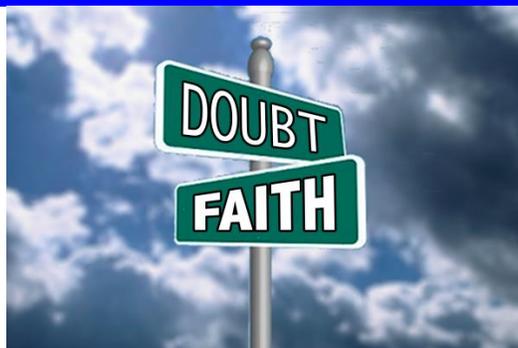


FROM THE SPIRE WITH GLAD TIDINGS!

ST. PAUL'S ON THE HILL AND TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCHES – OSSINING, NEW YORK

Volume 2 Number 2

February 2021



“Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’” (John 20:28)

Some of you may recall that the “Doubting Thomas” story is one of my favorite Biblical accounts. I love the story because it reminds us that doubt is a normal part of our faith journeys: even one who had travelled personally with Jesus wavered in the face of the Resurrection! Thomas wanted some extra substantiation – and who among us has not?

These days, though, as we begin our new journey together, I am mindful more of Thomas’ faith than of his doubt. Once his doubt is resolved, he exclaims clearly what he believes to be the truth about Jesus. This truth – that Jesus is indeed our Lord and our God – is the faith that undergirds our life together as Christians. In knowing Jesus, in relating to Jesus in prayer and song, individually and collectively, we come closer to our Creator and experience ourselves as *belonging* to Creation. And in learning from Jesus, we see the contours of how we are called to live.

We have such challenges before us as human beings in 2021. Our Sister Parishes are determined to be engaged in active, impactful ways in addressing them: racism, hunger, homelessness, climate change, financial injustice, unequal access to health care – the list goes on and on. We are determined to address them all, and to grow in our impact.

But let’s remind ourselves that as we do the hard work, there is a simple, profound fact that is our starting point and our greatest source of comfort: that with Thomas, doubts and all, we can know who Jesus is and find nourishment and guidance in Him. It’s the difference that changes everything.

O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,
The fount of life and our true light,
We seek the peace your love imparts,
And stand rejoicing in your sight.

Hymn 649, *The Hymnal* 1982
Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153)

Charlie+

TRINITY ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the annual election of the Warden and Vestry of this Parish shall take place on **Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 11:00 AM via Zoom**. The meeting shall elect two members of the Vestry. The terms of office shall be three years with respect to the members of the Vestry.

The persons whose terms are expiring are as follows:

As Warden: Carl Gonsalves

For the Vestry: Warren Dyckman and Sally Evans

A Nominating Committee has been appointed, consisting of the Rev. Cooper Conway, the Rev. Dr. Charles Mayer, Carl Gonsalves, Tam Hernández, and Terri Roman. Because St. Paul's on the Hill currently has only one warden, the committee recommends the same for Trinity for this transitional year. Nominations for the vestry are:

Sally Evans and Kellie Ishmael

Questions concerning the preparation of the Nominating Committee slate should be directed to members of the Nominating Committee. Nominations from the floor are permissible at the meeting. Those eligible to vote must be eighteen years of age, baptized, and regular in attendance and support of Trinity Church over the past twelve months.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the annual election of the Warden and Vestry of this Parish shall take place on **Sunday, February 14, 2021 at 11:00 via Zoom**. The meeting shall elect two members of the Vestry. The terms of office shall be three years with respect to the members of the Vestry.

The persons whose terms are expiring are as follows:

For the Vestry: John Houghtaling and Roger Rowe

A Nominating Committee has been appointed, consisting of the Rev. Cooper Conway, the Rev. Dr. Charles Mayer, Margery Barnes, and John Houghtaling. Nominations for the vestry are:

Milton Kerr and Roger Rowe

Questions concerning the preparation of the Nominating Committee slate should be directed to members of the Nominating Committee. Nominations from the floor are permissible at the meeting. Those eligible to vote must be eighteen years of age, baptized, and regular in attendance and support of St. Paul's over the past twelve months.

