

# Trinity Tidings

July 2021

## Independence Day 2021



I hope everyone will have a joyous and safe Fourth of July holiday. We have much to celebrate and be thankful for at this time.

After many months of not being able to travel to various places or visit with other persons, a full life begins to emerge. We greet this Independence Day with a renewed sense of liberty and freedom.

Let us remember that at a time when most of humanity around the world accepted the rule and authority of monarchs and autocrats as common place, a republic came into being. This was not an easy task to accomplish. Now, today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, our process of self-determination as a nation continues.

The summer months are a time when I like to learn more about the history of The Episcopal Church. Independence Day brings to mind the connection this Church has with our country's early history. And since that time, much has occurred in the narratives of both the nation and the Church.

The first Book of Common Prayer authorized for use in The Episcopal Church (1789) chartered a new course for the life and worship of its people. This was expressed by the words of its Preface, which outlined a statement of purpose for the Church during a unique time in history.

This Preface remains readily available for us to read as it forms the introduction to our current prayer book. Those Episcopalians who gathered at Philadelphia after the Revolutionary War articulated a desire to remain in fellowship with The Church of England (The Anglican Church), yet also stressed that the relationship that existed prior to that time had changed.

One particular paragraph of this text stands out to me, which is printed below for you to read and ponder its message. I invite you to join with me and take some time to seek out various materials that tell the narrative of the Church throughout the centuries. You will discover a wonderful and meaningful narrative.

*But when in the course of Divine Providence, these American States became independent with respect to civil government, their ecclesiastical independence was necessarily included; and the different religious denominations of Christians in these States were left at full and equal liberty to model and organize their respective Churches, and forms of worship, and discipline, in such a manner as they might judge most convenient for their future prosperity; consistently with the constitution and laws of their country.*

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 9.

--- Blessings and Peace, Fr. Jim

### ***Important dates in July:***

#### **Summer Worship Schedule:**

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite Two.

**Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, July 20, at 6:00 p.m.

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## Episcopal News Service

### How does prayer affect pain? This priest is leading a medical research study to find out.

[www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org)

Posted: June 2, 2021

By Heather Beasley Doyle

When the Rev. Dr. Marta Illueca was a child, her Roman Catholic family was traditional and powerful. Her father Jorge was elected president of Panama in between stints as president of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly; her mother was a teacher-turned-nurse who went to graduate school in her 60s before establishing Panama's first nursing school. Illueca's focus was different. "I was very spiritual and very curious about the whole process of spirituality, even beyond Christianity," she said. That interest deepened in 1971, when Illueca was 12 and her 22-year-old sister Linda died of an undiagnosed heart condition. Illueca focused her early studies on medicine — until hearing the call to ministry in her 50s.

Now 61 and an ordained Episcopal priest at [Brandywine Collaborative Ministries](#) in Delaware since 2019, Illueca is bringing her medical and religious expertise to a [research project](#) on what types of prayers are most helpful to patients with chronic pain. A 2019 survey found that chronic pain affected approximately [20% of adults in the United States and 7.4% had chronic pain so severe that it limited their activities](#). Officially launched last fall as the first project of the [Pain and Prayer Collaborative](#), the study is a joint effort of the [Episcopal Church in Delaware](#) and [Brigham and Women's Hospital](#) in Boston, Massachusetts.

"Health care is starting to open up to spirituality, but if you don't have data, then you're going to be kept at bay, or at a distance," said Illueca. As clergy-medical liaison, she is co-leading the study with pain psychologist [Samantha Meints](#). Illueca's position is funded by a 2020 [United Thank Offering](#) grant and supported by the Episcopal Church in Delaware.

The investigation, which Illueca calls "the poster child" of a church/academia research model, aims

to measure how active versus passive prayers affect chronic pain. An active type of prayer is, "Help me endure this, help me get through this," Meints said, whereas passive prayer sounds more like, "God, please take my pain away."

