

Trinity Life for Dec 15, 2019 - Jan 31, 2020



Trinity Episcopal Church  
124 River Road  
Topsfield, MA 01983  
(978) 887-5570  
[www.trinitytoppsfield.org](http://www.trinitytoppsfield.org)  
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Feeding the Hungry: Body, Mind & Spirit

## Worship

### Christmas Schedule of Services

December 22	4th Sunday of Advent
December 24	4 pm Creche Blessing Family Service 8 pm Festival Eucharist with Choir and Flute
December 25	10 am Quiet Christmas Day Service
December 29	1st Sunday of Christmas
January 5	Feast of the Epiphany

### Baptism on January 12

The 12th of January is the Baptism of Jesus, a regular date for baptisms in the parish. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child, please speak to a member of the clergy well in advance. Preparation is required!

### 9 am Service on January 26th with the Annual Meeting

There will be a single service at 9 am on Sunday, January 26th followed by brunch and the Annual Meeting. Persons 16 years of age and older are voting members of the parish. There will be activities for younger children during the meeting.

## **Parish Administration**

### **Office Schedule**

The Parish Office is normally open Mon-Thurs from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. It will be closed for the Christmas holidays starting at noon on December 24th and it will be closed for the entire rest of the Christmas week. It will also be closed for the New Year holiday starting at noon on Tues., December 31st, through Weds., Jan 1st. The Parish Office will also be closed on Mon., Jan 20th, for Martin Luther King weekend.

### **Annual Reports Due**

Reports to be included in the 2019 Annual Report are due soon. Please begin assembling information.

### **Election of Vestry Members and Parish Officers**

Positions on the Vestry and all Officers of the Parish will be on the slate for election at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26th. Pam Messenger is completing her Vestry service. The following persons are continuing members of the Vestry:

Ed Wisniewski (2021)

Deb Shannon (2021)

Joan Lunn (2021)

Carol Westhaver (2022)

John Cole

John Wilson

Colleen Gibson

Joan Campbell

Officers are elected each year to a one-year term:

Co-Wardens Pam McKay and Lesley Cefalo

Treasurer Rachel Graf

Assistant Treasurer Bruce Gaboriault

Clerk Rebecca Miller

Representatives to the Deanery Assembly (up to 5) and Diocesan Convention (2) are elected each year for one-year terms:

Ed Wisniewski Diocesan Convention

Joan Lunn Diocesan Convention

Denise Aldridge Deanery Assembly

Joan Lunn Deanery Assembly

### **Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for information or articles to be included in the February Newsletter is January 13, 2020.

## Christian Education

### Schedule of Classes

December 22	No Classes - Christmas Vacation
December 29	No Classes - Christmas Vacation
January 12	Classes
January 19	No Classes - MLKing Weekend
January 26	No Classes - 9 am Service and Annual Meeting

## Special Thank YOU & Request

### Graphic Illustrated Novels for Esperanza Library

For many students at Esperanza, English is their second language and reading is often a struggle. The school's library is seeking graphic novels such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* or other teen classics to encourage reluctant readers to read. Please consider donating a book in the basket in the narthex or drop a gift card off at the church office. **If you've already done so, Thank YOU so much! If you would still like to, the basket will be in the narthex through the holidays.** Contact Rebecca Miller if you have questions. Thank you!

## December 2019 Preschool News

Greetings from the Preschool! We have had a wonderful fall! Our classes have been fun, active and very well behaved so far. Everyone has learned our routines and teachers, students and families are all happy! Our children are gearing up with excitement for the holidays and we eagerly anticipate many projects in the classrooms this month, celebrating family, different traditions, and the joy of giving.

The Thanksgiving holiday provided us the opportunity to gather together in our annual tradition of celebrating with a “feast” in each classroom. Children invited one special adult to be their guest, decorated the table with goodies, and enjoyed the food, company, and connection with their class. We love this tradition!

With cold weather advancing, both Threes classes are busy working on learning how to dress themselves for winter. Their dress-up center has parkas, snow pants, hats and mittens, and they are learning the order to put their outdoor clothes on to make the process easier. The children are so proud of themselves as they learn how to zip their own zipper, put on their snow pants, and get themselves ready to go outside. Parents are often astounded by this new spurt of independence and competence, and welcome these new skills with open arms!

Our Fours classes are doing an excellent job teaching fine motor skills with our *Handwriting without Tears* program. This program that teaches proper pencil grip and letter formation at a very young age. The children are progressing beautifully, writing their names, and making all sorts of cards for their families.

The Fives class works every day to learn their letters, the sounds each letter makes, and how to form the letters correctly. They stay very busy in the Fives class, and are enjoying their schedule of two long days and two short days. It is so much fun to see the progressive maturing in the students as they grow from 3 year olds to very competent, independent 5 year olds.

The children are also learning about how we can help those in need. In October, Trinity families donated extra Halloween candy to the troops. A Trinity mother organized this project and we sent off fifteen boxes of candy to Operation Troop Support in Danvers. In November, we collected new children's hats, mittens, scarves, socks and games for The Community Giving Tree, a charity based in West Boxford. In December, we plan to ask families to donate Personal Care and Household Items to the Top Cupboard here at Trinity. I am very proud of the generosity and love shown by our families.

We hope that December and January find members of Trinity Church well. We are grateful for your support, and to be a part of such a warm community. We miss Jo terribly but are happy to have been a part of her goodbye and retirement. Special thanks to Barb and Andy for their amazing support!

Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday!

Kelly Martignetti



**At the Preschool's Goodbye Party for Jo, two students present Jo with a parting gift...**