring hope that you will make them
the equal of whatever lies ahead.
Bring them courage
to endure what cannot be avoided,
for your will is health and wholeness;
you are God, and we need you.*

-Adapted from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 765

And a poem sent on by Jay Gillespie:

"Lockdown"

Yes, there is fear.
Yes, there is isolation.
Yes, there is panic buying.
Yes, there is sickness.
Yes, there is even death.
But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear.
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other
across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open
so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of the family around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.
Today a young woman I know
is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighborhood
So that the elders may have someone to call on.
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples
are preparing to welcome
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbors in a new way
All over the world, people are waking up to a new reality
To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.
So we pray and we remember that
Yes, there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes, there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes, there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.
Yes, there is sickness.
But there does not have to be the disease of the soul
Yes, there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing.

By Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM
Mindfulness Ireland



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