The study focuses on personal prayer, in which one prays for oneself, rather than on intercessory prayers, which are offered by one person on behalf of another. The data will come from the results of an online questionnaire of participants' prayer practices and pain. From the results, Illueca and Meints will design a prayer tool, written as a brochure outlining the types of prayers most likely to help people cope with chronic pain and, hopefully, feel better. The brochure will be available not only to patients but also to hospital chaplains, clergy and others.

People of all faiths who believe in the power of prayer are invited to complete the questionnaire. As of early May, 140 people had completed it; Illueca and Meints hope to have 400 to 500 by early June. They'll evaluate their findings this summer, aiming to have results in September.

The study's connections to the academic, medical and religious worlds make this partnership unique, according to [Dr. Benjamin Doolittle](#), who serves as director of the Yale Program for Medicine, Spirituality & Religion. "That is very unusual. Big academic medical centers partner with each other all the time," he said. "What we don't see is academic medical centers partnering with the church in a very intentional way."

According to a 2018 article in the [AMA Journal of Ethics](#), even though religion is important to their patients, doctors avoid the subject: "Believing the question is outside their expertise, worrying that they will say the wrong thing, or having discordant beliefs regarding religion, physicians are not sure what to say," the authors wrote.

Doolittle hopes the Pain and Prayer Collaborative will further the conversation about prayer in medicine. "Our patients practice these interventions, and it can be very helpful to say, 'Yes, these are good things to do. We have data to show it makes a difference,'" he said, adding that it's equally important if the study shows that prayer doesn't make a difference.

Delaware Bishop Kevin Brown expressed hope for Illueca and Meints' work. "It would be tremendous if their thesis [that active prayers have a greater positive impact on chronic pain than other kinds of prayers] is proven true, that they're able to create a scale that allows medical professionals to use prayer as a viable treatment for chronic pain," he said. Doolittle agreed: "We need to do these kinds of studies because it's a way for the medical community to give credence to this important adjunctive therapy for pain. So we need data," he said.

Earlier in Illueca's career, when she was practicing pediatric medicine at New York City hospitals, she traveled to sacred places and developed a reading program to further her spiritual development. "My sister's death was pivotal in opening up my 'spiritual' gifts, and it was the start of a lifelong soul search that eventually led me to my priesthood," Illueca said.

In 2003, nearly two decades into her clinical work and ready for a career change, Illueca moved to Delaware to work for AstraZeneca, eventually becoming the biopharmaceutical company's medical affairs officer. "In that period of time, I stumbled upon The Episcopal Church," Illueca said. [Christ Church Christiana Hundred](#) in Wilmington became her spiritual home in 2010, and Illueca learned that The Episcopal Church ordained female priests. She became active in her congregation, going on mission trips to the Dominican Republic. "That's when the vocational calling to priesthood came alive. It just sort of unfolded," Illueca said. "All of a sudden these new doors were opening."

She retired early from AstraZeneca in 2014 to enroll in [Berkeley Divinity School](#) at Yale University. In her last year at AstraZeneca, she had met [Dr. Daniel Carr](#), director and founder of Tufts University's [Pain Research, Education & Policy program](#), while working on a medication for pain patients. Illueca sensed an opportunity to combine medicine and spirituality through pain treatment and studied part time at Tufts while completing her master's degree at Yale full time; upon graduating from Yale, she studied full time at Tufts.

At Tufts, Illueca did a systematic review of existing research into pain and prayer, working with Doolittle, who is also a physician and a pastor. As Illueca analyzed past studies, she realized those

that found prayer had no positive effect on pain drew upon the results of one specific coping styles questionnaire. "I thought, 'Something's not right here,'" she said. It turned out that the questionnaire only specified prayers asking God to take the pain away.

Then she came across Meints' research into [active versus passive prayer as a tool for pain management across race](#), which showed that while Black patients prayed more than non-Black patients, their pain tolerance was lower.

"We know in the broader [literature](#) that prayer and religiosity are generally predictors of better health outcomes, not worse, so it was a bit perplexing," Meints said. She found, as Illueca had, that earlier studies had only included passive prayers, as opposed to active and empowering prayers.