IT'S OFFICIAL!

The Sister Parishes of St. Paul's on the Hill and Trinity Ossining are pleased to announce the arrival of the Rev. Dr. Charles D. Mayer as Acting Priest-in-Charge, following the Rev. J. Cooper Conway, who retired in January. Fr. Mayer, a native of Long Island, earned his M.Div. at the Harvard Divinity School, with a subsequent year of "Anglicization" at the General Theological Seminary. After several years of parish ministry, he trained as a Pastoral Counselor at the Blanton-Peale Institute, earning Certificates in Pastoral Psychotherapy, Group Psychotherapy, and Marriage and Family Therapy. He completed his clinical training with a doctorate at the Graduate Theological Foundation.



Fr. Mayer fully embraces life as a bi-vocational priest, with a psychotherapy practice in White Plains alongside his pastoral work in Ossining. He cherishes a professional life that combines clinical practice with the rhythms of priestly ministry. In addition, he is passionate about his work as Chairperson of the Diocesan Episcopal-Jewish Relations Committee. He lives in Scarsdale with his wife, Holly, and eleven-year-old daughter, Sarah, and is always secretly ready to drop everything for a baseball game at Citifield.



Dear Members of our Sister Parishes,

I don't have a very good memory, but I shall never forget the amazing Zoom party which you pulled off on the 8th of January.

I think many of us have become ambivalent about Zoom. On the one hand, it allows us to stay in touch in

larger groups while, on the other, it keeps us teasingly distant from each other. So, frankly, I was not too excited to gather on Zoom for our goodbye. What I had not taken into account was the love factor which transcends physical distance. You took such care to make every moment count that our separation slipped away. Thank you.

I also must say thanks for your extravagant gift. It is truly an outward and visible sign of our inward and spiritual bond.

Many have asked what guidelines we are to follow now that I am retired. It is a given that you and I will always be friends and brothers and sisters in Christ. What we will not be are priest and congregation. That relationship now belongs to you and our beloved Charlie Mayer. So I will not return to the parish in any official function like a wedding, funeral, or baptism. Nor will I be consulting on any parish matters. I am not worried that you will have trouble with these guidelines because they are for the good of the churches we love.

I have many, many treasured memories of our time together. Thank you for that.

Love and blessings,

Cooper+

DEACON BEACON



Another covenant! How blessed am I to have been offered another year with the Sister Parishes and to have the bishop agree? This is not always the case! But with God all things are possible. Looking back at the last month I see a staff that has earned a rest and yet in the next few weeks there will be the annual meetings. The close of the books from 2020 and the building of budgets for the 2021 year to work on. Not what I call a restful time! AND... the grieving of the loss of our dear partner, Cooper. January is a dark time indeed. But someone recently said to me that the best thing about deep winter is that spring comes next!

I have been hiking every weekend at Teatown where I became a Senior (!) member recently. And last Sunday I came upon this lovely stream with bright green evidence of spring trapped under a thin layer of ice. I wonder what is

waiting patiently to happen here in our Sister Parishes just under the surface of a thin coat of ice? We will get to see soon enough! Together!

Stay well, see you soon.

Deacon Dorothee

[See my photo... look closely to see the promise of spring!]

LOAVES AND FISH

Eleven volunteer cooking teams (one of which is ours!) whose members live in Croton, Ossining, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Chappaqua and Briarcliff Manor, and by numerous friends and relatives who have joined the cooking effort to help the community during the pandemic cooked over 9,000 meals in 2020. Delivery drivers from Gullotta House delivered the meals to the homebound. In addition to the meals, they also receive bags of groceries provided by the Ossining Food Pantry. Last year, our team cooked in March, October, and December.

