

FROM THE SPIRE WITH GLAD TIDINGS!

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

Volume 2 Number 5

May 2021

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new’”
(Revelation 21:5).



It is very easy for me to idealize my church experience as a child, and especially as a youth. Looking back, I remember all the ways in which the church I attended took strong stands in the service of bringing about a New Creation. We were anti-war, anti-nuclear, even anti-racist. Our youth group had a book group that read Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whose martyrdom at the hands of the Nazis almost by itself inspired six of us in the group to pursue the ministry. Church was a place where

one could imagine the possibility of a world transformed in one's own lifetime, and to aspire to be a part of bringing about that transformation.

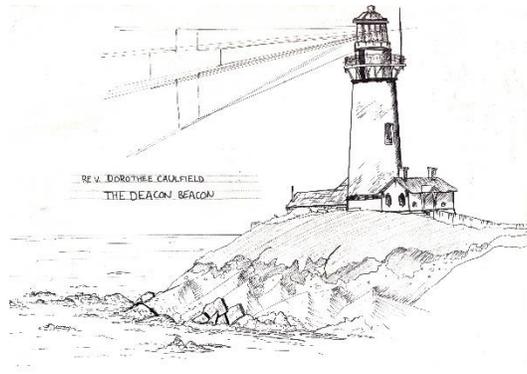
Yet this idealization overlooks the many ways in which oppression was still manifestly a part of church life. Racism, while opposed in the abstract, was in practice the norm in our all-white congregation. Women were excluded from ordination, and there was little support for changing this. And there was one subject that was never addressed, except in the form of enforcing rigid, conservative social norms. That subject, of course, was human sexuality.

The Church has made some good strides in becoming more comfortable offering theological and pastoral guidance in the area of sexuality, especially in the past few years. But there is still a long way to go if the distorted and prejudicial use of the Bible is to be overcome with respect to the LGBTQ community. While barely mentioned in Scripture, “homosexuality” is widely thought to be condemned by Biblical teaching, even today, and even in otherwise “progressive” circles.

Our Sister Parishes Bible Study will be engaging this issue beginning on May 16, with a five-week study of Fr. John Dwyer's excellent book, *Those 7 References: A Study of the References to “Homosexuality” in the Bible and Their Impact on the Queer Community of Faith* (full details on p. 7). The book seeks to correct the misinterpretation and misuse of the Bible that continues to cause great harm to people both within our church families and in the larger society: people we know and love who are suffering because of this abuse.

I personally have benefitted greatly, as a priest charged with preaching and teaching the Christian faith, from the insights of this book. In these Great Fifty Days of Easter, when the Holy Spirit is calling us to be a holy community by allowing God's power to heal and transform us, it is timely for us to dare to engage an issue that has long been shamefully suppressed by the Church. Join us! Let's strive to be a community of faith that doesn't need to be idealized, but instead “lives our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.” (Philippians 1:27).

Easter Blessings, Charlie+



DEACON BEACON

Could it be that trees are sung into blooming
each spring as birds gather open-throated
on their long dark branches?
Or perhaps it is the birds who only sing
once they feel the branches humming
beneath their tiny feet?
And what of me? Do I sing because the world
is impossibly in blossom? Or do I flower
because I hear the ancient song?

Spring Mysteries by Christine Valters Paintner

What in the world appears impossibly, achingly beautiful to you?

What is it calling out to you to do?

The rectory is set on a magnificent piece of property. The birds sing, the flowers are blooming, and the trees are full of blossoms. Last weekend, we invited our grandchildren for an overnight in our new home. The first one since March of 2020. They were so excited! I was too! And I have to say that the most achingly beautiful thing I've seen in a year is the sleeping faces of my grandchildren.

Take some time, look around and think about our beautiful world and what it's calling you to do?

See you on Zoom!

Deacon Dorothée



A LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF ST. PAUL'S AND GROWING UP

By Roger Rowe

When I was approached to reflect on what St. Paul's means to me, I never really gave it that much thought. I have been a parishioner of St. Paul's for over 60 years. When my family moved to Ossining, we sought out a church. We ultimately settled in at St. Paul's. At 12 years of age, I had only known one church and that was Trinity in Mt. Vernon.

St. Paul's was everything we wanted in a church. It had an established Sunday school, a youth group, and a group of acolytes. I was to have been confirmed in Mt. Vernon...but we moved. I was prepared for confirmation here at St. Paul's by Father Sharkey. We met at Trinity on Wednesday afternoons to prepare for confirmation. I met Trinity's confirmands and we all became good friends. At the time, I knew little to nothing about our church. I knew only they were a "high church", and their service was different. But the service was the same as the service at Lake Delaware Boys Camp that I attended. Their service was also "high church." I became an acolyte at camp and learned to serve the high church Rite I. Being an acolyte at St. Paul's was different, not as much to do as a server. We continued at St. Paul's and I worked my way up to Master Server--the first one! I was responsible for serving a total of 250 services, scheduling the 15 other acolytes, and training them to serve.

