

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple



Wednesday, February 2, is the day to observe this special feast day. A summary of this occasion, from Lessor Feasts and Fast 2018, is as follows:

Today's feast is sometimes known as the Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin, and also as Candlemas. In the Eastern Church it has been called the Meeting of Christ with Simeon. Such a variety of names is ample testimony to the wealth of spiritual meaning that generations of Christians have discovered in this small incident.

The title, "The Presentation," reminds us of the Jewish law (Exodus 13:2;22:29) that every firstborn son had to be dedicated to God in memory of the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt, when the firstborn sons of the Egyptians died and those of Israel were spared.

When Mary placed her small son into the arms of Simeon, it was the meeting of the Old and New Dispensations. The old sacrifices, the burnt offerings and oblations, were done away; a new and perfect offering had come into the temple. God had provided himself a lamb for the burnt-offering (Genesis 22:8), his only Son. The offering was to be made once for all on the cross. At every Eucharist those who are in

Christ recall that sinless offering and unite "themselves, their souls and bodies" with the self-oblation of their Lord and Savior.

It is traditional that candles are blessed on this day, for use throughout the rest of the year, which is why the feast is also sometimes known as "Candlemas" (pg. 106).

The Gospel of Luke recounts this event for us. As Mary and Joseph arrive at Temple they are met by an elderly, holy, and learned man, Simeon. Having spent much of his time in study and prayer for the arrival of the Messiah, he had been promised by God that he would truly see the Messiah before his death.

As Simeon receives the infant Jesus into his arms, he proclaims: *Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised. For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, whom you have prepared for all the world to see. A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).*

These words of Simeon have become the canticle, *The Song of Simeon*. Also known as *Nunc dimittis*, meaning "now let depart" in Latin, it is principally recited during the Daily Office of Evening Prayer.

When we say these words, recall that the presence of Jesus in life has transformed both our relationship and our understanding of God. We recall that Simeon held in his arms the tangible essence of salvation.

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple reminds us that we all share in the receiving of this divine gift.

Peace, James+

Important dates in February:

Sundays: 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. I;
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. II;
Godly Play Program, 10:30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting: To be scheduled at Annual Parish Meeting.

TECW Meeting: Saturday, Feb. 5, Garland Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Take Home Epiphany Tea: Sunday, Feb. 6, following the 8:00 and 10:30 services.

+ + +

Episcopal News Service

Trinity Wall Street funds housing for homeless college students

www.episcopalnewsservice.org

Posted: January 11, 2022

By: Egan Millard

Trinity Church Wall Street, the Lower Manhattan parish that financially supports nonprofits and churches in New York City and around the world, is now funding an urgent need in its neighborhood: student housing. The church [announced in December](#) that it is granting \$2 million to provide housing for homeless students enrolled at Borough of Manhattan Community College.

The grant will allow BMCC, a branch of the City University of New York system with a campus in Lower Manhattan, to open a dorm-like space that is easily accessible to the campus, housing up to 50 students for three years. BMCC has narrowed it down to two locations and expects to begin housing students in the spring, said Bea de la Torre, managing director for housing and homelessness at Trinity.

All the students will be housed together with a residential adviser, de la Torre told Episcopal News Service.

“They won’t be scattered around. The idea is also that sense of community that they can build could be really helpful,” de la Torre said. “Any additional supports that they need ... are going to be in close

proximity to where they’re living, and they can then tap into that.”

A 2018 [survey by The Hope Center](#) of 22,000 students across the CUNY system found that 14% had experienced homelessness in the previous year – most of them staying with friends or family temporarily, with 2% in hotels, 1% living outdoors and 1% in shelters. In the same survey, 55% of students reported experiencing housing insecurity in the previous year – defined as “a broad set of challenges such as the inability to pay rent or utilities, or the need to move frequently.”

Those statistics reflect a [national problem](#), fueled by a widespread lack of affordable housing, [skyrocketing tuition and stagnant wages](#). The same Hope Center survey [administered to over 195,000 students around the country in 2020](#) also showed 14% of two-year students reporting homelessness in the past year, and 52% reporting housing insecurity.

De la Torre remembers reading a news story about the 2018 CUNY survey and being “shocked” by the numbers.

