

THE TRUMPET

NOVEMBER 2014



**Holy Trinity
Episcopal Church
South River
New Jersey**

SENIOR WARDEN'S NOTES:

It is my honor and privilege to notify you that our Vestry has extended a Call to the Reverend Gregory Bezilla, to serve as Rector of Holy Trinity. Greg has accepted the call and has been canonically approved by Bishop Stokes. Father Greg will join us as Rector Elect as we begin the Advent season.

This Call occurred after a long, discerning search process begun under the leadership of our first interim, Mother Joanna Graham. Her sudden passing, shocked and saddened us all, but we continued with our belief in God, the support of the diocese and the dynamic leadership of Fr. John Negrotto. Our search attracted the interest of candidates from across the country. The Search committee presented the Vestry with three outstanding candidates. After meeting all three, the Vestry felt Fr. Greg's talents and vision most clearly aligned with the needs and desires of Holy Trinity, that he was the best possible candidate to honor our past and lead us into a new era of ministry as we work to fulfill our mission.

On Advent 1, (November 30), we will welcome Father Greg as our rector elect. He will continue with us through Advent and Christmas as our supply priest as he completes his work at Rutgers University. His official start date at Holy Trinity will be January 1, 2015. The 30th of November will also be our opportunity to say farewell to Father John.

We all need to give tremendous thanks to the Search Committee for their discernment and many hours of work leading to the call of our new Rector. The Vestry and I would also like to recognize all that our Interim Priest, Father John Negrotto has been able to accomplish with us, coming in our hour of need and leading us to the close of a most successful search.

Yours in faithful service,

Kimberly Klitzke-DeSarno

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR THE TRUMPET!!

In case you missed the earlier announcement, the new e-mail address to reach the editors is TrumpetEditor@verizon.net. The old Comcast email is no longer active, so do not use it because we won't be able to retrieve it.

The church office has also changed its address and is reachable via e-mail at Holytrinitysr@verizon.net.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW RECTOR—FATHER GREG



Father Greg and his family on the NYC High Line—wife, Jacq; daughter, Emma and son, Sam

Hey, Holy Trinity! I am so excited about starting my new ministry with you as rector on January 1. I love the symbolism of starting on the first day of the calendar year (and in years to come it will be so much easier to remember my anniversary with you).

I'm not a complete stranger to Holy Trinity. It was a blessing to serve you on Sundays in years past. I got to know a few of you on those occasions, but now my priority is to get to know you all better – and, in turn, to offer you opportunities to know me.

I'll start with a short self-introduction: For the past ten years I have served as the Chaplain of the Episcopal Campus Ministry at Rutgers University, based at Canterbury House on the College Avenue Campus in New Brunswick. Rutgers is a wild and wonderful place. Almost every day on the campus was full of new opportunities for learning: insights and understandings into people of different backgrounds and beliefs. It was a challenge to understand why only a few young adults seek out Christian community and opportunities for living from the Christian story in witness to God—and why many more don't seem interested in

such things. I bring these questions with me to Holy Trinity. Consequently, I am passionate about forming faith in people of all ages and putting faith into action for the sake of making a difference in the lives of our neighbors near and far.

Prior to my time at Rutgers, I also served as a parish priest at St. George's-by-River in Rumson, and as a hospital chaplain at Capital Health System in Trenton. I've been very active in a number of ministries in the diocese and our region, and I'm very interested in learning how we in the Episcopal Church can partner with other denominations and other religions for the sake of civic engagement in service to compassion and justice (in this regard, recently I have been active at the New Jersey State House in efforts to reform criminal justice). I believe that every stage and experience in life informs the next. God wastes nothing. Everything we experience and learn will serve us again in another context.

I'm married to Jacqueline Lapsley (who goes by "Jacq"). Jacq is Associate Professor of Old Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, and a member of Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton. Our daughter Emma is a junior in high school, and our son Sam is in the eighth grade. Supper time is an important opportunity for our family to connect, but it seems harder for us all of us to be at the table together as the kids grow older and get more involved in extra-curricular activities and seek to spend time with their friends. Jacq and I try our best to model our faith (it's said that faith is caught, not taught), but it's challenging.