I lost some touch with St. Paul's when I went to college. I did attend services when I was home, but not much more. Melanie was confirmed at St. Paul's, and upon graduating from college, we got married and then became full time members of St. Paul's. Our sons, Scott and Craig, attended church and were confirmed here.

A long time ago, we would leave directly after church by the side door of the Narthex. One Sunday we were walked into coffee hour by the firm but loving direction of a few of the ladies who ran coffee hour and never left!

St. Paul's is a major part of our lives. Melanie has spent much time at St. Paul's giving back what we have been given. We found other ways to repay St. Paul's and our wonderful fellow parishioners: altar guild, vestry, etc. St. Paul's is our home.

Our home parish is just that, home. I have no idea what the future holds for St. Paul's, but I do know that it has—and still does—hold out great hope for my family and me.



Congratulations to Alexandria Hightower, who graduated from Florida A. & M. University Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Pre-Med and a minor in Chemistry on Sunday, April 25, 2021 . She is the daughter of Arthur and Tresa Hightower and granddaughter of Art Hightower.



Tulips in Carolyn Black's Garden

Go with thanks and go with blessing, season of integrity.
Souls with truth are deeply freighted; hearts are keen with innocence.
In the cold and darkness traveling, you have come to brightest Spring.
Infant, who has grown to childhood, midwife, wise with mothering,
Touch the hidden beauty in us, help us soar on Summer's wing.

Caitlin Matthews' *Farewell to the Season of Imbolc*,
to be said on the last morning of spring (April 30th in the old ways).

Dear Sister Parishes,



The Grinagers: Kristen, John, Nancy and Jill

I have been meaning to write for some time now, always looking for the perfect moment to be able to sit down and dedicate to writing, but as that moment never arises, here goes.

I wanted to thank you so much for the work you do and for the beautiful services and all the time and energy that must go into having them prepared every Sunday. This Sunday will mark our family's one year anniversary of watching online. My father and his family were very active in Trinity as a child – members of the choir, the vestry and

participating in activities. My grandfather continued all his life and his funeral was held there (a foggy memory of mine as a 6 year old), but eventually my grandmother, aunts and father all moved away and so stopped attending.

Last year, at the end of March, my mother fell and broke her hip. With the Corona virus limitations and her already frail health (she was suffering from dementia), this ended up being the final blow that she was unable to recover from and she finally passed away on April 11th. During the period from her fall to her final passing, I spent hours upon hours on the phone with my Dad (my sister and I live in Germany and Spain, respectively, and were not able to fly out). We spoke of many things...current worries, future uncertainty, but we also spoke of his past. It was during these difficult moments that I was able to hear all about how much my dad had felt at home in the church and just how important it had been for him. He mentioned a friend of his who didn't attend church at all and how he kind of "felt bad for him", thinking he must have felt so alone, because he didn't have a church family like my dad did. This stuck out to me and I decided to try and investigate and see if we could attend his church online. I discovered that you were having online services on Facebook and after helping my dad navigate the complexities of social media (he had never used such things), we were all set up to attend our very first service, which just so happened to be Easter Sunday. As it turned out, it was the day before that first service that my mom passed. And I wasn't sure if he would feel up to it. But the very next morning, we attended our first service. I don't remember much of it. And it was riddled with technical difficulties for us. But it was the start of something.

We have come a long way, a whole year in fact, from that first Easter Sunday. And in that time, we have attended church every Sunday! My aunts joined in very early on, and my sister as well, so now every Sunday, we watch the service and then after we have a nice, long family chat despite the distances (California, NYC, Connecticut, Spain, and Germany). It has been a silver lining and a true blessing and I wanted to thank you all so much. It has carried us through

difficult times and given us a constant in our lives. I think it has given us a special activity to look forward to, despite all the restrictions of lockdown. It has also inspired us to pursue our faith further, reading books like *A Journey with Matthew* and Bishop Michael Curry's book *Love Is The Way*, amongst others. I really can't say enough about how happy I am that we took that first step and started attending your services and I also can't thank you enough for the beautiful and thoughtful sermons, music, readings and so on.

Anyway, I just wanted to share our personal story and let you know how much you are truly helping others without even knowing about it. I look forward to a time when we can travel again and make a trip over to Ossining and attend a service in person! But until then, we love participating by watching the YouTube videos.

