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8am Holy Communion Rite I 10am Holy Communion Rite II  
10am Church School

## TRUMPET

April / May 2011

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### The Vicar's Voice

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*'And when the Centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said "Surely this man was the Son of God" Mark 15:39'*

Easter. It is a time of great celebration for all Christians – or is it? Do we enter into this Holy Season, one we have observed for so many years, with an attitude of Joy and expectation, or one of routine plans? Do we grasp the importance of Christ's gift to us or do we just keep on keeping on?

I thought about this today and about God and his relationship to us. I thought about this Centurion – how he saw what we are not able to witness firsthand, and how his heart was moved. And I thought about God – my relationship to him and the hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness, based on *Lamentations 3:22 & 23* ***"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness."***

The Centurion came to belief in Jesus because of what he personally witnessed. Thomas D. Chisholm wrote this hymn in

1960, not because of a one time dramatic experience, but because of his "morning by morning" realization of God's personal faithfulness in his daily life. He wrote "My income has never been large at any time due to impaired health in the earlier years which has followed me until now. But I must not fail to record here the unfailing faithfulness a covenant keeping God and that He has given me many wonderful displays of His providing care which have filled me with astonishing gratefulness".

When we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice for us, and ponder all the wonder and mystery of a God who died for us and gave us the gift of eternal life, let us too celebrate His unfailing faithfulness and steadfast love, shown to us new every morning and for eternity.

Great is Thy Faithfulness!  
Alleluia, Alleluia  
Rev Ellen

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### Inspirational Quote of the Month

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Prayer does not equip us for greater works – it is the greater work. *"Oswald Chambers"*

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### From The Deacon's Desk

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In my last article for the Trumpet, I shared how I loved the cold weather and the snow during the winter. I must say, with one snow storm after another and without melting between storms I was glad when

finally bare ground, buds on the trees and early flowers appeared. The squirrels are no longer trying to figure out a way to get into the bird feeder, they are up in the trees eating the new buds (I can't complain, less

leaves to rake next fall). It is a time of expectation of new life.

It is also a time to reflect on the gift we have been given by Jesus Christ, of eternal life, by taking all our sins to the cross when he was crucified. It is a time of sadness as we realize the price he had to pay for the gift He gave us. How often we assume this is a free gift, one we receive when we believe in

Him. It is not a free gift; we must turn all our sins over to him, as we do each time we confess our sins before the Eucharist. In this time of Lent, it is a time of asking for forgiveness and reflecting on the price He paid. Easter is also a time of joy when Jesus rose from the dead.

Peace, Deacon Knute

## **Warden's Letter**

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Well we had a couple of teaser days in March when the mercury hit 70 degrees, but then it got cold again; it looks like we've shoveled our last snow and the temperatures are on the way up, finally!! Now we've all gotten through that everlasting winter of ice and snow, we can really appreciate the joys of spring, cleaning up the church grounds, itchy eyes and endless April showers. Feels good doesn't it!!

In March Bishop Ian came to visit us and a good time was had by all, including the children, who got to find out why he needs such a big hat and walking stick, when he spoke with them during the service. Given the current weather, I hope that hat comes with a hidden umbrella that pops up! As usual the culinary delights provided by our

#1 hospitality team was tremendous, the lounge looked more like Mardi Gras than Lent!!! Many a Lenten resolution got wrecked at that feast; my own plan 'not to eat sausage' changed to 'no more than four sausages' a few minutes after the sausage & peppers were brought out!

Holy Week is almost upon us, a time that brings our Trinity family even closer as we go through this very emotional and spiritual period together. Dave and I look forward to our continued journey, sharing our lives, growing our faith and growing our Trinity family.

All glory be to God.  
Simon and Dave

## **Church School**

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Happy spring!! Each classroom will be displaying a presentation to celebrate both Earth Day and Arbor Day on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. The children will also be making a special Mother's Day craft on Sunday, May 8th.

Since many people will be away on the Memorial Day Holiday weekend, (May 29) we decided to cancel church school that Sunday. Rev. Ellen will keep the sermon short "not to test our children beyond their endurance". So please come and worship as a family. We would love to include any children in the worship service. So if you will be in church with your children, please let the office know and we will be happy to include them as a crucifer, usher, etc.

Wear your brightest red clothing and join us after church on Sunday, June 12 as we celebrate the day of Pentecost, which is observed 50 days after Easter.