“I had been working in the field for over a decade and it was something that I hadn’t really thought about,” she said. “So I sort of became a little bit obsessed with the idea of – we need to do something about this. The problem is so huge.” This past summer, Trinity [gave a planning grant](#) to the nonprofit Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter for a pilot student housing program.

“They’re really looking at a long-term solution,” de la Torre told ENS, “but in the meantime, all these students are homeless or housing-unstable. And we could do something ... right in Trinity’s neighborhood.”

When de la Torre reached out to BMCC, “they could not have been more excited about the opportunity,” she said.

BMCC will determine the eligibility criteria because “they’re really the ones who know how to figure it out,” de la Torre said, adding that meeting the students’ housing needs will hopefully allow them to focus on their studies, making them more likely to graduate. She also hopes that the partnership can serve as a model for other institutions.

“One of the amazing things about working at Trinity is that we can do things like this and then show other funders, ‘Come and join us.’ It’s always really hard to get that first funder,” she told ENS.

The \$2 million grant is part of a [record-high giving year for Trinity](#), which gave out \$46 million in grants in 2021, up from \$33.6 million in 2020. As of 2020, it had a [\\$6.5 billion endowment](#) of real estate and investments, thanks to a gift of 215 acres in Manhattan from Queen Anne in 1705.

– Egan Millard is an assistant editor and reporter for Episcopal News Service.

+ + +

Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

December 21, 2021

As approved at the January 2022 meeting

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

Call to Order: Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., with an opening prayer.

The Meeting Agenda was approved as given, as moved by Jack Torrance, seconded by Janeil Rey.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by William Roberts, seconded by Karin Wheelock, to approve the November 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting: A motion was made by William Roberts, seconded by Karin Wheelock, to approve the December 5, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Finance / Building and Grounds

Finance: Virginia Becker reported. A motion was made by Sue Torrance, seconded by Janeil Rey, to receive the treasurer’s report. The treasurer’s written report was received as submitted and reported. See attached.

- **General Fund:** Bills are paid as received and payroll is met.

- **Stewardship:** Sixty-one letters were distributed, with thirty-seven responses so far.
- **Line of Credit:** NYS Attorney General has approved the requested change. A new agreement with LSS forthcoming.

Memorial Fund Report: Virginia Becker reported.

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

Buildings and Grounds: Fr. Clement reported.

- The area carpet ordered for the Godly Play room is in transit for delivery at the church.
- Church organ was recently tuned.

Additional Reports: Congregational Ministries

Parish Outreach: Karin Wheelock reported.

- The gifts for the Christmas family were recently presented.
- The Mitten Tree collection will continue through the month of January. The tree is located in the narthex of the church.

Sunday School: Godly Play: Janeil Rey reported.

- There is limited participation at this time due to Covid-19.

Rector’s Report: Fr. Clement reported.

- A wonderful time had by all at our Confirmation service with Bishop Rowe.
- A reminder that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. There is no 8 o’clock service scheduled. The meeting will be held in the church. Committee reports are due at the office by Sunday, January 16.
- Ginny Becker will attend a Godly Play training session in March 2022.
- We note the death of Mr. Robert Coon, a longtime parishioner at Trinity. Bob also served as Parish Treasurer for over a decade.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Annual Parish Meeting: After discussion among vestry, the decision was made to not offer a luncheon at the upcoming Annual Meeting due to Covid-19.
- Janeil Rey suggested two matters for vestry to consider: (1) an idea of joining with other churches on Barker Commons next Christmas for community holiday gatherings; (2) to consider how Trinity can provide support for Afghanistan refugee families. Fr. Clement stated that he will inquire for more information about this in order to provide vestry with options.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. with a motion made by William Roberts. Vestry ended their time together with prayer.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 18, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Sue Torrance, Acting Clerk.

+ + +

Parish Notes

Parish Outreach



For the month of February, Trinity Outreach will be collecting pajamas for the Fredonia Agri- Business Child Development Center. There will be a box for donations inside the doors leading to Garland Hall.

Sizes range from newborn to 6.

ABCD is very excited that this collection will once again take place.

Thank you for your support of Trinity's outreach program.

