Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This coming Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Trinity, one of the Principal Feasts of the Church Year set forth in the Book of Common Prayer. Trinity Sunday is one of the few celebrations of the Christian Calendar that commemorates a reality and doctrine rather than a person or event.

The Church has been celebrating the Trinity in its life and worship since the
earliest days as evidenced by the Trinitarian baptismal formula recorded in the Scriptures. On Trinity Sunday, Christians remember and honor the eternal God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Trinity is best described in the Nicene Creed, a description of the Trinity developed over time, based on Scripture and Tradition. The Scriptures call the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit "God," yet the three are also clearly distinct. Christians believe that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are somehow distinct from one another (not divided though), yet completely united in will and essence. How can this be? Well, think of the sight of two eyes. The eyes are distinct, yet one and undivided in their sight.

The Trinity is described as a "mystery;" and by mystery the Church does not mean a riddle, but rather that the Trinity is a reality beyond our human comprehension—one that we may begin to grasp, but ultimately can know only through worship, symbol, and faith. It has been said that mystery is not a wall to run up against, but an ocean in which to swim.

I invite you, therefore, to join your fellow Christians this Sunday and (as the Prayer Book says) "acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity."

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Fr. Keene

**Liturgy and Music Notes for Trinity Sunday**

Trinity Sunday is the only major Feast of the Christian Year to focus on a doctrine instead of an event or person(s). Famously difficult to explain or understand, the concept of the Trinity—One God in Three Persons—has often been more effectively portrayed through art and music as the multi-dimensional way in which humanity has experienced God.

- We begin the Liturgy with "St Patrick's Breastplate," a hymn that for many Episcopalians is synonymous with the celebration of Trinity Sunday. It takes the form of a *lorica*, a pre-Christian Celtic incantation to accompany dressing oneself for battle. It's a striking example of the centuries-old practice of co-opting pagan customs and, in effect, “baptizing” them to be expressions of the Christian faith. According to legend, St Patrick sang this *lorica* as a protection from the Druids who sought to forcibly prevent him from reaching Tara, where he would proclaim the Christian faith.

- The familiar and well-loved concluding hymn, "Holy, holy, holy," places the concept of the Trinity squarely in the context of worship, inspired by the concluding verses of chapter four of the Book of Revelation. The tune, based on an ascending triad (itself a musical symbol of the Trinity), is named "Nicaea," after the fourth-century Church Council that defined the doctrine of the Trinity in what we now know as the Nicene Creed.

- The concluding organ voluntary is generally understood to be Johann Sebastian Bach’s musical representation of the Trinity. Composed in the key of E-flat major (a key signature of three flats), it is a triple fugue (with three subjects, each in a different meter).
PARISH HAPPENINGS

Pew Accessibility Project

Construction work in the church will begin on Monday June 17th and is expected to continue through the end of July. 9:30am Mass on Wednesday is cancelled during this time; all Thursday and Sunday services will continue as normal. The church will also be closed to the public until the construction work is completed. Please contact the office on (302)328-2413 with any questions.

For more information click here for last week's newsletter.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

June 22 is nursery/church school clean-up day!

Volunteers will spend about three hours cleaning up and clearing out. The tentative start time is 10 a.m. Please contact Matt Kinservik on (302)743-8422 if you’d like to help.

We Want Your Photos and Ideas!
We're always looking for photos to put in the Curate and the weekly emails. These photos can be of recent events, Immanuelians gathering outside of church, or older events. Whatever you have, we'll take them! Send the photos to the office at immanuelonthegreen@comcast.net. We keep them on file for future use.

**We especially need photos of the Annual Picnic, any and all activities and events attended by the parish, and of the whole congregation during worship.**

SAVE THE DATES!

- June 23 -- Last day for the choir, until September.

**SERVICES AT IMMANUEL**

Did you know we hold Mass every Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday at Immanuel Church on the Green? Of course you did, but just in case, our service schedule is:

- **Sunday**
  - 8am - Said Mass
  - 10am - Sung Mass
  - 7pm - Compline
- **Wednesday**
  - 9:30am - Said Mass
  (The last Wednesday Mass will be on 06/12/19, Mass will then be temporarily cancelled on Wednesdays until further notice due to the pew work.)
- **Thursday**
  - 6pm - Said Mass

Jo Harney will be away on sabbatical for a good bit of the summer and it is important that we make sure Compline leadership is covered during this period (and beyond). Please click on the sign-up link below if you can take a week or weeks between now and mid-August.

If you have never led Compline, but would be willing to learn, please sign up and Jo will make sure that training is provided in advance. Thank you for helping us continue our unbroken history of every-week Compline.

Sign up here

Large print bulletins are available.

**STAY CONNECTED**

If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. And now, for this week's meme...
Stay up to date on all the latest happenings by visiting our [website](#).

Immanuel on the Green | 100 Harmony Street, New Castle, DE 19720

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