

***“Every house is built by some one, But the builder of all things is God.”  
-Hebrews 3:4***

As early as 1815 Episcopal services were held in private homes in Nichols by clergy from surrounding parishes. On November 9, 1847, Trinity Episcopal Church was incorporated by the Ecclesiastical Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Encouraged and assisted in the formation of their church by the Rev. Gordon Coit, D.D., of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, a group of Nichols Farms' residents gathered in the home of James B. Curtiss to pen the act of incorporation.

The twelve families of the new church, no longer satisfied with meeting in different homes, began raising funds to build a church of their own. In December 1847 they chose a spot on a hill overlooking the surrounding farmland at the corner of Huntington Turnpike and Jerusalem Hill Road. While construction was underway, the Rev. Enoch Huntington, Trinity's first rector, held worship services in the homes of parishioners. In May 1849, Trinity Episcopal Church was consecrated.

The Peet Memorial Parish Hall was built in 1923. The present rectory and grounds surrounding it were given to Trinity Church in 1933 from the estate of George and Elizabeth Peet. The church was moved from its original location to its present one in 1942 to accommodate the newly built Parkway. The original Peet family residence became the rectory. The mission became a parish in 1958.

Trinity faced its greatest ordeal in 1969 when the original church was destroyed by fire. The church was rebuilt and Peet Memorial Parish Hall, which had been a separate building, was incorporated into the new structure. The present church was dedicated in November 1970.

The church, built after the original was destroyed by fire in 1969, is in the traditional white New England style. The nave seats a maximum of 216 people, and the choir loft seats approximately 25. An Allen organ and tower chimes are also housed in the choir loft. The church is handicapped accessible and has space to accommodate two wheelchairs in the nave.

On the main floor is the rector's office, parish office and sacristy. A small chapel, constructed from artifacts salvaged from the original church, seats approximately twenty. The Peet Memorial Parish hall, adjoining at the back of the church, contains a large meeting room and kitchen.



### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

Established in 1848. This church originally built on "Jerusalem Hill" overlooking Long Island Sound was re-located to just opposite of the Village Green in Nichols when the Merritt Parkway was built.



**The Phoenix** is an early Christian symbol for the Resurrection and Renewal; Greek mythology recounted that a golden and scarlet-hued bird, more splendid than the eagle, rose anew from the ashes of its own conflagration every 500 years. This glorious figure, then, is the perfect symbol for the renewed spirit of Trinity Parish following our fire.