Our team is now led by Ed Shultz, ably assisted by Sally Evans, Jo McGrath, Sue and Mark Monroe, Cha and Darryl Moy, and Melanie Rowe. We are next scheduled to cook on February 16th and if you'd like to volunteer or get more information, contact Ed at eshultz5@gmail.com





OUR UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

February 7	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Sexagesima
February 14	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite II)	Quinquagesima
February 17	9:45 AM		Ash Wednesday
February 21	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Lent 1
February 28	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite II)	Lent 2

Our services are delivered on our YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJlxWU8Z_ucCKEGA

Services are also being posted on Facebook. To watch the service just click on the link. You do NOT need to be a Facebook member. Here is the link to our public Facebook pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/trinityossining/>

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsossining/>

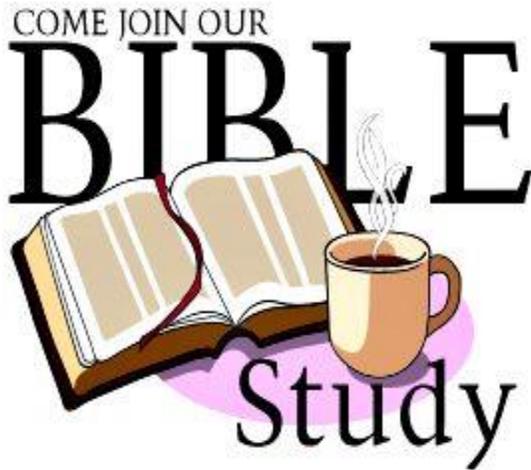
The service of Compline is posted by 7:00 PM Monday through Saturday, also on our Facebook pages and our YouTube channel. Our leaders are Fr. Mayer, Deacon Dorothee, Carolyn Black, and Graham Gulian. Thank you all!

They are all on our websites. Here are the links:

<http://trinityossining.org/>

<https://stpaulsonthehill.org/worship/virtual-church-services/>

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK



Begin Lent with the Gospel of Mark! The Bible Study group will discuss the earliest (and shortest) of the four gospels, starting Sunday, February 28, 2021 at 11:00 AM via Zoom (after Coffee Hour).

Mark opens with words from the prophet Isaiah: "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you," and indeed the gospel itself serves as a messenger for the life and ministry of Jesus. Written around 65-75 CE, Mark proclaims the good news that Jesus is the messiah and Son of God.

We're excited for this journey, during which we'll encounter the risen Lord through the Gospel of Mark.

For more complete information on the process, please, click here:

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/>



ST. PAUL'S NEW DOORS

In August, a huge storm took away the French doors in the Parish Hall. And, as you might expect, the doors were custom...and we took the opportunity to update the sidelights. Nothing will keep this parish down!

RAID AT COMBAHEE RIVER, JUNE 2, 1863
By Amanda Gunn

They moved over
in flight
in murmurations
as one black body against
the terrible
over the
of bread and fat,
catching up or
alligators snapped,
of the shackle.
we are here, you
shall not be left
Out front:
watching for torpedoes,
singing a hymn,
Parting
the waters.

Volume 48.4 2014 Auburn Witness Poetry Prize Winner

THE RAID AT THE COMBAHEE RIVER

On June 2, 1863, Harriet Tubman, under the command of Union Colonel James Montgomery, became the first woman to lead a major military operation in the United States when she and 150 African American Union soldiers rescued more than 700 slaves in the Combahee Ferry Raid during the Civil War.

"The success of the raid, which had also included the brave service of African-American soldiers, increased Tubman's fame, and she went on to work on similar missions with the famed Massachusetts 54th Infantry before spending the final years of the war tending to injured soldiers. One hundred years after Tubman's successes in South Carolina, a recently formed black feminist group took the name Combahee River Collective in her honor, also paying honor to Tubman's work later in her life as a powerful advocate for women's suffrage."