It's hard to believe but our last day of Church School will be on Sunday, June 19. This is also Father's Day and Trinity Sunday. In honor of this very special day, we would like to have an extended coffee hour to celebrate! If you have a special brunch item you would like to share, please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Baked goods such as muffins, bread, bagels, doughnuts, cheese and crackers, fruit, small sandwiches or any type of finger food would be appreciated.

Please know how much I love spending time with your children. It has been such a

privilege to share the Gospel with them as we all grow in our faith together!  
Brenda Stapleton

## Altar Guild

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This month I wanted to talk about the Christian symbols or icons that can be found in the church. I was quite surprised how many I could find. Many of these symbols are hidden in the woodwork, on altar coverings and one is a stained glass hanging.

To begin, I will discuss the various symbols that are placed around the sanctuary and on altar coverings. Then I will give an overview of some of the symbols you will see on the altar coverings during holy week.



**The Latin cross** is a very simple cross and is probably the best known Christian symbol in present day. The symbol represents the cross of Jesus' crucifixion. During the early days of Christianity this symbol was rarely used, believers did not want to think about their Savior's death. It was, after all, the instrument upon which he died.



**The Greek cross** is also very commonly used and has a similar significance. The Greek cross suggests a Christian church rather than a symbol of Christ's suffering.



**The Jerusalem Cross**, is made up of one large Greek cross surrounded by 4 smaller crosses one in each quadrant. The small smaller crosses are said to symbolize either the four books of the Gospel or the four directions in which the "Word of Christ" spread from Jerusalem.



**Chi Rho** is one of the earliest forms of a christogram used by Christians and

dates back to the second century. It is formed by superimposing the first two letters in the Greek spelling of the word Christ "Chi and Rho" in a way to create a monogram.



**Alpha-Omega** symbols are often found along with the Chi Rho and they are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. In Revelation 1:8 Jesus declares that He is the "first and the last, the beginning and the end."



**IHS** is a very old symbol dating back to the first through third century. IHS is the abbreviation of the Greek name Jesus (Iasous) pronounced Hasous. The Latin phrase Iesus Hominum Salvator gives this symbol a dual meaning and translates to "Jesus, Savior of Men."

**The Trinity** is represented by the triangle and the trefoil. Christians believe in one God. We also believe in the One God that has three distinct beings. Those beings are: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. While they have three elements, they are one unified God.



The **triangle** is the perfect symbol for the Trinity. It has three equilateral sides and three equilateral angles. Each side is distinct but equal to the others



**Trefoil:** is a symbol of the Holy Trinity originating sometime in the tenth century and can be seen in a great deal of architecture created between the tenth to fourteenth centuries.



**Quatrefoil:** ubiquitous in Gothic architecture, the quatrefoil is said to symbolize the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John



The phoenix has been a Christian symbol since the first century and represents Jesus. The phoenix myth and the whole “rising from the ashes” idea is fairly common metaphor for bringing new life or rejuvenation. Here at Trinity Church the Phoenix is located in the window above the choir loft.

The story of the Phoenix.

The phoenix is said to have been an eagle-like bird with beautiful red and gold plumage that lived in Arabia. Only one phoenix existed at a time. Every 500 years, as it felt its life drawing to an end, the phoenix would build a nest of frankincense, myrrh, and other sweet smelling woods. When its time was completed, it would set its nest on fire (or the sun’s rays would ignite it) and the bird would be consumed in the flames. Three days later, the phoenix would rise again from the ashes, restored to youth to live out another 500 years. Because of these myths (believed by the Egyptians, Greeks, and Orientals), the bird came to symbolize Christ the resurrection and eternity.

Explanation of the symbols on the Altar coverings for Holy week:

The red coverings which are used between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday have a lamb on the pulpit hanging, dove on the lectern hanging and two crosses and a crown on the altar frontal are the explanations for crown, dove and lamb.

The Crown represents Christ, the King of Kings and eternal life.

The Dove on the lectern represents the Holy Spirit. It was the Holy Spirit that came

upon Mary and placed Jesus within her. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended like a dove and settled upon him. After Jesus’ death and before he ascended to heaven, he promised the disciples he would send them a helper, the Holy Spirit, to guide and teach them.



