

Trinity Episcopal Church

Lenox, MA



A peak inside:

- Lent at Trinity
- The Gordon Clem Academy Project

SERVICES

SUNDAYS

8 a.m. - Holy

Eucharist

10:15 a.m. - Holy

Eucharist with Hymns,

Godly Play and J2A

5 p.m. - Evening

Prayer

DAILY

7 a.m. - Morning

Prayer (8 a.m. on first

Saturday of every month)

RECURRING

EVENTS

Prayer Shawl

Ministry - 12 noon on

first Thursday and

third Tuesday of every

month

Taizé Prayer - 5pm

on third Sunday of

every month

Saturday Morning

Prayer - 8am on first

Saturday of every

month

A Message from our Rector

Dear People of Trinity,

In just a few days we will be entering the season of Lent. In the past ten years or so, Lent has become an especially popular season in the Church. Many people use this season as an opportunity to do some spiritual Spring Cleaning in order to get ready for Easter and the celebration of Christ's resurrection. But like cleaning our homes, it can be a little difficult to figure out how to begin this project.

The Church has traditionally suggested that our practices for Lent fall into three categories: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Each of these practices complements each other. Prayer is encountering the God who loves us. Prayer could come in saying some additional prayers at home, or it could be coming to an additional service during the week. It could even

be a practice of reading the Bible during Lent. Fasting is voluntarily letting go of something to make space for God. And almsgiving is helping those in need in order to see the face of Christ in others. A good Lenten discipline often chooses one small practice from each of these categories.

Last year, I suggested that we try a small fast as a parish. I suggested that we refrain from shopping on Sundays in order to create a stronger sense of Sabbath and to create a little more space for God. If you found this practice helpful, then I would encourage you to make this part of your Lenten practice this year.

I would like to suggest another possible practice for this year. As a form of almsgiving, I would suggest that we tithe 10% of our grocery budgets on food for the

food pantry. There could be many ways we do this. We could buy additional food during our regular shopping trips, or we could just put aside some money to donate to the food pantry.

Like last year, I am making this only as a suggestion. It is up to you all to determine how this practice would work for you or even if you will keep this practice at all. However you end up keeping your Lent, I hope that this is a season of renewal and restoration for you, and I hope that your Lenten practice brings you closer to God.

The Gordon Clem Academy

As you may be aware a small group has been developing plans to honor the life of our dear friend and long time parishioner Gordon Clem, who died late last year. Gordon spent his life nourishing and inspiring young boys as a member of the faculty and for 28 years as Headmaster of the St. Thomas Choir School in New York City. In conversations with Gordon’s family and old friends, plans are afoot to build a school in a remote area of Kenya.

Gordon’s sister, Ann, has told us of Gordon’s life-long interest in supporting education in Africa, and Gordon was an enthusiastic supporter of Expanding Opportunities, which many of you know through Beverly Stone and her Mom, Gwen Gilbert, and through the African artifacts they sell at our Christmas Fair & Silver Tea each year.

Beverly has many years experience working in Kenya and developing programs to help street children in sensible and practical ways. She will be going to Kenya in March to do “due diligence” on exactly where The Gordon Clem Academy should be built. The vestry has encouraged the planning group to firm up plans, and has agreed to underwrite the expenses of soliciting contributions. We will be asking friends of Gordon, at Trinity, at St. Thomas, and at other venues to support this effort shortly. The total needed looks to be \$40,000.

You will be hearing more of the Gordon Clem Academy in the weeks and months to come. In the meanwhile, should you wish to help in small or large ways with this work, please be in touch with

any of the persons listed below.

This memorial to Gordon will support children in rural Kenya, and will also nurture our sense of Christian mission here at Trinity. And, we think, Gordon would be pleased to be remembered in this commonsensical and pragmatic way.

- Eugenie Fawcett
- Jeff Kittross
- Steve Peters
- Gail Street
- Michael Tuck

We have several events planned over the next few months to let everyone know about this exciting project. Stay tuned!

Services and Event this Lent	
<i>Weekly Services and Events</i>	<i>Special Days and Events</i>
<p>Sunday: Evening Prayer at 5pm Sunday: Lent Dinner and Discussion Series at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall Monday – Saturday: Morning Prayer at 7am Tuesday: Holy Eucharist at 9am Wednesday: Bible Study at 1:30pm in the rectory Wednesday: Contemplative Prayer at 7pm</p>	<p>Lenten Taizé Service – March 16 at 5pm in the Chapel St. Joseph’s Day – March 19: Holy Eucharist at 10:00am in the Chapel Feast of the Annunciation – March 25: Holy Eucharist at 10:00am in the Chapel Lent Quiet Day – March 29: The Two Altars – The Church and the World (9am-1pm)</p>

Spotlight on Outreach

Over the past few months, we have been discussing a book by Robert Lupton titled, *Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities hurt those they help and how to reverse it*. We hope that this provocative book will inspire us to reflect on how we do outreach as a parish.

We have a tentative date for another morning of "Stop Hunger Now." This will be a parish wide project, back by popular demand. Stay tuned for more exciting information!

Annual Lent Series:

This year will be focusing on the Book of Common Prayer as a model for spiritual development. As Episcopalians, we say the same prayers every week. During Lent this year, we will take the time to reflect on the deep meaning of the prayers we know so well. We will be using the book **Sacramental Life: Spiritual Formation Through the Book of Common Prayer** by David de Silva. Copies will be available at the office. The cost is \$20. The Lent Series will be held on Sunday evenings. We will begin with a simple supper at 5:30pm (after Evening Prayer), and discussion will begin at 6pm.

Evensongs at Trinity

This year, we are making an effort to expand our musical offerings and to bring the tradition of Evensong back to Trinity. We had one evensong in the fall sung by a combined choir of Trinity parishioners and friends as well as the Cantilena Chamber Choir. Early in February, we held another evensong to celebrate Candlemas, the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple. And in Easter, on May 11, we will be joined by the Men and Boys Choir of All Saints Church, Ashmont (Boston).

Lent Quiet Day: The Two Altars – The Church and the World

Saturday, March 29 from 9am -1pm

One of the greatest challenges of the Christian life is to create a seamless connection between what we do on Sunday mornings and what we do during the rest of our lives. We will be exploring this topic at our Lent Quiet Day this year, and our reflection will be led by the Reverend Nancy Strong, the rector of St. Matthew's Church in Worcester.



**Trinity Children's Choir at
Candlemas Evensong**