Compelled by Meints' findings, Illueca sought her out, and the two finally connected in person in May 2019. Illueca proposed partnering on a study that would combine Meints' "pioneering work" and her own theological credentials, she said. Equally compelled, Meints agreed. Their work together, Illueca stressed, continues to evolve, in part because it is so new. "This is happening as we speak," she said.

Illueca and Meints view their study through slightly different lenses: one guided by data, one by the spirit. "In research, bias is something you want to avoid. I am a religious, spiritual person, so I am biased. There's no way around it. I believe in prayer in a depth that others may not," Illueca said. "Samantha [Meints], whom I consider very spiritual, is not religious at all, apparently. So, therefore, she goes strictly by the data, and I tease her because I say, 'What you call the data, I call the Holy Spirit.'"

Illueca sees in this study the potential for pastoral care workers to "walk into the health care space and say, 'Science has validated this, and I want my voice to be heard,'" she said. For her part, Meints hopes this will be the first of many Pain and Prayer Collaborative studies: "People pray in response to pain, and we want to be able to capitalize on that and make it the most useful for them."

– Heather Beasley Doyle is a freelance journalist, writer and editor based in Massachusetts.

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## Anglican News Service

### Scientists and theologians join forces for new Anglican Communion Science Commission.

[www.anglicannews.org](http://www.anglicannews.org)

Posted: May 21, 2021

ACSC will “resource the whole Anglican Communion for courageous and confident spiritual leadership in issues involving science.”

A new Anglican Communion Science Commission (ACSC) is being formed to “resource the whole Anglican Communion for courageous and confident spiritual leadership in issues involving science.” The ACSC will be co-chaired by the Archbishop of Cape Town, Thabo Makgoba; and the Bishop of Oxford, Stephen Croft.

The ACSC will formally launch at the Lambeth Conference in Canterbury, England, in July and August next year; and will hold its first conference shortly afterwards.

Scientists, theologians, and bishops from around the globe are being invited by the Anglican Communion’s Secretary General, Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, to serve as Commissioners. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has asked Anglican Communion Primates to nominate a Bishop from their Church to serve as provincial representatives at conferences of the Commission.

Science will be a significant feature at the 2022 Lambeth Conference. Today, organizers have posted a series of videos, exploring the relationship between science and faith, on [the Lambeth Conference website](#).

In an introductory video, the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, spoke of the importance of science, saying: “it is scientific advance that has lifted so many people out of poverty. It is scientific advance that has enabled the world to feed itself.

“It is widespread science that has enabled us to produce vaccines at a speed that even five years ago – a year ago – would have been thought unimaginable. It is science that has begun to give us a big picture of our place in the world. It is science that has driven

our consciousness of the danger to the world from climate change – and what we can do about it in the future.

“In all these things, it is science which has been a gift to human beings.” He continued: “But the reaction of the Church has, for many years – and many centuries one might say – been very cautious about science and remains so today. Or there is fear.

“We talk about human beings playing at being God, we talk about loss of control; of changes to DNA. We talk about all kinds of things that lead to people being frightened. And particularly as we move and look forward over the next 10 or 20 years, if we think it has been quick so far, as President Reagan used to say: ‘you ain’t seen nothing yet.’

“That is a reason why Christians need to be both knowledgeable and able to ask questions and think about science.”

Among the scientists who have agreed to be Commissioners are Dr Derrick Aarons, the Chief Executive Officer at the Health Professions Authority in the Turks and Caicos Islands; Professor Kwamena Sagoe, Head of Virology at the University of Ghana’s Department of Medical Microbiology and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Clinical Virology; and Dr Heather Payne, a consultant pediatrician and Senior Medical Officer for the Welsh Government.