The Lamb on the pulpit: is Agnus Dei, which means” Lamb of God” This is a very ancient symbol of Jesus. The lamb illustrated on the pulpit hanging is lying on a book with seven seals, carrying the banner of victory. The lamb also has a three-rayed halo around its head showing it is part of the trinity. The book is thought to be the bible; the seals could represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit or the opening of the seven seals in Revelation:

### **Seven gifts of the Holy Spirit**

According to Isaiah 11, there are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- 1.) Wisdom, 2.) Understanding, 3.) Council,
- 4.) Fortitude, 5.) Knowledge, 6.) Reverence of the Lord, 7.)Piety

### **The Seven Seals**

According to the book of Revelation 5:12 there were seven seals

- 1.) Power, 2.) Thanksgiving, 3.) Wisdom,
- 4.) Fortitude, 5.) Honor, 6.) Glory, 7.) Blessing.



And finally here is the symbol of the Episcopal Church.

The altar guild is open to men, women and children who are interested in working behind the scenes to set up and clean up after services. We have a rotating schedule and are looking for additional members to help with linens, set-up for 8:00 & 10:00 services as well as cleanup after the 10:00 AM service. If you are interested or would like more information about the Altar Guild, contact me or Rev. Ellen. Martha

## Music Corner



Our bell choir continues to practice for Easter and Pentecost services. If you would like to join the bell choir, or have any other musical talents you would like to share, please let Jeff or Rev. Ellen know.

We are happy to have children as well as adults share in this important ministry of music. Please join us as you are able!

## Holy Week Schedule

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### Sunday, 4/17 -- PALM SUNDAY

*(Blessing of Palms @ 8 & 10am in Parish Hall with procession following into the Church)*

8:00 AM

Holy Communion Rite I

10:00 AM

Holy Communion Rite II

***Bake Sale following 8:00 & 10:00 am Svcs.***

### Wednesday, 4/20

10:00 am

Bible Study in West Lounge

12:00 Noon

Service of Holy Eucharist with the Sacrament of Healing – In Chapel

1:00 pm

Soup & Scripture in Parish Hall

### Thursday, 4/21 -- MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:00 PM

Maundy Thurs, Dinner in Parish Hall

7:00 PM

Worship Service with Holy Eucharist / Stripping of the Altar

### Friday, 4/22 -- GOOD FRIDAY

12:00 Noon

Holy Eucharist followed by Stations of the Cross

### Sunday, 4/24 -- EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 AM

Holy Communion Rite I

10:00 AM

Holy Communion Rite II

***Egg Hunt to follow 8:00 & 10:00 Services***

## Upcoming Events

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### ***Palm Sunday Bake Sale***

This Sunday is our Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale! We are looking for donations of baked goods such as cookies, cupcakes, brownies, etc. to see at the bake sale. *Thank you!*

### ***Maundy Thursday***

Come join us on April 21<sup>st</sup> for a potluck supper at 6pm, followed by our worship service concluding with the stripping of the altar.

### ***Good Friday***

Join us at 12 noon on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> for Holy Eucharist followed by Stations of the Cross.

### ***Easter Sunday – Egg Hunt for Kids***

Please help with our Easter Egg Hunt by donating candy and/or plastic eggs, or help hide eggs Easter Sunday. Egg Hunts will take place after the 8am & 10am services on Easter Sunday – rain or shine!

### ***March of Dimes – March for Babies***

"The Kaitlyn & Ashley Team is walking once again in the March for Babies Campaign. We are raising money to support March of Dimes research and programs that are helping prevent premature births. We will be walking at Jennings Beach on Saturday, April 30th at 10am and are very excited to have several Trinity Church members joining our team this year! If you are unable to walk, we would greatly appreciate your support. Please visit:

<http://www.marchforbabies.org/JocelynR> or contact the team captain, Jocelyn Russell, at 203-445-1323 or jcrussell31@yahoo.com for more details. Thank-you!"

### **Family Night**

Our next Family night will be Friday, May 20th. We invite all families with young children (ages 1 – 18) to come and have fun! We will cook a family meal together followed by a fun time of Christian Education.

## **Diocesan Events & Notices**

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### **ECW Luncheon**

The ECW's 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Luncheon will take place on Thurs. May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Aqua Turf in Southington CT. The cost is \$18 per person. Deadline to sign up

is Wed. April 13<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the office if you would like to attend this event. Carpooling will be available.

## **Did You Know?**

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### **Seeking New Ministers of Communion**

We are in need of Ministers of Communion for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's of each month. Please prayerfully consider joining this important ministry

Rev. Ellen Kennedy on the loss of her mother-in-law Doris.

### **Activities in Trumbull**

There are many free activities from concerts to kids activities offered by the Trumbull Recreation Department. *Please see posted newsletter!*

### **Men's Food, Fellowship and Study**

All men are invited to the Men's Food, Fellowship and Study which is held once a month. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011. Breakfast will be served.