--- Diane Sercu

TECW and The Friendly Kitchen

Thirty years ago after volunteering at the Rural Ministry, our long time parishioner Bobbee Kennedy approached the TECW with a need she had found in the community. Could/would the TECW provide a monthly meal for the Friendly Kitchen? The women didn't hesitate to agree. Initially, the preparation of the meal was done in the kitchen of Garland Hall and delivered by former parishioner, Scott Albaugh.

At some point, the Department of Health changed the rules and decided it was best if the meal was prepared in an approved kitchen. TECW was now committed to continue this outreach so they began to use their fund raising efforts to make it happen. Members of the group have taken turns over the years to do the shopping for the ingredients of this monthly meal.

To this day, through the pandemic and any other obstacles, TECW has continued to make the support of this meal their first priority. Rummage sales and bake/cookie sales are the source of the majority of the TECW funds. Like all things the cost has changed over the years. The cost now averages \$900-\$1,000 a year to support this endeavor.

Thankfully, for the almost two years that there was no fundraising possible the healthy bank account from 2019 and donations made by individuals specifically to support the Friendly Kitchen have allowed this commitment to be fulfilled. TECW welcomes, at any time, donations that specifically support this mission. While representing our entire congregation we have for 30 years made a positive impact in our community.

The Rural Ministry and Friendly Kitchen are so very grateful for our continued reliable support and for this *we thank you all for your efforts to make this happen.*

Epiphany Tea – Covid Style – Year Two

Rather than again cancel this long held tradition of the Trinity Episcopal Church Women, the group has found a way to share this event... Covid style.

On **Sunday, February 6th** there will be a **Take Home Epiphany Tea**. Following both the 8 and 10:30 AM services those attending will be given a special container to take with them. In it will be a slice of a new variety Epiphany Tea cake, a tea bag or two, maybe a gold crown (instead of a ring), an Epiphany prayer and a note to read while enjoying the tea. The cake will be prepared by Meredith and Karin Wheelock in a Covid safe manner. The boxes will also be prepared by masked, sanitarily gloved and socially distant TECW members. Please join us for the regular Sunday Service and take home a special treat to make your winter afternoon just that little bit brighter.

One of the traditions of the Tea is to have all guests sign the special guest book. We will have that guest book available in the Narthex of the church. We ask that when you leave the church with your Tea box you take a moment to register your name. (Covid safe pens will be available).

There will be a few extra so that you may take one to someone who is unable to be in church that day. If you are now aware of anyone please let Karin Wheelock know so those can be set those aside.
ENJOY

--- Doreen Gould

Parish Register

Transfer In

Gloria Vento
Grace Church, Anderson SC

Fr. Clement will take vacation time during the latter part of February.

Mtr. Elizabeth Hadaway will be present as Celebrant and Preacher for both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services on Sundays, February 20 and 27.

+ + +

February Lectionary:

www.lectionarypage.net

Sunday, Feb. 6

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, Feb. 13

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalms 1

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, Feb. 20

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalms 37:1-12, 41-42

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

Sunday, Feb. 27

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36

Birthdays in February

- 2 Roberta Mosier
- 3 Sue Torrance
- 6 Victoria Jakiela
- 12 Aaron Levy
- 14 Shirley Coon
- 20 Meghann Hudson
- 22 Jillian (Berner) Bentley
- 23 Grayson Adamczak
- 23 Jakub Adamczak
- 24 Allison Hadsell
- 26 Philip Tappan
- 26 Jared Cooper

Wedding Anniversaries

- 6 Rich and Robbie Mancuso

In Memoriam

- 2 Scott Albaugh
- 3 Ruth Hackman
- 4 Dorothy Schaufler
- 15 Tom Wienk
- 16 Milton Fenner
- 17 Catherine Gawron
- 18 John Everett III
- 19 Anne Cassidy
- 22 Laura Foster

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Episcopal Church

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467

Fredonia, NY 14063

Office: 716-679-7901

Website: www.trinitychurchwny.org

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, *Rector*

Email: rector@trinitychurchwny.org

Dr. Ji Hyun Woo, *Organist and Director of Music*

Sara Jagoda, *Sexton*

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

Volume 5, Issue 2 — February 2022



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*