



January 2020

FROM OUR PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

THE REV. DR. ROB CAVANNA

Dates to Remember

A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR TO
EACH OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

1	The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
4	9:00am Women's Group
5	10:00am The Feast of the Epiphany, Second Sunday after Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist.
6	The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
11	9:30am-11:00am Book Club Brunch
12	10:00am First Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist. Confirmation Meeting with Deacon Georgia in nave.
13	The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ 1:00pm Bishop X Candidate Road Trip—St. Christopher's, Roseville
19	Second Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist Finance Committee and Vestry Meetings. Sweet Shoppe
20	Martin Luther King Day
25	9:00am Electing Convention, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral.
26	10:00am 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist.

How to Reach Us

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Advent came and flew by us. Didn't it? I hope that you spent time in prayer and reflection about preparing yourself to receive Jesus anew in your hearts. Dick and Ginny Anderson lit the candle of hope, Dave and Julie Raitz lit the candle of peace, Dan and Linda Krieger lit the candle of joy, Rosemary and Bob Sobalvarro lit the candle of love and Daryl Hermann and Deb Krogman lit the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve!

We again offered the Community-Wide Blue Christmas Service of Solace and Comfort. Deacon Georgia preached a very touching and moving sermon and we had numerous people from the community participate including people from Elk River Lutheran, Union Church **and others. The weather didn't cooperate and it impacted participation.** Thanks to all of you who participated in this very powerful liturgy of hope and comfort in spite of the weather. The Annual Advent/Christmas Pageant took the form of an Advent Festival of Lessons and Music. Our youth were some of the lectors and they did an excellent job. They were: Eric Andersen, Elijah Campbell, Gabriel Campbell, Vernis Campbell and Jackson Stewart. Other lectors were Jane Lindenfelser, Gail Weber and Ken Schultz.

Christmas Eve was a holy night with two Candlelight Services at 4:00pm and 8:00pm. Adelle and Elliot Robinson brought the Baby Jesus to the manger and placed the Baby in the crib while we sang Silent Night in the 4:00pm Eucharist. Dave Fensch did the same at the 8:00pm Eucharist. All in all, we had over 100 people involved **in this yearly celebration of Jesus' birth. Thanks to the Choir for** their singing at the 4:00pm service and to all those who came and sang at the 8:00pm service. Both were glorious and heartfelt celebrations. I have to say that I missed a number of you as we **thought offering a second service would meet almost everyone's** needs. Perhaps we will try a 4:00pm and a 6:00pm next year or a 5:00pm and 7:00pm. Please give me or the Vestry your feedback.

2019 is in the past and we need to look ahead to fresh starts and new beginnings. The Epiphany season offers us such an **opportunity. That's why I'd like to focus my article this month on** the Epiphany and what it means for you and me.

"Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem where 'he who has been born king of the Jews'. We have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him." So Matthew, alone among the Gospel

writers, records that extraordinary visit of the wise men which we celebrate for seven Sundays - the Feast of the Epiphany and the consecutive Sundays after the Epiphany. Ever since I was little I have been fascinated by this story. The thought of the strange Oriental figures following a star. I have often wondered what it is that caused these men who must have been wealthy, respected and no doubt comfortable – what made them leave their homes and go on this dangerous journey into a strange land. T.S. Eliot in the *Journey of Magi* imagines how difficult the journey must have been: “A cold [?] we had of it. Just the worst time of the year for such a long journey. The ways deep, the weather sharp, the very dead of winter.”

He imagines they must have thought of turning back: “There were times we regretted the summer palaces or slopes, the terraces and the silken girls bringing sherbert.”

Yet, Matthew tells us they persevered and reached their goal. They came to Jesus and bowed down and worshiped him. And then he says, “**they departed to their country by another way.**” Back to the summer palaces, the silken girls and sherbert? Yet how could they ever be the same again – for they had seen the Christ and they had believed.

T.S. Eliot, at the end of his poem writes, “we returned to our palaces, these kingdoms, but no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, with an alien people clutching their gods.”

God had broken into their comfortable lives and profoundly disturbed them. They had known they had to leave everything behind and follow that star.

So the Bible and the whole history of the Church is a continual story of this God breaking into people’s lives and disturbing them. Look at Paul: I am quite happy; thank you very much – **I’m proud that I was circumcised on the 8th day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews, a Pharisee, a zealous persecutor of the church** – as to righteousness under the Law I am blameless.