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about growing older (my body reminds me that I am middle aged, and that I need to take better care of my health). My in-laws James and Helen Lapsley live in a nearby retirement community. Our family is taking care of their dog -- on top of our own dog and two cats -- and so I might bring a spare dog to the office now and then. I suspect that walking a dog might be a good way to meet some people in the neighborhood of the church.

I have a lot of interests. I enjoy reading books in a variety of genres, watching old movies and foreign films, going to the opera and theatre, and riding my bicycle. I like to cook (I'm always experimenting with new recipes), but I'm glad to eat out. I'm fascinated by cities, and I jump at opportunities to go to New York, but I may be at my happiest in a forest or field away from it all. I look forward to exploring South River and the surrounding towns -- it's mostly new territory for me.

That's a little about me. And how about you? I look forward to getting to know you.
Your neighbor in Christ,

Greg

The Reverend Gregory Bezilla+

NOTES FROM FATHER JOHN

My Dear Parish Family,

With the Call of The Rev. Gregory Bezilla, Chaplain of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, as the next Rector of Holy Trinity South River, effective, January 1, 2015, it is with anticipated joy that I offer my resignation as your Interim, effective November 30, 2014. My last Sunday Services will also be November 30.

It has been Spiritually uplifting working with you, and a privilege to serve with you as partners in team ministry! I will miss you all immensely. Truly, you have made my fifth Interim experience most fruitful and rich.

“RIGHT ONWARD” (Bishop George E. Cuncell)

I know that you will give your new Rector the full support, hospitality, and love that you have given to me.

Deo Gratias and thank you all!

I am most blest to be in the process of accepting a Call from Daytop, adolescent abuse Rehab and School in Mendham, as their Chaplain, with the blessings of Rev. Sr. Eleanor Francis and Rev. Sr. Barbara Jean, as an extension of Oblate Ministry @ CSJB.

May God continue to Bless you all in accomplishing all of God's Work.

Be well, be safe, be filled with God's Grace!

Fr. John+

PLEASE CONSIDER BUYING HOLIDAY WREATHS OR GRAVE BLANKETS FROM HOLY TRINITY

The Men of Holy Trinity will be hard at work early next month filling the orders for its annual yuletide project of making wreaths, grave sprays or grave covers. Proceeds from this project are used to pay for the decorations to the church for the holiday season with the remainder going to the church's general operating budget.

Do your part and support this project!

A copy of the ordering form is printed at the end of the Trumpet and copies are available at the church or in the Sunday Bulletin. Orders are due by November 30.



Acolyte Corner

Great news! On October 19 we had an Acolyte Installation of seasoned and new acolytes and on Nov 2, we had training for the new acolytes to be torch bearers. At the same time, we trained our more seasoned acolytes to be servers and crucifers.

It will be nice seeing some new faces doing new jobs up on the Altar. Here are our Holy Trinity Acolytes: Jasmine Torres, Tyler Fanslow, Collin Jackson, Elyse Rizzo, Jessica Hawksby, Jennifer Scali, Theo Spielman, Meghan Moore, Ellia Koroma, Amber and Hunter McFeely, Ryan and Sean Donnamaria and John and Ryan Donnelly. Even with new additions, there is still plenty of room for new acolytes.

Acolytes and parents please mark your calendars for the Annual Acolyte Festival which will take place on Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015, at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton. This is a Diocesan event which brings acolytes from different congregations in NJ together for training, team building, fun and celebration.

If your child is in 2nd grade or above and is interested in becoming an acolyte or just wants some information, please let me know. You can speak with me after service or reach me via email: donnellycanj@aol.com or 732-672-8432. They are welcomed to join at any time.

Candice Donnelly
Acolyte Leader



Our Acolyte Crew gets a blessing from Father John!



Shop for the Holidays with Scrip

It is not too early to start thinking about holiday gift giving. Your favorite scrip retailers are stocking up their shelves with “sure to please” holiday gifts for everyone on your list. Purchase your gift cards from Scrip and use it to shop for presents or you can give the gift cards as presents. Hurry, make your list, check it twice, and place your gift card order at the Scrip table on Sunday. Please consider doing your holiday shopping with Scrip and help Holy Trinity.