Theologians serving as Commissioners include Professor Joseph Galgalo, former Vice Chancellor and Associate Professor of Theology at Saint Paul’s University in Limuru, Kenya; Professor Jennifer Strawbridge, Associate Professor in New Testament Studies at the University of Oxford in the UK; and Professor Andrew Briggs, Professor of Nanomaterials at the University of Oxford, an expert in acoustic microscopy and materials for quantum technologies.

Professor Briggs is also acting as convenor of the ACSC as it begins its work ahead of its formal launch at next year’s Lambeth Conference. The Anglican Communion Science Commission will have [webpages on the Anglican Communion website](#).

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## Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

May 18, 2021

### As approved at the June Meeting

**Present:** William Roberts, Senior Warden; Sue Torrance, Junior Warden; Jack Torrance; Karin Wheelock; Janeil Rey; Doreen Gould; Lucille Bryant; Virginia Becker, Treasurer; and, The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

#### **Excused:**

**Call to Order:** Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., followed with opening prayer.

**The Meeting Agenda** was approved as given, as moved by Doreen Gould, seconded by Lucille Bryant.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Doreen Gould, seconded by Lucille Bryant, to approve the April 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** Virginia Becker reported. A motion was made by Lucille Bryant, seconded by Doreen Gould, to receive the treasurer's report. The treasurer's written report was received as submitted and reported. See attached.

- Stewardship revenues continue close to expected.
- On May 1, a deposit was made from the Snowden Lane cash account in the amount of \$1,201.09 to pay for the new undercroft dehumidifier, which vestry allocated funds for in October 2020.
- Trinity Masterworks Account: Paperwork was submitted to LSS in April to designate approved signers for this account, per vestry resolution. The treasurers will deposit donations into this account.
- Karin Wheelock, Asst. Treasurer, has been shadowing the Treasurer, learning the ins and outs of Trinity's finances. The Treasurer is grateful for Karin's interest and willingness to embrace this position.

**Memorial Fund Report:** Virginia Becker reported.

- Current balance: \$2,867.28. No change since last meeting.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Fr. Clement reported.

- A new dehumidifier for the undercroft was purchased and delivered to the church. This purchase was made with the manufacturer online and by phone. Gugino Heating and Plumbing installed an elevation pump and new connection for water to be drained outside of the building.
- The toilet in the Garland Hall bathroom was repaired by Gugino Heating and Plumbing.
- A message was left with Restoration Services about possible repair made to the steps at the church entrance.
- Vestry thanks Rick Mekus for his continued work of lawn care for this church. Fr. Clement will send him a thank you note.
- In conjunction with the new dehumidifier, two damp-rid products were purchased from Walmart and placed in different locations in the undercroft.
- Fr. Clement sent a thank you note to Southpaw Signs for their work on the new exterior church sign.

**Caregivers:** Sue Torrance reported.

- All is well with this outreach.

**Outreach:** Karin Wheelock reported.

- We continue with the collecting of canned goods for Rural Ministries. Information will be provided in the June parish newsletter.

**Episcopal Church Women:** No report.

**Flower Guild:** Melisa Eichmann provided a written report.

- April balance: \$863.20. One invoice was paid to *Fresh and Fancy Flowers* (Easter Flowers) in the amount of \$130.00 on April 24. Ending balance: \$733.20.
- May balance: \$733.20. One invoice was paid to *Brigiotta's* (Easter lilies and tulips) in the amount of \$210.00 on May 13. Ending balance: \$523.20.

**Rector's Report:** Fr. Clement reported.

- Sunday worship services both online and in-person continue.

- Clergy of the Partnership dioceses will hold an online meeting tomorrow. Guidelines relating to the pandemic will be discussed at this meeting.
- Beginning Sunday, June 6, we change to the summer worship schedule. There will be one service of Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- Fr. Clement has returned to conducting full in-person home visitations. He is now fully vaccinated against coronavirus.
- Fr. Clement will take vacation time in early June. The Revd. Elizabeth Hadaway will be celebrant and preacher on Sundays, June 6 and 13, in his absence.

