



Trinity Tidings

September 2024

Farewell events for Bishop Sean in September

There are two opportunities to celebrate with Bishop Sean as he prepares to become the 28th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church on November 1:

Saturday, September 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Amore Ballroom at Salvatore's in Buffalo

Come celebrate Bishop Sean's five years as bishop provisional in the Diocese of Western New York with him and his family at an hors d'oeuvres reception. Salvatore's is located at [6461 Transit Road](#) in Buffalo. [Find a map.](#)

Saturday, September 21, at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Erie

Join Bishop Sean and his family for a service of Eucharist celebrating his 17 years as bishop of Northwestern Pennsylvania. He will preach and the service will be followed by a reception in the cathedral hall. [Find directions and parking information.](#)

The Partnership Evaluation Listening Sessions in October

In October, the partnership evaluation consultants will hold a series of listening sessions for clergy and laypeople in both dioceses. An in-person session will take place on this date in WNY:

- October 10, 6:30 p.m.: Western New York lay listening session, [Diocesan Ministry Center, Tonawanda](#)

The consultants will also conduct a Zoom listening session on this date:

- Tuesday, October 22, 6-7:30 p.m.: session for Western New York laypeople. [Register to receive the Zoom link.](#)



We celebrate the baptism of Eve Yerico, daughter of Ryan and Kerry Yerico, held on Sunday, August 11th. Eve is the granddaughter of Chris and Melisa Eichmann.

We receive her into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with her in his eternal priesthood.

Important dates in September:

Sunday Fall Worship Schedule:

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 1
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rt. I;
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist, Rt. II.

TECW Meeting: Sat., Sept. 7, 9:30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting: Wed., Sept. 17, 5:30 p.m.

Fall Rummage Sale: Sat., October 18.

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Episcopal News Service

Annual jousting tournament has been this Maryland congregation's labor of love for 157 years.

www.episcopalnewsservice.org

Posted: August 26, 2024

By David Paulsen

At [Christ Episcopal Church](#) in Calvert County, Maryland, you can expect the familiar liturgical seasons – Advent, Lent, Pentecost – and also anticipate another annual celebration that has become, over more than a century and a half, a beloved and uniquely homegrown event on the parish calendar: a jousting tournament.

“A lot of churches have the Christmas and Easter crowds,” the Rev. Christopher Garcia told Episcopal News Service. “We have the Christmas, Easter and tournament crowds.”

In the Middle Ages, jousting featured [men on horseback using lances](#) to knock their opponents off their horses. Christ Church's annual jousting tournament features a different, noncombative competition, known as ring jousting. Competitors ride their horses through a short course and use the pointed tip of their lances to spear and retrieve a series of small rings.

The tournament, which the church [will host for its 157th year on Aug. 31](#), is part of a circuit of events sanctioned by the Maryland Jousting Tournament Association, upholding a centuries-old tradition in Maryland, where [jousting is the official state sport](#). A thousand or so competitors, spectators and church volunteers typically turn out for the event.

It is Christ Church's largest annual fundraiser, with other attractions that include a bazaar, kids' activities, a community dinner and live music. Organizers describe a festive atmosphere akin to a family reunion.

“It's just a fun day. Everybody is happy,” said Nancy Zinn, the church's longtime senior warden. At age 80, she has attended and volunteered at many of the church's jousting tournaments and chairs this year's sit-down dinner. “As long as the weather cooperates, we are doing good,” Zinn told ENS.

Christ Church is located south of Annapolis and east of Washington, D.C., in the unincorporated community of Port Republic in central [Calvert County](#), a thumb-shaped peninsula bordered by the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River.

The congregation's origins date to 1672, and Garcia, the rector, said the local tradition of ring jousting likely was started by people on farms looking for something to do in their spare time.

“It's still a heavily rural county with a heavy agricultural presence,” he said. Christ Church, with typical Sunday attendance of 60-70, isn't a large congregation, but everyone chips in to ensure the success of the congregation's premiere public event, held each year on the last Saturday in August. “It really feels like you're at an old-fashioned county fair for a day,” Garcia said.

Its mid-morning bazaar features jams, jellies and other homemade food items. Under the tents set up on the church grounds, guests can shop for used books and used kids' toys while children enjoy face painting, pony rides and a petting zoo. Tours are available of a historic one-room schoolhouse.