Thank you once again for everything!

Sincerely, Kristen Grinager

Holy

By Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer



Tonight, it seems impossible to not notice
the god that brightens the cup of mint tea
and the soft-scented god in the lavender petals.
The quenching god in the tangerine
juice running down the wrists.
And the laughing saline god
that crashes the ocean waves.
The stinky god in the stinky fish
and the starlit god in the dark abyss
and the grumbling god in the growling belly
and the somber god in the pillow—
it's a wonder I ever forget how holy
the world is, every line, every hair,
every scale, every sound—and yet somehow
sometimes I miss the balancing god
in the bicycle tire and the ticklish
god in the inner thigh and the sweetening
god in the green bananas that even
tonight
are engaged in ripening, that miracle
of transforming into a deeper sweetness
minute by minute by minute.



**TRIVIA AT ST. PAUL'S
IS COMING BACK!
SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH AFTER COFFEE HOUR**

2. Popular Culture

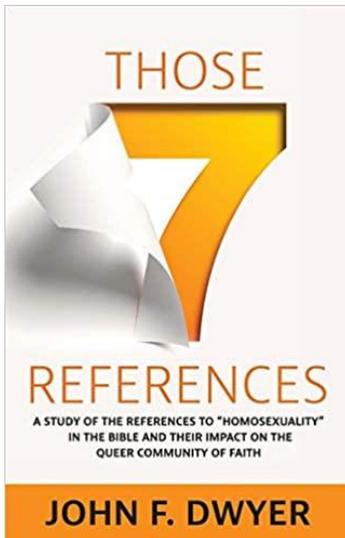
- 4) What did Beyonce and Jay-Z name their oldest daughter?
- 5) What big country music star is married to Faith Hill?
- 6) Who was Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey dating during his 2018 Presidential bid?

I'll Be Working On The New Questions Until Then.....Hee-Hee



Cecilia Quintero

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP



We will be resuming our Sunday Zoom discussions on May 16th from 11:00 to 11:50 AM. The Zoom link is sent on Sunday morning at 9:15 AM. As Fr. Charlie mentioned in his monthly message, we will be examining John F. Dwyer's *Those Seven References*, starting with Chapter 1. There have been enormous strides toward equality for the queer community in recent years. There have also been regressive local legislative actions seeking to limit those national steps toward equality. Many of those who have led these regressive efforts are individuals steeped in purposeful ignorance, bias, tribalism, and a radicalization of faithful beliefs, misleading their congregations and influencing legislators.

Personhood, the intense value of our individuality, cannot be made less by these few passages of scripture: God's love for our uniqueness is not compromised by oft misinterpreted verses. Having knowledge and words to counter baseless accusations can disarm those who would use these passages as weapons of exclusion and judgement, and can empower the queer community to live confidently in God's love. Here's the link to Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.com/Those-Seven-References-Homosexuality-Community/dp/1640653376>



In beauty may I walk, all day long may I walk. Through returning seasons may I walk. On the trail marked with pollen may I walk. With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk. With dew about my feet may I walk. With beauty may I walk. With beauty before me, may I walk. With beauty behind me, may I walk. With beauty above me, may I walk. With beauty below me, may I walk. With beauty all around me, may I walk. In old age wandering on a trail of beauty may I walk, lively, may I walk. It is finished in beauty. It is finished in beauty.

Walk in Beauty, closing prayer from the Navajo Blessing Way Ceremony

The Navajo beauty prayer takes us on a journey in seasons of life. Each pause, each step is a prayer. Every new step is a beginning as the Holy Spirit prays with us. The Navajo prayer invites us into ceremony with the Divine to restore our holistic self with creation. On the trail of the beauty prayer, we are invited to listen carefully to places where we need healing. We listen, we pray and we bless our sacred being with the healing medicines of Mother Earth's nutrients. This, too, is ceremony where God loves us as we are. God's divine creation knows us, too, and shows us how God's transforming power restores our very soul. It is how God makes us whole.

The Rev. Canon Cornelia Eaton
Canon to the Ordinary of Ministry in the Episcopal Church in Navajoland.



OUR UPCOMING SERVICES

May 2	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Easter 5
	12:30 PM	In-person Communion at Trinity (weather permitting)	
May 9	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite II)	Easter 6
May 16	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Easter 7
	12:30 PM	In-person Communion at St. Paul's (weather permitting) In-person Coffee Hour after the service (!)	
May 23	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite II)	Day of Pentecost
	12:30 PM	In-person Communion at St. Paul's (weather permitting)	
May 30	9:45 AM	Online Service of Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Trinity Sunday
	12:30 PM	In-person Communion at Trinity (weather permitting)	

Weekly evening services are available at 7:00 PM.