— from History.com

Tubman, often referred to as "the Moses of her people," was a former slave who fled to freedom in 1849. Tubman worked for years to bring enslaved women, men, and children from the south to the north through the Underground Railroad.



METHODIST DIRECTIONS FOR SINGING

- I. Learn these Tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.
- II. Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.
- III. Sing All. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up and you will find a blessing.
- IV. Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.
- V. Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.
- VI. Sing in Time: whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can. And take care you sing not too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.
- VII. Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your Heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

From *United Methodist Insight: Discerning God's Will for the Future*, September 19, 2017



THIS SOUL CRIED FROM THE ABYSS

Biblical, Theological And Practical Resources For Preventing And Grieving Suicide

Thanks to Bishop Andrew Dietsche, the Episcopal Diocese of New York offered a 3 session webinar series on this topic. Bishop Dietsche opened the series with a frank and very personal remembrance of the events related to his brother's suicide in 1995. The Bishop said this personal trauma was later followed by his presence at the burials of over a dozen people who died by suicide (mostly men between the ages of 30-36). He recalled that these experiences are particularly fraught for the survivors and loved ones who may be dealing with feelings of guilt, anger, and awkward silences from their usually supportive social network of family and friends during their grief. The grieving process differs from person to person and he hoped that this series, conducted by three experts, would help attendees learn some important facts about one of the top ten causes of

death in our country. How to be more present, compassionate, and helpful for people who may be at risk or for those who have been touched by these deaths.

The panel included: The Rev. Robert D. Flanagan, D.Min., Jill M. Harkavy-Friedman, Ph.D. and Stephen L. Cook, Ph.D. You can access the seminars via the diocesan website at:

www.dioceseny.org

Here are a few helpful informative resources:

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention <https://afsp.org/>

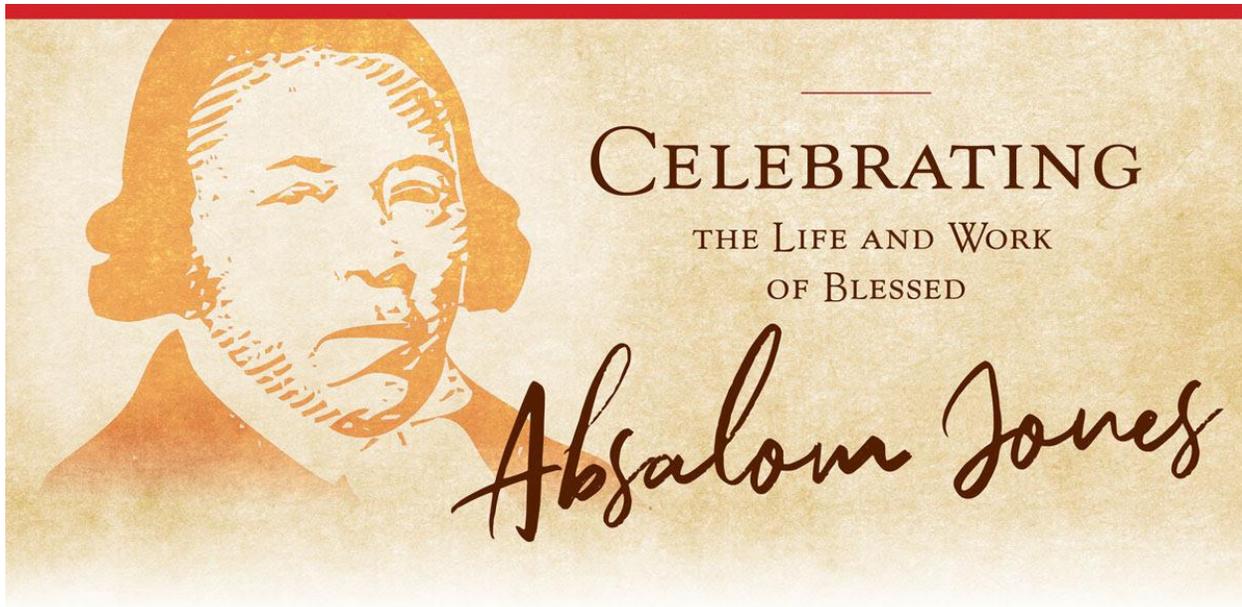
The Trevor Project <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