*Thanks,
Scrip Committee*

CALLING ALL COOKS!!

One of our church members, Kristine Wei, says she has been asked to share a favorite recipe.

Give it a try and If you have a favorite, send it along to TrumpetEditor@verizon.net and we'll share it in a future edition.

Nutty for 'Nana Strudel

Ingredients:

1. all purpose flour
2. Pillsbury Grands Big & Buttery crescent dinner rolls
3. 1/3 c. creamy peanut butter
4. 1/2 c. hazelnut spread with cocoa
5. 2-3 firm ripe small bananas
6. 1 egg white beaten
7. 1 T cinnamon sugar

Steps:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Line cookie sheet with regular foil and lightly spray with CRISCO® Original No-Stick Cooking Spray, or line cookie sheet with nonstick foil.
2. Sprinkle flour lightly on sheet of waxed paper. Unroll dough on floured paper into 1 long rectangle; press perforations to seal. Cover with another sheet of waxed paper; with rolling pin, roll to make 18x9-inch rectangle.
3. Spread peanut butter over rectangle to within 1 inch of edges. Spread hazelnut spread over peanut butter.
4. Cut bananas into about 1/8-inch slices; arrange slices with sides touching in 2 rows down center of hazelnut spread.
5. Fold in short ends of rectangle 1 inch. Starting at one long side of rectangle, roll up tightly; pinch edge of dough to seal. Remove from waxed paper; place seam side down on foil-lined cookie sheet. Brush with egg white; sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar.
6. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until deep golden brown. Immediately transfer strudel on foil to cooling rack. Cool 30 minutes.
7. Loosely wrap foil around strudel; refrigerate 30 minutes to 1 hour or until chilled. To serve, cut into 1-inch slices, using serrated knife. Wrap and refrigerate any remaining strudel.

2015 Faith Commitment Drive Underway

This year's Faith Commitment Drive (formerly called the Stewardship Campaign) is well underway and last Sunday was Loyalty Sunday when the first of the responses to the drive were blessed. We want to wrap up the drive by November 30, the first Sunday in Advent.

Twenty-eight Faith Commitment cards were blessed and we are on our way but we need everyone at Holy Trinity who has not pledged to consider making a commitment to make our church self sufficient.

We're repeating a couple of documents that were circulated at the beginning of the month to the parish, but are important enough to explain our mission for 2015. One deals with the Endowment Fund that was established in 2006 and the second is a copy of our preliminary budget for 2015 year. As you'll see, your Faith Commitment and those from other members of the parish are very important and are much needed to insure Holy Trinity is on firm financial ground.

Faith Commitment cards were mailed to each home, but extra copies of the cards are available at the church or office.

Here are the two documents about the Endowment Fund status and the preliminary 2015 budget:

Holy Trinity Endowment Status and Concerns

November, 2014

As you prayerfully consider your 2015 Faith Commitment, please remember the loving gesture of Ed Price who gave us our Endowment with no stipulations but to be used in a thoughtful, prayerful way. Your Faith Pledge will be critical in supporting Ed's generosity and keeping our Endowment solidly on track.

With this understanding, your Vestry and Endowment Committee would like to share our concerns with our parish family regarding the unfortunate, ongoing need to use the Endowment for regular church expenses and the resulting downward pressure on Endowment value. The original 2006-2007 Endowment value was approximately \$2.1 million with a vestry decision to use the funds primarily for the capital needs of the church. Our original goal was to use only the fund income from dividends and interest for parish operations.

Initially, there were major expenditures for the restoration of the church and kitchen. Then, using good stewardship oversight, we liquidated in time the rapidly falling stock of the Royal Bank of Scotland which was a major holding of the Endowment. Finally, we had a significant drop in the stock market which further eroded the value of the Endowment. But as the Endowment stabilized in 2008-2009 there have been continuing annual draws for regular church operating expenses at levels well above the Endowment income. This has resulted in the current Endowment value reduced to \$982,000 as of September, 2014.