**Old Business:**

- Trinity Masterworks Committee: Karin Wheelock moved, seconded by Janeil Rey, to approve the formation of the Masterworks Choir Committee. Its work will provide oversight for this unique program at Trinity, as well as oversee its function and relationship with the wider community. Persons serving on this committee are: Melisa Eichmann, Doreen Gould, Carol Hardenburg, Judy Reynolds, and Sue Torrance. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department: A motion was made by Janeil Rey, seconded by Karin Wheelock, for the parish to make a donation in the amount of \$100.00 to the fire department’s 2021 Fund Drive. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. with a motion made by Doreen Gould. Father Clement offered a closing prayer. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.  
Respectfully Submitted by: Sue Torrance, Acting Clerk.



**Thank You!**

Many thanks for your generosity toward our canned goods collection for Rural Ministries. Your donation will help persons in the local area who are in need.

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**Lectionary Readings in July:**

[www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

Sunday, July 4

*Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 9*

Ezekiel 2:1-5  
Psalm 123  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

Sunday, July 11

*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 10*

Amos 7:7-15  
Psalm 85:8-13  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Mark 6:14-29

Sunday, July 18

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 11*

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Sunday, July 25

*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 12*

2 Kings 4:42-44  
Psalm 145:10-19  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21

**Parish Register**

Burial

Nicholas P. Calanni  
*June 18, 2021*

**The Collect: For the Nation**

*Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 258

## Birthdays in July

- 2 Jack Torrance
- 4 Frank Pullano
- 5 Ryan Yerico
- 6 Patti Cooper
- 7 Robert Maytum, Jr.
- 7 Larry Harris
- 7 Tommy Kramer
- 9 Jennifer Caroselli
- 10 Rebecca Sedlmayer
- 12 Joseph Hermanck
- 13 Chris Eichmann
- 15 Kathryn McCloskey
- 16 Peggy Marsh Begier
- 21 Elizabeth Smith
- 22 Shawn Kinney
- 23 Sally J. Ludlum
- 23 Dean Shaw
- 24 Julie Maytum
- 26 Joel Hudson
- 30 Dave Sherman

## Wedding Anniversaries in July

- 10 Jan and John Ingham
- 14 Cindy and Bob McCloskey
- 31 Lee and Maureen Blackburn

## In Memoriam

- 2 Helene Babcock
- 2 Marion Sonnenfield
- 7 Robert Smith
- 14 Susan Roberts

## Trinity Tidings

### Trinity Episcopal Church

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467  
Fredonia, NY 14063  
Office: 716-679-7901  
Email: [office@trinitychurchwny.org](mailto:office@trinitychurchwny.org)  
[www.trinitychurchwny.org](http://www.trinitychurchwny.org)

**Parish Office Hours:** Varied due to pandemic.

### Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, *Rector*  
[rector@trinitychurchwny.org](mailto:rector@trinitychurchwny.org)  
Dr. Ji Hyun Woo, *Organist and Director of Music*  
Sara Jagoda, *Sexton*

### The Vestry of the Parish

William Roberts, Sr. Warden  
Sue Torrance, Jr. Warden  
Janeil Rey  
Karin Wheelock  
Lucille Bryant  
Doreen Gould  
Jack Torrance  
Virginia Becker, Treasurer

**Sunday School:** Janeil Rey and Audrey Parker

**Outreach:** Diane Sercu

**Trinity ECW:** Doreen Gould

**Sunshine Group:** Maureen Blackburn

**Prayer Chain:** Mary Lou Sherman

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Ann Sullivan

**Altar Guild:** Jeanette Adamczak

**Flower Guild:** Melisa Eichmann

**No *Worship Server* schedule for the month of July.**

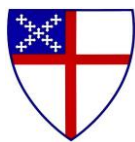
Service participants for Sunday services have been provided a schedule.

## Happy Independence Day!



Trinity Episcopal Church  
11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467  
Fredonia, New York 14063

Volume 4, Issue 7 — July 2021



# *Trinity Tidings*



*The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church*

*“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”  
Ephesians 1:2*