



Trinity Topics

From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Advent and Christmas seasons! This year, while we still must remain cautious, continue wearing masks in public places, get our boosters, etc., some normalcy is returning to our lives. We were thankful to be able to enjoy Thanksgiving with extended family members we had not been able to see for some time.

Advent is a season of expectant hope; a season of leaning in to the darkness and the unknown; a season of preparation and prayer – asking God to reveal to us the power of God’s light that dwells within us. The question becomes, ‘How do we best live our lives walking with Jesus?’ The pandemic has shifted the way almost all of us live and now provides an opportunity to contemplate how best to engage the wider community and the world. What is life giving? What small actions, or ways of being, are most helpful to those around us (the larger community). As you know, we are all connected and each of us makes a difference in the lives of those we touch.

I close by sharing a resource from the “Contemplative Monk”. This is a personal prayer practice of Friar Bob Holmes and may also be helpful to you in your prayers for answering the questions about how we go about living our best lives walking with Jesus.

The Jesus Breath Prayer

Light a candle, play some soft music, say a meaningful prayer, maybe a Psalm like the 23rd, whatever helps you to let go and enter into the stillness of devotion. The monastics call this practice entering the cave of our heart. The Franciscans have a prayer tradition where they lower their head below their heart to remind themselves that it's our heart first in approaching God.

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A breath prayer is simply a way to drop our linear mind, to enter our spirit through our breath.

Take three deep breaths and slowly center yourself in your heart.

As breath is spirit,

Breathe in this moment...

Let the stillness soak into your being.

Breathe in forgiveness, and breathe out your release.

Breathe in faith, and breathe out thanksgiving.

Breathe in silently saying 'Jes', and breathe out silently saying 'us'.

Allow yourself to cross the threshold into the rest of Christ finished work

Close your eyes or let them rest gently focused a few feet in front of you,

Let your face relax into a soft smile as you breathe naturally

Breathe... embracing belonging, releasing gratitude,

Focusing on the presence of Jesus.

Letting go and letting God,

Like a trust fall into the arms of God

Allowing yourself to feel well, and whole in these eternal arms.

Feeling Beloved

Feeling the joy of God's presence.

Free from suffering and harm,

Free and whole.

Take your time to savor, and soak in the presence of God.

~ Bob Holmes #comeintothequiet

*Post Note: Not to be confused with the Orthodox version, this developed in my personal prayer practice. Rather than a prayer to God, this is a breath prayer breathing together with God, Spirit to spirit. The action is spiritual embodiment, Christ in us, as our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit. I hope you find this prayer as a blessing to you into this Advent season and beyond.

**Coatesville Community Ecumenical Holiday Caroling
December 5th at 1:45 p.m.**

We are invited to participate in an ecumenical Christmas caroling event in downtown Coatesville on Sunday, December 5. We will meet at the steps of Trinity at 1:45 p.m. Caroling begins at 2 p.m. following a route for an hour or two (you may leave at any time). A packet of holiday carols and songs will be provided. Please feel free to bring additional holiday carols, songs, music, jingle bells, small instruments and the like. Special thanks to Peter M. DiMaio for organizing the annual event!

Healing Service via Zoom Thursdays at Noon

We continue to offer a Healing Service via Zoom on Thursdays at Noon. There will be NO healing service on Thursday, December 9th. The Zoom link is emailed via our Constant Contact email service on Wednesdays along with a copy of the order of service for the week. The order of service is also shared on the screen during the service itself. We commemorate a “saint” from the Episcopal Church utilizing the resource ‘A Great Cloud of Witnesses’ and share a little healing music from a variety of sources.

Family Service with Contemporary Music at 11:15 a.m. Sunday, December 5 In person and live-streamed

Join us for a different style of service on the first Sunday of each month at 11:15 a.m. It is our Family Service with Contemporary Music. We will have a keyboard and guitar this month. The service is informal and family/child friendly. We are sowing seeds that we hope will grow into additional members of our Trinity community.

Like our regular Sunday worship service, the service is in person and live-streamed and the videos will find a home on our Trinity Facebook page and YouTube channel for you to check out later. This is one way we are seeking to reach new people who may prefer a different style of music. Look for this to happen on the first Sunday of each month. Check it out! Let your friends know!

Vestry Meeting Sunday, December 12th at 11 a.m.

Our rescheduled November Vestry meeting will be held Sunday, December 12th at 11 a.m. in Stone Hall.

Christmas Gifting Ideas Thistle Farms Products available for Purchase

The church has limited fresh Thistle Farms products available for purchase to benefit Thistle Hills residential program. They make wonderful Christmas gifts! We have their most popular: Lavender Essential Oil Soy Candles (\$30); Lavender Serenity Soak bath salts (\$12); Lavender Liquid Hand Soap (\$14) and Lavender Hand Lotion (\$15).

We also have various products that have been on the shelf for several months (various scents) on sale for 30% off. Please give Pastor Sherry a call at the church office 610-384-4771 or send an email to revsherrydeets@aol.com. If there is no answer via phone, please leave a message, she will return your call.