On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, we pray the service of Compline on our Facebook pages and our YouTube channel. Our leaders are Fr. Mayer, Carolyn Black, and Graham Gulian. Thank you all!

On Wednesdays, Deacon Dorothee offers a Zoom service of Evening Prayers at 7:00 PM. Here is the link for that service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89842138521?pwd=TXN3ckJPM0N0N0JubEtJdk9FQXd6QT09>

Meeting ID: 898 4213 8521

Passcode: 143122

By phone: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 898 4213 8521

Passcode: 143122

Our online services are delivered on our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJllxWU8Z_ucCKEGA

And our YouTube services are all on our websites. Here are the links:

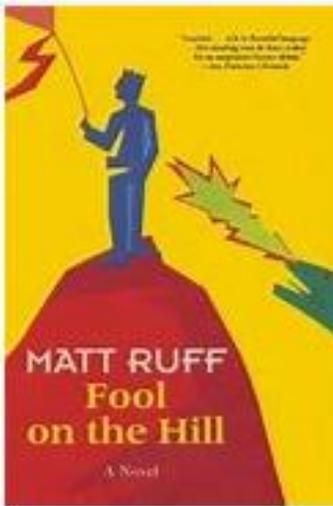
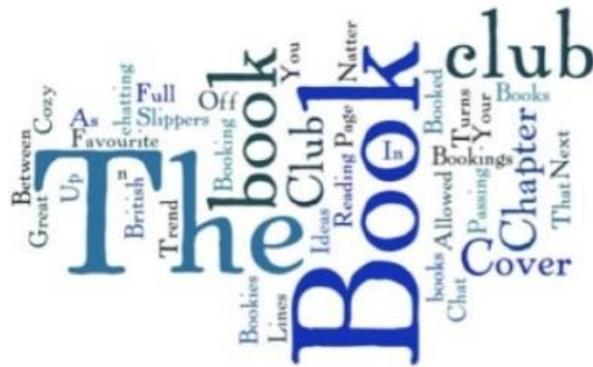
<http://trinityossining.org/>

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



IN HOPEFUL EXPECTATION THAT WE WILL SING TOGETHER AGAIN!!
LIFE LESSONS LEARNED FROM CHOIR:

- To accomplish great things, work together
- Practice, practice, practice.
- Breathe, breathe, breathe.
- The little details can make a big difference.
- It's important to listen to the people around you.
- Be grateful for the gifts you've been given.
- You can improve upon what happened yesterday.
- Ask questions if you're not sure what is going on.
- It's okay to make mistakes - learn from them.
- Each voice is unique, beautiful and important.
- Stand tall when the spotlight shines on you.
- Keep your eyes up and pay attention to directions.
- There are times to be loud, silent and even silent.
- If you're too loud, other sounds cannot be heard.
- Sometimes you just need to rest and take a break.
- Remember to enjoy the music while it lasts.



Our next book is *Fool on the Hill* by Matt Ruff. This bestselling book, recommended by Jim Nielsen and Alexis Cullen, began as his thesis in college. His academic advisor found him an agent and the rest is history!

[Fool on the Hill | bymattruff.com](http://bymattruff.com)

Jim & Alexis have agreed to co-host this discussion. I was thinking of meeting later this summer after the July 4th holiday; does July 11th work for everyone? Let me know your thoughts, I have not included a time yet since maybe we can meet after church like in the good old days? (Keeping my fingers crossed!)

(To receive the link to our Zoom discussion, please reply to this newsletter email or email Cecilia at cquintero1506@gmail.com)

NEW PAYMENT OPTIONS ARE HERE!



With much hard work on the part of Kate Pendzuk and the agreement of Trinity's vestry, Trinity is now able to accept credit cards for people who wish to donate to Trinity through our website. Although we decided to make this move mostly to give visitors to our online services and website that choice, parishioners who would prefer to donate this way can also take advantage of this option!



ELEANOR MARIE BRIEANT ALLEMAN

Mrs. Eleanor Marie (Brieant) Alleman, 90, of Sutton, died peacefully April 2, 2021 in New London, NH. Mrs. Alleman was born October 28, 1930 in Ossining, NY to Albert and Florence (Cotton) Brieant. She grew up in Ossining and graduated from St. Mary's School, Peekskill, NY in 1948. She received an RN from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing (New York City) in 1952. She worked in some form of nursing all her life. She is predeceased by her husband of 63 years, Dudley Alleman, Jr. and her brother, The Rev. Charles H. Brieant.