### **St. John's Supper**

Our next dates to volunteer are April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information please contact the office.

There is time for fellowship and breakfast from 7:30 to 8:00 am and study from 8:00 to 9:00 am. We will be starting a new study based on James W. Moore's book "Jesus' Parables about Priorities". The Bible study is open to all men of Trinity and friends. Please come and invite a friend. All are welcome.

### **Help Starts Here**

Call 211 for your connection to: Alzheimer's resources, child care services, and many more. 211 is a partnership of Connecticut United Way and the State of Connecticut. *Please see posted brochures!*

### **Bible Study Group**

The 10am bible study group is going strong, with meetings on Wed. mornings at 10am. We are finishing up The Purpose Driven Life and will start the Screwtape letters by C.S. Lewis in the beginning of May.

### **People in the Hospital**

If you know of anyone who is in the hospital and would like a visit from clergy please call the office. *Thank You!*

### **2011 Altar Flowers**

2011 Altar Flower schedule is posted! Please sign up for the date you desire. Any questions? Please contact Louise Caterson.

### **Prayer Chain Ministry**

Anyone with prayers of an emergency nature should call Jocelyn Russell at 445-1323 or Louise Caterson at 378-8770. All requests are kept in confidence.

### **Our Condolences go to**

Colin Green on the loss of his beloved wife Eileen.

### **Wish List**

Our current wish list includes:

- Donations of any paper products are always welcome.

*Thanks to the Pellegrino family for the*

donation of the dehumidifier! Also, we thank Nicole & Joe Culotta for their

donation of wonderful paper supplies!

## **Thank You From...**

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Dear Friends in Christ,

It was wonderful to be with the people of Trinity Church Nichols on Sunday, March 20, when I was there for my Episcopal Visitation. Thank you very much for your good gift of \$100 to the Bishop's discretionary fund. We bishops use these funds to respond to urgent needs as they arise in our diocese and around the world, and we are grateful to be serving God's mission alongside you.

Lenten blessings to all.

Faithfully, Ian

A big thank you for all who have sent cards and other expressions of comfort to me and my family on the death of my mother-in-law, Doris Kennedy. I am blessed to have such a wonderful church family and your acts of kindness are very much appreciated.

Rev. Ellen

## **Calendar – June - July: Upcoming Events**

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**Trinity Sunday – Last Day of Church School**

Sunday, June 19 (Father's Day) is the last day of church school.

## **Meeting Schedule**

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### **May meeting schedule:**

- Wardens: Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm
- Finance: Wed., May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm
- Vestry: Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

### **June meeting schedule:**

- Wardens: Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm
- Finance: Wed., June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm
- Vestry: Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

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### **April Birthdays**

Paul MacKnight 4/1; Arlene Stalvey 4/2; Amanda Lucas 4/4; Jane Hansen 4/6; Cathy Bolton 4/7; Ron Stevenson 4/9; Jeff Baker 4/11; Bonnie Smith 4/13; Beth Bolton 4/15; Christian Medina 4/17; Albert Watson, Jr. 4/17; Austin Morano 4/18; Madeleine Buzzeo 4/19; Matthew Miranti 4/25; Ashley Longo 4/26; Clifford Hartmann 4/27.

### **May Birthdays**

Evelyn Schiffer 5/4; Marc Grandmaison 5/4; Leah Kuhnen 5/6; Ellen Kennedy 5/8; Larry Neumann 5/10; Russ Battista 5/16; Richard Linane 5/16; Doris Berg 5/18; Colin Green

5/21; Jake Robison 5/21; Jason Stevenson 5/22; Pat Robson 5/23; Michael Sarni 5/24; Lily MacKnight 5/24; Christian Medina Jr. 5/26; Bond Koteas 5/27; Caroline McCloskey 5/27; John McCloskey 5/30.



### **April Anniversaries**

Patricia & Trevor Fox 4/29.

### **May Anniversaries**

Kiely & Paul MacKnight 5/6; Sylvia & Christian Medina 5/30; Jocelyn & Craig Russell 5/31.

*\* Please call the Parish Office if someone's birthday or anniversary has been omitted. Thank you!*

We are always happy to welcome visitors. Please remember to invite your neighbors and friends to our services and programs!

### **Trinity Staff**

Rev. Ellen Kennedy, Vicar ~ Sharon Buzzeo, Parish Administrator ~ Jeff Stokely, Organist  
Brenda Stapleton, Church School Director/Youth Coordinator ~ Michael Stapleton, Sexton