Christmas Eve Service

The Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be live-streamed beginning at 7 p.m., but it will be available to view after the fact on our Trinity Facebook page and it will also be uploaded to our YouTube channel shortly after airing. This will give you the ability to view the service at any time after the live service has ended and fit into your Christmas Eve and Christmas Day plans accordingly. We will have special music during this service!

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 4th, **Coatesville Christmas Parade** The parade is BACK!! and begins at 10 a.m. Trinity will once again be selling hotdogs, soft pretzels, coffee and hot chocolate. Join us to watch the parade from our front lawn and/or to help sell hotdogs and hot drinks!

Sunday, December 5th **Community Christmas Caroling** Please arrive at the front of Trinity's sanctuary steps by 1:45 p.m. Caroling begins at 2 p.m. as we stroll around the downtown Coatesville area sharing the gift of music. Wear comfortable shoes and dress accordingly. Join us!

Saturday, December 11th **Breakfast with Santa-to-Go** Trinity will be offering a time to meet with Santa on the front lawn of the church and purchase a breakfast to go for \$6 (Bacon, Egg and Cheese Biscuit, Hash Browns and Pancakes with syrup and butter). The word is that Santa will be arriving at Trinity with police escort at 10 a.m. on a 1925 Duesenberg. He will be with us until Noon. Come on out and visit Santa and/or enjoy a homemade breakfast to go!

Sunday, December 19th **Angel Tree Christmas Party** There will be a Christmas party held at the Thorndale Fire Hall where Santa will be present to hand out the Angel Tree gifts to the children. The party is scheduled from Noon to 4 p.m.

Friday, December 24th **Christmas Eve Service** Our Candlelight service begins at 7 p.m. There will be NO service on Christmas Day.

Sunday, December 26th **Lessons and Carols with Communion** Our tradition of Lessons and Carols on the Sunday after Christmas continues. This is a different type of service in which we enjoy singing our favorite Christmas carols. Join us at our usual service time of 9:30 a.m.



Breakfast with Santa – Saturday, Dec. 11th, 2021

Trinity's Fundraiser Group will be sponsoring our annual Breakfast with Santa, on Saturday, Dec, 11, from 10:00 to 12:00. As we did last year, we will hold the event **outside**, with children and Santa being socially distant, and everyone wearing mask. The breakfast will be packaged in take-out containers and bags and handed to customers after their time with Santa. For **only \$6.00**, you will receive a bacon, egg and cheese biscuit; hash brown; 4 'silver-dollar' size pancakes, and syrup and butter.

Tickets can be ordered online at Trinity's website or call the office at 610-384-4771. If you choose to pay on the day of the event, we ask that you have exact amount so we can limit contact as much as possible.

Santa will arrive in a special 'sleigh' with police escort at 10:00 AM. Be there for the FUN.



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS-2021

This year again, we will be ordering poinsettias to decorate the church at Christmas. If you are interested in placing memorial flowers in the church, please fill in your name, phone number and how many plants you are ordering along with the name of the person(s) placed in memory of. Make checks payable to Church of the Trinity and return this order form with your check to the parish office no later than December 5th. The suggested donation is a minimum of \$8.00 for each plant ordered.

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED: _____

NAME OF PERSON(S) PLACED IN MEMORY OF: _____



Jennifer Chance	2nd
Jason Saylor	4th
Samuel Haak	4th
Bella Baynard	9th
Anne Lutz	13th
William McWilliams	16th
Shane McWilliams	17th
Miranda Croft	21st
Pam Smyth	22nd
Chase Crompton	24th
David Rutledge	25th
Bill Terry	25th
Linda Hammond	30th
Velda Baynard	31st
Betty Sullivan	31st

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Noon Healing Service Via Zoom		Coatesville Christmas Parade 10am SH Rented
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Family Service 11:15am Caroling 2-4pm				<u>NO</u> Healing Service-Deanery Christmas Lunch Kitchen Rented	Kitchen Rented	Breakfast with Santa 10am-12pm SH Rented
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Vestry Meeting 11am SH Rented				Noon Healing Service Via Zoom		SH Rented
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Angel Tree Party-Thorndale 12-4pm SH Rented				Noon Healing Service Via Zoom	Christmas Eve Service 7pm	Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Lessons & Carols 9:30am	Office Closed			Noon Healing Service Via Zoom	New Year's Eve	

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY

**323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409**

For more information

contact:

The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector

610-384-4771

trinitycoates@aol.com

Website:

www.trinitycoatesville.org

Mission Statement

**Church of the Trinity is a
congregation rooted in the
faith and love of Christ, unified
in diversity, seeking to grow
and nourish the Trinity family
and our Coatesville
community.**

Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

Sundays 9:30 AM

Thursdays 12:00 PM

**Jamoca Harkins,
Parish Administrator**

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 5:30-7:30pm

**THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, Pennsylvania
19320-3409**

Church School

Sundays: 9:15 AM