Text TALK to # 741741

As someone who lost a loved one to suicide in 1997, I can honestly say that I was heartened by this effort to encourage discussions about this subject now. Since that time, I have learned that so many of my friends and professional associates have also been impacted by suicide and we all agreed that the stigma associated with this event made our growth and healing during this challenging time much more difficult. This thoughtful series was certainly a much-needed step in the right direction!

—Cecilia Quintero



PANEL DISCUSSION

**Absalom Jones and the Essential Worker:
Yellow Fever 1793 to COVID 2019**

Wednesday, February 10 | 6:30PM-7:45PM | via Zoom

Panelists

The Rt. Rev. Mary D. Glasspool | The Hon. Byron Rushing | Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines

Moderated by: Dr. Nell Braxton Gibson

This panel will discuss the importance of Absalom Jones' work during the yellow fever epidemic of 1793 when he and Richard Allen worked tirelessly to nurse the sick and bury the dead in Philadelphia. Fast-forward to the current COVID-19 pandemic: The participants will build a bridge between 1793 and 2020, discussing Jones' responses to the overall crisis and lessons learned, while examining essential opportunities for strengthening community ties during these trying times.

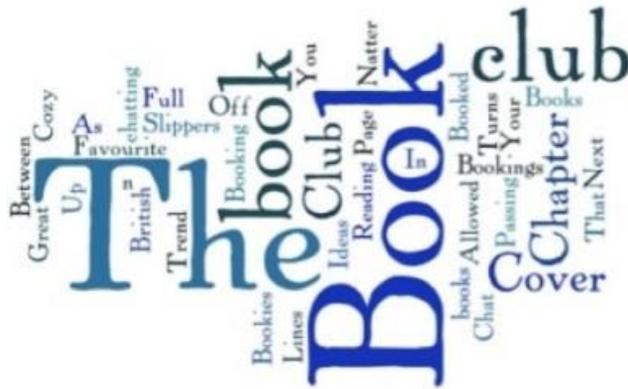
Blessed Absalom Jones Celebration Service

Officiant: The Rt. Rev. Andrew M. L. Dietsche, *Bishop of New York*

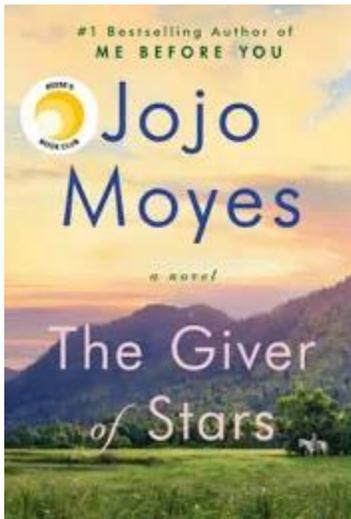
Sermon: The Hon. Byron Rushing, *Vice President of the House of Deputies*

Saturday, February 20, 2021 | 10:30AM-12PM | via Facebook Livestream

For more information on how to join the service: <https://absalomjones.dioceseny.org/#service>



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH @ 1:00 PM



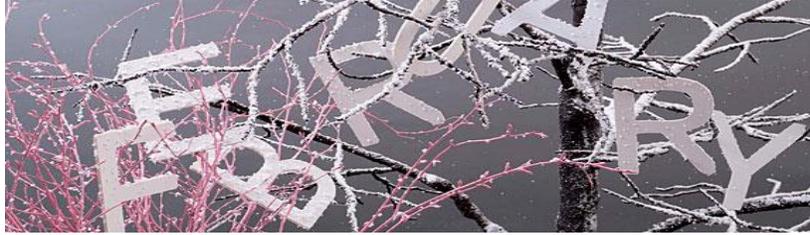
The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes: Set in Depression-era America, this is a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond. What happens to them--and to the men they love--becomes an unforgettable drama of loyalty, justice, humanity, and passion. These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at others brutal, they're committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives.