This current Endowment level and the pattern of necessary spending for church operating purposes is of great concern. We cannot continue to use our Endowment as a financial backstop for regular church expenses at the disturbing level of the past few years. We must be committed to preservation of the Endowment value at close to current levels to support the original Vestry intent of Endowment spending for capital improvements and outreach----not bill paying.

So please remember the loving spirit of Ed Price as you prayerfully offer your Faith Commitment for 2015. Your Faith Pledge will be so important in keeping our Endowment at current levels for the future of Holy Trinity and Holy Trinity generations to come.

Sincerely,

Your Vestry and Endowment Committee

Vestry: Kimberly De Sarno, William Kendrick, Candice Donnelly, Gail Hawksby, Julie Rafano, Joe Rodriguez, Dominick Scali, Ruben Scolavino, Stephen Seuling, Martin Spielman.

Endowment: Royce Flippin, Chet Brandt, Ida Ita, Robert Rafano, Robert Weis, Kimberly De Sarno, William Kendrick, Stephen Seuling.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH DRAFT 2015 BUDGET

	<u>CHURCH ONLY EXPENSES</u>	<u>DRAFT 2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>VS</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>
1	Advertising	\$200.00		\$200.00
2	Altar Guild	\$1,200.00		\$1,200.00
3	Buildings and Grounds	\$8,000.00		\$6,185.00
4	Christian Education	\$775.00		\$775.00
5	Convention	\$500.00		\$500.00
	Insurance (Prop & Liability, Workers			
6	Comp)	\$16,422.00		\$16,422.00
7	Insurance staff medical	\$3,744.00		\$3,744.00
8	Liturgics	\$400.00		\$400.00
9	Music	\$650.00		\$650.00
10	Office and Church Supplies	\$1,000.00		\$1,250.00
11	Office Equipment	\$1,800.00		\$2,330.00
12	Payroll Church (excluding rector)	\$59,000.00		\$90,325.00
13	Payroll Processing Fees	\$800.00		\$806.00
14	Payroll taxes	\$8,500.00		\$7,200.00
15	Postage and delivery	\$700.00		\$900.00
	Rector FULL TIME: (Total salary,			
16	pension, and expenses)	\$82,617.00		\$33,663.00
17	Staff Pension	\$2,418.00		\$2,418.00
18	Supply clergy	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
19	Utilities	\$14,000.00		\$14,825.00
20	Vestry Retreat	\$750.00		\$750.00
21	SUBTOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES	\$204,476.00		\$185,543.00
	Diocese Of New Jersey fair Share (10 %			
22	tithe)	\$20,448.00		\$18,500.00
23	TOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES	\$224,924.00		\$204,043.00
24	CHURCH INCOME			
26	Pledge income (2015 GOAL)	\$224,924.00		\$109,168.00
27	Other envelopes & giving (unknown)	\$0.00		\$14,300.00
28	fundraising (unknown)	\$0.00		\$6,250.00
29	Sunday School (unknown)	\$0.00		\$250.00
30	Total	\$224,924.00		\$129,968.00
31	Shortfall	0		(\$55,575.00)
32	Endowment Withdrawal	0		\$74,075.00
		<u>DRAFT 2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>VS</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>

An Invitation and an Opportunity!

I am sure many have noticed the growth of the choir in both numbers and performance. We are blessed to be able to sing many different periods and styles, all of which enrich our worship and liturgy.

I would like to extend an invitation: why not join us **JUST** for Advent and Christmas and give it a try? Unless you are 6'7" we can probably locate a cassock for you. Try it – and you may like it. We need sopranos and altos! Many choirs do not have enough male voices; we are fortunate. That's the invitation.

Now the opportunity: come and visit a Thursday rehearsal and see how the magic happens. Watch us laugh and learn; see how the psalm is sung and the anthems are practiced. Stay for the whole hour or just a portion. Again – you may see something you like or never thought about.

We are a growing family – join us!