However God found a chink in his armor of pride and self-reliance – and he broke through it. **So bright was Paul’s Epiphany that he was blinded by it and for the rest of his life he suffered because of it.** He left all his security behind and followed his Lord into a world of risk, uncertainty, suffering, beatings, shipwrecks, imprisonment and death. Yet, he says in the Letters to the Philippians, everything I had before – status, wealth, education – I count as worthless because of the surpassing worth of having Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of everything – but I consider all that as rubbish if only I can have Christ.

History is strewn with such people: St. Anthony of Egypt, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Benedict, and maybe some of you at Holy Trinity: all who were living a comfortable, untroubled existence, until YOU experienced the Epiphany of God in their lives. And, like the first disciples, you left everything and followed Christ.

They weren’t masochists, somehow punishing themselves, as some kind of penance – **they changed their lives because they’d seen something better. They had glimpsed something or someone so wonderful that every thing which had seemed so important to them before was no longer important. As Donatus put it: “Christians are a quiet and holy people who have discovered a joy a thousand time better than this sinful world.”**

The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 11, describes the same thing with all the great figures of the Old Testament, from Abraham onwards who obeyed God’s call and left

behind their old existence and country because of the things promised by God. "They were not yet in possession of them, but they had seen them far ahead." For here we have no abiding city, but we seek they city that is to come."

What about you and me? Have you had experiences of God which have broken into your life: Moments of transcendence and meaning for you. They can be very disturbing. They can start making us feel guilty, or uneasy – make us ask difficult questions about our way of life. For some people, such experiences of God so threaten their lives **that they refuse to listen or respond and as a poet put it "they seal up their souls."**

Yet God will not allow us to live our lives on the purely materialistic level – he will carry on disturbing us, challenging us, making us feel uneasy, making us long for a **homeland beyond the familiar. Job says to his friends, "O have pity on me, for the hand of God is upon me!"** St. Augustine said, "Our heart is restless until it rests in you!"

The writer Castile said in a sentence which has always meant so much to me, "The misfortune of man/woman has its source in his greatness: for there is something infinite in him, and he cannot succeed in burying himself completely in the finite."

But by God we try! In that poem by T.S. Eliot, when the wise men return to their land, **changed by the encounter with God, they say "We returned to our palaces, but no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, with other people clutching their gods."** Those wise men had seen something so great that they were changed, no longer completely at home – and to return home and see those people clutching their gods – no, they must have felt **–they aren't going to help you – they're an illusion: you're called to be children of God –** your hope is in him, your life is hid with Christ, he is your life and your light and your salvation.

When you have grasped that you can't return to the old ways. When God disturbs you, breaks into your life – just when everything seemed nice and comfortable – be thankful – **for that is God's Epiphany to you! It is the source of our greatness and our dignity as children of God, that God won't let us be comfortable with the familiar,** the materialistic and the values of this world. We have here no abiding city! But we seek a city that is to come. You and I are on a pilgrimage, a journey towards God!

My prayer for each of us in 2020 is that God will come to you and me and challenge you and disturb you but that is only done to you so you may become more the person that God wants you to be – because then, and only then, will you know the answers to your longings – the peace of God which passes all understanding! Have a meaningful Epiphany season and many epiphanies!

In closing, thank you for your 2020 Pledges and your time and talents in God's service **all year long. Stewardship is "Everything we do after we say, "I believe."** Stewardship is a whole-life concept calling for the right use of all the resources that God has given us. Gratitude knows no season! Generosity is a year-round practice for Christians. Our theme this year was Shining Our Light and with your contributions our mission and ministries will continue to flourish. We believe that it is by virtue of our baptism that we are called to the ministry of stewardship all year long. We **appreciate very much too your generous response to this year's Christmas Appeal.**

Check the rest of the Newsletter for details about our next Feed My Starving Children Ministry Day and don't forget the Book Club/Group's brunch discussion of Mariann Budde's book, **Receiving Jesus: The Way of Love,** on Saturday, January 11, 2020, 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the Parish Hall. Men and women are welcome to participate.