Mrs. Alleman is survived by her children: Elizabeth Alleman Peterson (Jon) of Chestertown, MD; Dudley Welles Alleman (Sharon) of Granby, CT; Kathryn Louise Alleman of Alexandria, VA and David Brieant Alleman (Grace) of Lady Lake, FL; seven grandchildren, three great grandchildren, four nieces and nephews.

The Allemans raised their family in Chappaqua, NY. Mrs. Alleman worked as a nurse at Northern Westchester Hospital until her first child was born. She worked part time as an office nurse at the Mt. Kisco, NY Medical Group until 1981. In 1971 the family moved to New Canaan, CT, where the children graduated from high school. In 1981 the Allemans retired to Sutton, NH. Mrs. Alleman continued to use her nursing skills at New London Hospital for many years.

Mrs. Alleman was an accomplished church organist and choir director serving in numerous churches throughout her life, most recently, at Kearsage Presbyterian Church in New London, NH retiring in 2010. She was awarded the Valiant Woman Award by the NH Church Women United in 2010. She had been an active member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London since 1981.

From the age of six months, Mrs. Alleman spent summers at Mt. Arab and Eagle Crag Lakes in the Adirondacks. She was an avid swimmer and as an adult often swam the width of Mt Arab Lake.

A family service will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London, NH. Interment will be in the Memorial Garden at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in Hingham, MA.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mount Arab Preserve Association PO Box 111 Piercefield, NY 12973-0111 or St. Andrew's Rector's Discretionary Fund, PO Box 294 New London, NH 03257.

Spring is Coming!



TRINITY'S MAY BIRTHDAYS

Nicola Kenny	3
Marjorie Many	6
Ken Shepard	6
Carolyn Jones	7
Alexis Cullen	11
Cecilia Quintero	12
Michael Roman	15
Charles Korr	18
Jayson Aryee	19
Fernanda Landim	19
Gloudys Cole	23

TRINITY'S MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Patricia and Carl Gonsalves	2
Dorothee and Rick Caulfield	5
Joe Scappaticci and Jean-Charles DeOliveira	21

ST. PAUL'S MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Raymond Farrell
2 Jessica Kamp Shelley Gilbert
3 Robert Shea
5 Melanie Rowe
6 Carolyn Black
12 Christine Holsten Schuler
13 Susan Brocchi
14 Oliver Gulian
23 Steven DiLoreto Sophia Sadowska
27 Hank Teller
28 Patricia Pappalardo Cavaliere
29 William Davis
31 Gregory Howard

ST. PAUL'S MAY ANNIVERSARIES

9 George and Joan Holsten
17 Doug and JoAnn McGrath
18 John and Ann Farrell
23 Michael and Karen Pasioka
27 Jim and Marta Bowen
29 Luis and Susan Madera
31 Joe Orfino and Kerry Cranston

ST. PAUL'S MAY BAPTISMS

2 Barbara Rose
8 Jordan Piscitelli
9 Julianna Piscitelli
13 Phelps Kip
17 Nicholas Kip
19 Susan Holsten
23 Ellie Houghtaling
24 Raymond Farrell
26 Roland Rose

St. Paul's May Deaths

1 Riona Brooks
5 Erna Carey
8 Edith Skidgell
11 Frank Beresford
22 June Pappalardo
25 Richard Shedden

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY

4	Sister Parishes serve at Loaves and Fish	19	REPAIR meets
4	Joint Vestry Meeting	21	Staff Meeting
10	Trinity Vestry Meeting	23	Day of Pentecost
11	St. Paul's Buildings & Grounds	24	Re-Gathering Committee
15	Joint Vestry Meeting	26	Social Justice Mission Committee
16	In=person Coffee Hour	30	Trinity Sunday
18	St. Paul's Vestry Meeting		



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 2021 VESTRY

Sue Monroe, Warden
Margery Barnes, Clerk
Julie DiLoreto
Milton Kerr
Darryl Moy
Lisa Rosenbloom
Roger Rowe

TRINITY'S 2021 VESTRY

Tam Hernández, Warden
Sally Evans, Clerk
Charles Baker
Alexis Cullen
Kellie Ishmael
Kate Pendzuk
Cecilia Quintero



MISSION STATEMENT

Trinity's mission is to nourish our community in body mind and spirit through worship, music, spiritual formation and outreach activities.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Trinity Episcopal Church is a diverse and inclusive group, dedicated to providing beauty and welcome to all who seek a place of peace and prayer.

Trinity Episcopal Church

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THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WELCOMES YOU

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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