Richard Thomas Biernacki, BSG
Organist-Choirmaster

The Meaning of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent. It is a circular candle holder that typically holds five candles. During the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday until all of the candles, including the fifth candle, are lit on Christmas Day. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Most Advent wreaths use three colors of candles – purple, pink, and white. However, some may use blue in place of the purple.



- **1st CANDLE – (purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – It will be lit this year on November 30.
 - **2nd CANDLE – (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – Will be lit on December 7 .
 - **3rd CANDLE – (pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** –It will be lit on December 14.
 - **4th CANDLE – (purple) THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** –It will be lit on December 21, the last Sunday before Christmas.
- 5th CANDLE – (white) “CHRIST CANDLE”** – It will be lit during Christmas eve services. The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins.

Calico Threads

Our *Holiday Sale* will be held Friday November 28th from 9AM-1PM. If you would like to donate gift items or toys please leave in the basket at back of church by Sunday November 23rd.

Volunteers needed to help during the sale in assisting shoppers and wrapping gifts. If you have an hour or two to volunteer please join us at 54 Ferry Street, South River.

We are seeking volunteers for Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:30. Two of our faithful volunteers will be away for the winter months. If you have some Wednesday mornings you could help over the next few months please speak to Joann Devlin, Sandy Rahn or Sue Webb.

Closing for the holidays – For our volunteers to enjoy the holidays with their families and friends, Calico Threads will be closed December 21st thru January 5. Any donations during this time can be left at church or see Joann Devlin, Sandy Rahn or Sue Webb.

To all our dedicated volunteers, thank you for everything you do to help keep this important outreach ministry going. We have made a difference in many lives of those less fortunate and as you know they greatly appreciate our efforts.

Blessed Holidays to all!!

Sandy Rahn

CALICO CAT NEWS

Thanksgiving Greetings from Calico Cat! As we enter into the week of Thanksgiving and the onset of the holiday season we reflect on all of our blessings that we are thankful for. While doing that we also acknowledge the challenges that have surfaced this year and remain thankful for the positives, the learning opportunities, and the continued source of inspiration that our program provides and the results it has produced within the children of this community.

After a very disappointing summer program enrollment, there were changes and some new strategies to take on. Our largest expense is payroll and we have reduced the amount of teachers and the amount of payroll dollars that are spent. A referral reward program was put in place for all referrals to existing families. A Calico Cat Committee has been formed. This committee works very closely on a weekly basis supporting and advising financial aspects of the school as well the school program itself.

This year is the first year that we have two completely separate budgets for the school and the church. The school is accountable for its assigned percentage of all utility usage, Church Administrator and Sexton payroll among other various line items. This has been an important process in determining the profit and loss of each separate entity school, and church. To organize and report the specifics of Calico Cat's up to the week financial trends we are fortunate to have Bruce Richardson assuming the new role of an assistant treasurer for Calico Cat.

There are many objectives and initiatives on the table for this board. It will be a very busy year. First on hand, is the restructure of our Summer Camp Program, one that will provide a

profit producing summer session. We were relieved to see our fall enrollment numbers increase to 76% of capacity for September. Although a few children were added during the first six weeks of the school year, October and November have fluctuated. Currently our enrollment is at 67% of capacity. This number changes monthly as we do accept enrollment throughout the year. Some of the factors surrounding this drop in enrollment have been the scare of the enterovirus D-68 in our county in September. Some of the children from our two and three year old classes left the program due to concern of exposure to a school setting for the first time while this virus appeared in New Jersey.

Most recently the unfortunate situation of loss of employment has affected three of our families. My goal in sharing all these specific details with you is with intention to equally share all the things that we give thanks for. As these challenges pave the way for exploring new and creative strategies, processes and procedures to monitor and ensure all possible courses of action are being discussed and thoughtfully measured and implemented such as- who we are as a school in the community, what we need to produce as a profitable asset and approach 2015 strong with a plan and the gifts of a very diverse and capable committee. I am grateful for the direction, for the input and the sharing of accountability that is provided with this new support system.