Finally, a recent visitor wrote to me, "We were all mightily impressed by the friendliness of the Holy Trinity congregation. You have a true and lively Christian community." You instinctively and naturally bring people to Christ without oftentimes even knowing it. We continue to grow not just by numbers alone but for people looking for a spiritual home where Christ's love is practiced and preached. People are yearning for connections these days beyond a iPhone and "screen" time. They want true friends and genuine relationships. It's all here at Holy Trinity and it's because of each of YOU! Thank you for all you do all year long with your time, talent and treasure to build up the Body of Christ at Holy Trinity and most especially for striving every day to be true disciples of Jesus Christ!

Stay well, be good of heart and let go, let God! Make 2020 a year of abiding love in Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer!

Faithfully in the Christ Child,
Fr. Rob+

Holy Trinity Happenings - Epiphany Season

- Jan. 5 10:00am The Feast of the Epiphany, Second Sunday after Christmas, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship and news from Epiphany Royal follows in the Parish Hall.
- Jan. 6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Jan. 11 9:30am-11am Book Club Brunch. All men and women are welcome. ECMN Elected Bodies, Mpls.
- Jan. 12 10:00am First Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall.
Confirmation Meeting with Deacon Georgia follows in the nave. All those interested in Confirmation and Reaffirmation are asked to participate in this planning session. Those interested in Spiritual Practices will meet following the Confirmation session. Please see Deacon Georgia for details
- Jan. 13 1:00pm Bishop X Candidate Road Trip—St. Christopher's, 2300 Hamline Avenue N., Roseville
- Jan. 19 10:00am Second Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall. Sweet Shoppe. Finance Committee and Vestry Meetings follow in the nave.
- Jan. 25 **Electing Convention: St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral**
- Jan. 26 10:00am Third Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall.
- Feb. 16 All Parish Annual Meeting

Happy 2020, Holy Trinity!!

January carries so many places for me: the new year of course which brings an odd assortment of determining new lifestyle changes to try, my sister, mom, niece and **myself all have birthdays, and it has both the anniversary of my father's death and** my ordination. To top that all off, I will be honored to vote for the X Bishop on Jan 25th. My hope is that your January brings joy and hope to you.



I will also be busy trying new things with you all this month. The second book club brunch is Jan 11th, **so if you haven't already, pick up the book and join us. Our time together promises to be a** time of story sharing as we share blessings and challenges of our spiritual practices.

On Jan 12th, I am hoping to facilitate two meetings after church. The first, which should only take about a half hour, is for those interested in confirmation/reaffirmation to join with me to plan out six sessions for the months of Feb through April and so that I can introduce them to the guide we will be using. We will be focusing on the Baptismal Covenant as our grounding, and we may in the last month, be inviting the whole faith community to join us with a daily question as we finish up. If any of you are interested in confirmation or reaffirmation, please feel free to touch base with me for more information. The second group I hope to gather that day is those who are interested in a spiritual practices group, again a short meeting, to determine times and how often to meet, and to perhaps come up with topics or agenda for the first meeting.

I will also be connecting with those who had expressed interest in Eucharistic Visitor during the month either in person or by phone, with the hopes of having our first meeting be the last Sunday in January.

I also hope to have a meeting of the Intergenerational Community Building/Outreach group at some point in January so that we can brainstorm ideas and plan some events for all of us to connect in the coming months. More on that coming.

I also want to express my deepest gratitude to both Women's Group and the Vestry for providing the seed money to give this group something to work with as we dream and move forward. I also have been blessed by an individual donation to that budget line (you know who you are) and it brought continued confidence and hope for creating spaces for us all to connect around community building and outreach. I am still looking for youth and young adult involvement so... keep that in mind, Holy Trinity!

I look forward to serving with you in 2020!!

"May the nourishment of the earth be yours, may the clarity of light be yours, may the fluency of the ocean be yours, and may the protection of the ancestors be yours. And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you, an invisible cloak to mind your life". Poet John O'Donahue

God's best,
Georgia



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MINISTRY DAY

SATURDAY, February 8, 2020; 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Won't you join with other Trinitarians to pack food for starving children around the world?

Sign up on the sheet next to the office.

The Turning

Welcome to January 2, 2020. It's the turning of a new year. It's the turning of a new decade, on a gorgeous blue planet turning on its axis while turning from the winter solstice toward lengthening days as we travel around the sun. It's no surprise, then, that this is a time of year for us to consider turning in our own lives. And so, on this day, while those New Year's resolutions remain shiny and relatively untested, may we consider the ways in which we can turn in our own lives.