Based on a true story rooted in America's past, *The Giver of Stars* is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling. Funny, heartbreaking, enthralling, it is destined to become a modern classic--a richly rewarding novel of women's friendship, of true love, and of what happens when we reach beyond our grasp for the great beyond. Soon to be a major motion picture!

Thanks again to everyone who joined us for the Annual TBC Champagne Toast on January 23rd. It was great to see everyone and hear each other's thoughts, blessings, and news. Just what the doctor ordered! Despite all the surprises and shocks of 2020, it was nice to be reminded that we have remained connected and in communication throughout the challenges of national news stories, COVID and election year politics.

"Gloriousness and wretchedness need each other.
One inspires us, the other softens us. They go together."

—Pema Chodron



UPCOMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

- 1 ReGathering Committee meets
- 7 Annual Meeting (Trinity)
- 14 Annual Meeting (St. Paul's)
- 16 Trinity and St. Paul's serve at Loaves & Fish)
- 17 REPAIR meets
- 20 Trinity Book Club (*Giver of Stars*)
- 24 Social Justice Mission Committee meets
- 27 Joint Vestry Meeting (Leadership Transition Review)

ST. PAUL'S FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Karen Pauline
- 9 Susan Holsten Madera
Robert Docker
Mo. Cooper Conway
- 12 Christina Cowan Richmod
- 13 Kathen Cowan Reynolds
- 14 Nicholas Kip
- 20 William Cowen
Doris Beresford
- 22 Stephanie Silicato
- 24 Evelyn Marie Steckmeister
- 25 Julie Gross
Brooke McGrath
Ian Robertson
- 26 Audrey Del Bene
- 29 Jessica Bowen

ST. PAUL'S FEBRUARY BAPTISMS

- 5 Stephanie Kip
- 6 Shelley Gilbert
- 21 Jeanne Rothrock

TRINITY'S FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Dhalya Baker Wagner 5
- Donald W. L. Chadeayne 9
- The Rev. Cooper Conway 9
- Jeremiah Allen 14
- Linnet Baker 15
- Adam Wagner 18
- Abbigail Ruth Garcia 22
- Emerica Jusu-Davies 23
- Christopher Fasulo 29

TRINITY'S FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- Janet Hughes and Diahann Malcolm 14

ST. PAUL'S FEBRUARY DEATHS

- 1 Reggie Williamson
- 2 Roger Trommelen
Ann Potts (Barbara Rose's Mother)
- 7 Mary Allen "Jayne" Jones
Richard Vaillancourt
- 12 John William Matherly
- 18 Edith Skidgell



CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Charles D. Mayer, Acting Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Dorothee R. Caulfield, Deacon

ST. PAUL'S OFFICE

Carolyn R. Black, Music Director
Tina Farrell, Church Administrator
Beth Pollack, Treasurer

TRINITY'S OFFICE

Christopher Fasulo, Minister of Music
Tam Hernández, Parish Administrator
Katherine Pendzuk, Treasurer and Verger
Pablo Montoya, Sexton

ST. PAUL'S 2020 VESTRY

Sue Monroe, Warden
Marjorie Barnes, Clerk
Julie DiLoreto
John Houghtaling
Darryl Moy
Lisa Rosenbloom
Roger Rowe

TRINITY'S 2020 VESTRY

Carl Gonsalves, Warden
Tam Hernández, Warden
Sally Evans, Clerk
Charles Baker
Alexis Cullen
Warren Dyckman
Kate Pendzuk
Cecilia Quintero