I will now be able to focus my time and energy on my leadership role that I have been entrusted to as the director of Calico Cat, those functions that over the last five years have produced measurable difference in the growth, direction and vision of our school. Without a sexton on the grounds for almost five months and without a rector present on site to whom I traditionally report directly to, clearly the formation of the committee will allow me to put my focus, energy and time into the heart of the school. I am completely of the belief that this will result in a financial gain and improvement in many things including staff morale, parent/director rapport and all the things that set Calico Cat apart from the other preschools in the community.

The final thing I would like to share with all of the parishioners of Holy Trinity is some information about our staff. It occurred to me that these are the people that come to your church grounds every day. Calico Cat to them has become so much more than just a job, but a very fulfilling career, and a heartfelt commitment. These are the people that speak of our school in their daily social lives, their families are part of our school family and their commitment never ends. These are the people that parents bring their youngest child to see each day because their older child previously had such a positive experience within their classroom. They have shouldered and have been affected by this financial rollercoaster year in the most direct way.

When Holy Trinity employed a full time priest who was present each day on the grounds they clearly benefited from that. Defined leadership is apparent to all levels of the work force. All of us here look forward to having a presence of day to day leadership. This anticipated leadership does not come with the notion of maximum involvement by our rector in daily operations of the school, but merely a presence that in itself will be of dramatic benefit. Such benefits such as much needed heightened morale, a needed connection with school and church not only on a financial aspect but a cultural one as well.

I am grateful for the opportunity to introduce the people that you entrust the children of our community to each day to provide a quality learning and nurturing environment.

Amelia Rodrigues- Two year old lead teacher. Employed by Calico Cat in 2010. In Early childhood education field for 14 years. Associates Degree from Stratford College. Worked at KinderKastle, Kiddie Academy and Bright Beginnings as the Director. Mother of 3 children ages, 10, 8 and 3 years old.

Rita Juchnik- Two year old assistant teacher/ opener and closer. Employed by Calico Cat in 1994 for one year, returned in 2012. Worked at Corpus Christi school for 7 years as a substitute teacher and after care director. In early childhood education field for 33 years. Associates Degree in early childhood education from Middlesex County College. Mother of one child 20 years old.

Maricela Fermin- Three year old lead teacher. Employed by Calico Cat in 2010. Worked at Bright Beginnings Preschool for 7 years. Degree in Early Childhood Education from the Dominican Republic. Mother of three children 17, 15 and 8 years old.

Kimberly Minetello- Three year old assistant teacher. Employed by Calico Cat in 2011. Previously worked at The Goddard School for 5 years. Just got married this summer.

Nicole Fulkinson- Four year old lead teacher. Employed by Calico Cat in 2010. Has worked at Children's Choice, Kiddie Academy and a private nanny for 3 years. Associates Degree in Science, Early Childhood Education. Just gave birth to her first child this July.

Jennifer Lopez – Four year old Assistant Teacher. Employed by Calico Cat 2011. Jennifer joined us after leaving a sixteen year career in retail management. Attended Raritan Valley College for two years for business administration. Mother of two children 11 and 9 years old.

Mona Bakhoun – Floater, Opener and Closer administrative support to the director and food preparer. Employed by Calico Cat in 2010. In early childhood education for twelve years- Yellow Brick Road Preschool for ten years, The Learning Playhouse for three years.

I look forward to 2015 being a year of positive results gained by lessons learned a redefined excellence in areas of financial growth and community contribution for Calico Cat, and for this and for Holy Trinity's resilient soul, I give thanks.

God's Peace,

Dominique Kaczmarek, Director Calico Cat

Men of Holy Trinity Wreath Project 2014

Name _____

Pickup Dates. Please circle one:
Sunday, December 7 or Sunday, December 14

12" Wreath _____ @ \$14.00

16" Wreath _____ @ \$18.00

Grave Spray _____ @ \$12.00

Grave Cover _____ @ \$23.00

Paid Reserved Grand Total _____

A reservation is a commitment for payment

Orders can be given to:

At 8 O'clock: Bill Kendrick or Bruce Richardson

At 10 O'clock: Royce Flippin or Dom Scali

Orders Deadline is Sunday, November 30th