A Prayer for the Turning

Beloved Redeemer,
we greet your new year with open hearts:
fill them with your grace
that we may reflect your beauty
before the world.

May we turn our hearts
to shake out all the pieces of broken dreams
and rusted, dull aches and resentments
to which we cling,
that we may replace them
with the hope of new life and light
to which you call us in the coming year.

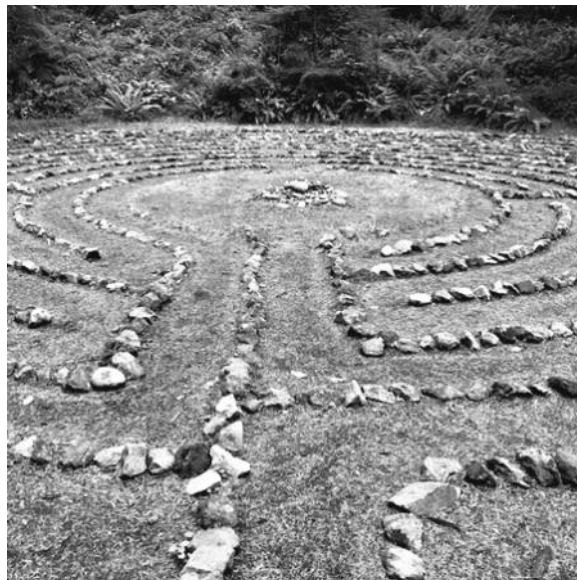
May we turn our feet
from all the paths that have not served us well,
and dedicate ourselves anew
to living with integrity and generosity,
at one with your wisdom, O Loving Creator.

May we turn our faces
toward the light of your promise, O Savior,
trusting in your goodness and mercy,
and allow our souls to be warmed
by your gospel sun dawning within them.

May we turn our tongues
to singing out your grace and truth
picking up the thread of melody
that flows from your call to follow You, O God,
and amplifying your beautiful hymn of life renewed
that echoes in creation.

May we turn our shoulders
to the wheels of justice and peace,
and turn our hands to join with each other,
resolute in standing as a bridge of mercy
in the breaches and chasms
that rend us one from another.

Spirit of Abundant Grace,
sustain us in our turning to You;
hover over us and lead us,
bless us and keep us,
and grant your blessing to those for whom we pray.
Amen.



Whidbey Institute Labyrinth

The Rev. Leslie Scoopmire is a writer, musician, and a priest in the Diocese of Missouri. She is priest-in-charge of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Ellisville, MO. She posts daily prayers at her blog [Abiding In Hope](#), and collects spiritual writings and images at [Poems](#).



Special Blessings to all our
January Birthday Trinitarians!

01 – Kylie Sheck	17 – Sherry Tyler
08 – AP Hopper	22 – Dan Krieger
12 – Ben Bastyr	26 – Stephanie Krieger
13 – Mikayla Warner	27 – Marilyn Bina
14 – Deacon Georgia Steele	30 – Tammy Whiteoak

SERVICE DICK ANDERSON

Happy New Year to everyone at Holy Trinity! Looking back, I hope everyone had a safe New Years Eve. I also want to thank everyone who helped at the many events we had in 2019.

A big thank you to the Woman's Group for Jim Pittman's funeral. When we have a funeral that large, it can be a challenge for everyone.

Safe travels to everyone in 2020.

Dick Anderson

JR. WARDEN GARY WEDL

Just a reminder, that sidewalks may still have to shoveled occasionally. The snow removal will only happen if there is more than two inches of snow. Any "dusting" of snow would be our responsibility. There is a sign-up sheet for anyone who is interested in helping out with this task.

Thank You, Gary



Help needed!!!

We need volunteers to shovel the sidewalks when it snows less than 2". There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Thanks!!