Afternoon concerts featuring a variety of music are provided inside the church, and the meal is served in the parish hall from 2-6 p.m., either takeout or sit-down dining. The entree is ham, fried chicken and deviled crab (pick two), with numerous side dishes. Homemade applesauce is a Christ Church specialty.

“It's very festive,” Zinn said. “It's like a homecoming. Everyone is so happy to see each other.”

And then there is the jousting. After an opening ceremony at noon, riders of all ages and abilities compete for “cash and glory” in a jousting field next to the parish cemetery. “If you're fairly new and don't know much about jousting, it's obviously something very unique,” Richard Dodd, the event's publicity chair, told ENS. “It's not like other sports.”

Any questions about the sport are best answered by Peter Cochran, a Christ Church member who serves as the event's liaison to the [Maryland Jousting Tournament Association](#). Cochran, though not a rider himself, loves helping to organize events and has more than 20 years of service with the state association.

“The camaraderie is out of this world. The people come from all different walks of life,” Cochran told ENS. “It’s very exciting.”

Each rider competes at one of four difficulty levels: novice, amateur, semipro and pro. Results in each category are based on a rider’s success during three passes through the course, collecting up to three rings each time, for a maximum score of nine per round.

Each ring hangs from an arch at 6 feet 9 inches from the ground. In each round, riders have nine seconds to cover 80 yards from start to finish, which typically requires bringing the horse up to a decent trot. The real difficulty is the rings themselves. They are very small.

The novice riders must put the tips of their lances through rings 1 3/4 inches wide. The rings’ width tightens in the higher levels to a mere inch for pro riders, and when any round ends in a tie, the course is set up for the next round with progressively smaller rings. By the end, the winner may be collecting rings barely larger than a shirt button.

Cochran said the Christ Church tournament likely will draw up to 50 competitors, some as young as 3 years old. The youngest competitors participate in a subset of the novice category that allows an adult to lead the children’s horses by a rope.

Garcia expressed amazement and pride that his congregation can transform the church grounds into such a grand event in a short span of time. When it is over, volunteer crews clean everything up just as quickly, so by Sunday morning there may be no trace that a jousting tournament had just taken place.

And though evangelism isn’t the primary reason that the congregation keeps this tradition alive year after year, the door of the church is always open Sunday for anyone who enjoyed themselves on Saturday.

“We make sure they’re all invited to come back and join us for worship,” Garcia said.

– *David Paulsen is a senior reporter and editor for Episcopal News Service based in Wisconsin.*

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Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

There was no vestry meeting during the month of August. Meeting minutes for July will be printed in the October edition.

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Parish Notes



We welcome the return of the Chancel Choir on Sunday, Sept. 8, at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Be sure to meet our student choristers: Adrian, Ashlyn, Kaitlin, and Trevor!

Parish Register

Baptism

Eve Janice Yerico
August 11, 2024

Transfer In

Rebecca Kulpa Giambra
St. John the Baptist, Dunkirk, N.Y.

TECW

September meeting: Saturday, Sept. 7
At 9:30 a.m. in Garland Hall.

Save the Date: Fall Rummage Sale
Saturday, October 18.

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Lectionary Readings for September: www.lectionarypage.net

Sunday, September 1

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm 15

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sunday, September 8

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 18

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146

James 2:1-10, 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

Sunday, September 15

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-8

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

Sunday, September 22

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 20

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

Sunday, September 29

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 21

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

September:

Birthdays

- 4 Heather (Gould) Martin
- 7 Doug Erick
- 7 Hannah Rexford
- 17 Ethan Cooper
- 27 Matthew Rivera
- 28 Bridget Russell

Wedding Anniversaries

- 18 Byron and Abby Rexford
- 30 Jack and Sue Torrance

In Memoriam

- 12 Arlene Maytum

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Episcopal Church

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Website: www.trinitychurchwny.org

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, Rector

Email: rector@trinitychurchwny.org

Donald Fellows, Organist

Sara Jagoda, Custodian

The Vestry of the Parish

Sally Ludlum, Warden

Jenn Wilkins

Ann Sullivan

Cathy Berner

Jake Wilkins

Melisa Eichmann

Virginia Becker, Treasurer

Holy Cross Day *September 14*

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 244



Trinity Episcopal Church
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The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

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