Altar Guild

Gail Weber
612-850-4250

Meals on Wheels

Call or see
Cheryl Ecklund
763-443-8637

Great River
Family Promise

Deb Krogman
763-225-7773

Senior Choir
& Contemporary
Ensemble Singers
& Musicians

Call or see Bea Bastyr
763-441-4068

Chalice Bearers/
Acolytes

Contact the Church office

Feed My Starving
Children

Entire parish
Contact the Church Office

Women's Group

Call or see:
Linda Krieger 763-441-7072

Men's Group

Call or see Ben Bastyr
763.441.4068

Feast Days in January

- 10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury 1645
- 18 The Confession of St. Peter the Apostle
- 20 Bishop Fabian, Martyr at Rome 250
- 23 Phillip Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts 1893
- 25 The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Looking Ahead: February

- 16 164th Annual All Parish Meeting
- 26 Ash Wednesday



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ministry Rota

If you are unable to fill your volunteer position, please make your own substitution and leave word with the office. ~ ~ Thank you! ~ ~

Ministry:	<u>January 5, 2020</u>	<u>January 12, 2020</u>	<u>January 19, 2020</u>	<u>January 26, 2020</u>
Greeter:	Jeanne Simonsen	Dan Krieger	Deb Krogman	Jane Lindenfelser
Child Care:				
Usher:	Gary Wedl	Dick Anderson	Dave Raitz	Adrian Russell
Acolyte:	Daryl Herrmann	Deb Krogman	Jon Lloyd	Deb Krogman
1 st Reader:	Eric Hawkins	Larry Brugger	Ken Schultz	Marion Marshall
2 nd Reader:	Jane Lindenfelser	Mary Brugger	Daryl Herrmann	Larry Brugger
Prayers:	Sue Nagorski	Jane Lindenfelser	Marion Marshall	Sue Nagorski
Chalice 1:	Molly Liberto	Scott Svoboda	Larry Brugger	Linda Krieger
Chalice 2:	Julie Raitz	Melanie Svoboda	Mary Dare	Julie Raitz
Counter:	Jennifer Warner	Jeff Nagorski	Molly Liberto	Ann Wedl
Coffee:	Cindy Dols-Finn	Sandy Sisson	Sweet Shoppe	Nancy Ingram



Our Mission Statement

Holy Trinity is a diverse, multi-cultural, growing, dynamic faith community rich in liturgy and music that serves Christ in all persons and does God's work in the world.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH			HTEC VESTRY MEMBERS		
Priest-in-Charge:	Fr. Rob Cavanna	320-339-4852	Senior Warden:	Sue Nagorski	612-868-9263 C
Deacon:	The Rev. Georgia Steele	651-338-2946	Junior Warden:	Gary Wedl	763-427-0776
Parish Admin:	Jen Haag	612-685-6139	Service:	Dick Anderson	612-812-2581 C
Director of Music:	Bea Bastyr	763-441-4068	Liturgy:	Daryl Herrmann	269-580-9040
Head Usher:	Dan Krieger	763-441-7072	Education:	Molly Liberto	763-742-2692 H
Altar Guild Chair:	Gail Weber	612-850-4250	Evangelism:	Nancy Lloyd	763-370-9598 C
Women's Group:	Linda Krieger	763-441-7072	Pastoral Care:	Sandy Sisson	763-267-7623
Men's Group Chair:	Ben Bastyr	763-441-4068	Treasurer:	Jeff Nagorski	763-234-5000 C
Youth/Sunday School:	Molly Liberto	763-742-2692	Vestry Clerk:	Joyce LeClaire	763-263-7740 C

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ	2 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal.	3	4 9:00am Women's Group, Parish Hall.
5 10:00am The Feast of the Epiphany, 2nd Sunday after Christmas, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall.	6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. 	7	8 10am-12pm Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment.	9 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal.	10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury 1645	11 9:30am-11:00am Book Club Brunch, Parish Hall ECMN Elected Bodies, Mpls
12 10:00am 1st Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall. Confirmation Meeting with Deacon Georgia follows in the nave.	13 1:00pm Bishop X Candidate Road Trip—St. Christopher's, 2300 Hamline Avenue N., Roseville	14	15 10am-12pm Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment.	16 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal.	17	18 Confession of St Peter, Apostle 
19 10:00am 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist & Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall. Sweet Shoppe. Finance Committee & Vestry meet after Coffee Fellowship.	20 The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Day  Bishop Fabian, Martyr at Rome 250	21	22 10am-12pm Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment.	23 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal. Phillip Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts 1893	24	25 Conversion of St Paul, Apostle 9:00am Electing Convention, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
26 10:00am 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship follows in the Parish Hall.	27	28	29 10am-12pm Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment.	30 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal.	31	<i>Every Sunday:</i> 10:00 Holy Eucharist and Sunday School 11:20 Coffee Fellowship

