



TRINITY TOPICS

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DEAR FRIENDS

Speaking truth to power



Dear Friends,

As we move through these turbulent and uncertain days, it seems an appropriate moment to reflect together on Jesus' radical teaching about speaking truth to power. In a world that often feels divided, where voices of justice are sometimes drowned out by those in authority, we turn to the life and words of Jesus for guidance and strength.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus did not shy away from speaking truth to the powerful of his time—whether they were religious authorities, political leaders, or those who wielded control over the lives of the marginalized. He called out hypocrisy, injustice, and the exploitation of the vulnerable, even when it meant risking his own safety. Jesus' message was always one of love, but it was not a message that ever compromised on the need for justice and truth.

Jesus did not mince words when he confronted the leaders of his time, whether they be religious or political, he called them out for their self-righteousness and their exploitation of the people. He spoke against the ways they burdened the poor and oppressed, warning them that their position of power would not protect them from the consequences of their actions.

And yet, in speaking truth to power, Jesus was not motivated by anger or a desire to tear down, but by a deep love for all of God's children. He sought to awaken hearts and minds to the truth, not just about the world around them, but about the nature of God's justice and

love. His message was always an invitation—to repent, to turn toward a life of compassion, humility, and peace.

As followers of Christ, we are called to do the same. In our own time, we see so many ways in which power is used to oppress, to marginalize, and to silence voices that seek justice. Whether in our local communities or in Washington, D.C., we are reminded that speaking truth to power is not just a political act—it is a deeply spiritual one. It is an act of witness to the Kingdom of God, which calls us to stand alongside the poor, the oppressed, the voiceless, the marginalized, the unseen, the frightened.

This is not easy work. Jesus did not promise it would be. But he also gave us the strength to speak with boldness, to seek justice with humility, and to love even those who may stand in opposition to us. Speaking truth to power, as Jesus showed us, is an act of love that can change hearts and transform systems. It is a way of embodying the hope of the Gospel in a world that desperately needs it.

Let us remember that truth is not merely a set of facts to be defended, nor a particular political ideology, but a powerful force that moves us toward a world where all will be seen, heard, and valued. Let us be bold, let us be compassionate, and let us be people of truth.

Love and light-
Jeffrey Albright
Senior Warden

BREAKFAST AT TRINITY



This week we received news that our signature community engagement ministry, Breakfast At Trinity, has been awarded the Episcopal Community Service Grant for the second consecutive year. Last year, to launch the ministry we applied for and received \$5,000 while we would fundraise for a matching \$5,000. For 2025, the Diocese of Ohio has granted Trinity \$10,000! We are so grateful to the diocese for their support, and for our amazing volunteers who continue to make Trinity a welcoming place for those on the margins. If you have any interest in volunteering or learning more about our signature ministry, please contact George Benson, george@trinitytoledo.org

FEBRUARY-AT-A-GLANCE

February @ Trinity!

Sunday Mornings

BREAKFAST AT TRINITY

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST | 8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY COFFEE HOUR | 10:00 AM

Wednesday afternoons

NOONDAY PRAYER

CHAPEL PRAYER SERVICE | 12:00 NOON

Thursday evenings

CHOIR REHEARSALS

CONTACT THE OFFICE | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Special Events

Sunday
February 2

TRINITY TOURS! 2ND FLOOR

GET AN INSIDE SCOOP OF THE 2ND FLOOR | 11:15 AM

PRIDE COMMITTEE MEETING

PLANNING TRINITY'S 2025 PRIDE CELEBRATION | 11:15 AM

Friday
February 7

GIRLS ON THE RUN BOARD MEETING

PROUD BUILDING PARTNER | 11:00 AM

Saturday
February 8

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

RICK'S CITY DINER | 9:00 AM

Sunday
February 9

TRINITY RESPONSE TEAM

ACTIVISM 101 WITH ACTIVITIES | 11:15 AM

Thursday
February 13 & 27

GLASS CITY PRIDE BAND REHEARSALS

PROUD BUILDING PARTNER | 7:00 PM

Saturday
February 15

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR ADDRESS | 9:00 AM

Sunday
February 16

TRINITY KIDS LEADER MEETING

AFTER SERVICE | 11:15 AM

Thursday
February 20

TOLEDO STREETS NEWSPAPER VENDOR LUNCH

PROUD BUILDING PARTNER | 8:30 AM

Saturday
February 22

PLAZA PROJECT PLANNING 2025

MY BROTHER'S PLACE | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Sunday
February 23

VESTRY ORIENTATION

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH | 11:15 AM

Tuesday
February 25

FOOD FOR THOUGHT MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

JOINED BY THE TOLEDO HEALTH DEPARTMENT | 10:00 AM

TRINITY RESPONSE TEAM MEETING

February 9: In our 2030 Vision we write about the *Trinity Response Team*, a group that connects our faith community with opportunities to mobilize for community issues. This could include events requiring education, conversation, advice, and witness. On February 9th after service, we will be hosting our first TRT meeting where we will be learning how to contact our representatives about what has been going on with the administration change.

Please if you're interested in attending or learning more information, contact George Benson at george@trinitytoledo.org

LET'S GO SEE GRACE!

Have you ever wanted to go on a bus trip with your friends? Well, do we have the opportunity for YOU! PARISH LIFE is organizing a bus trip to go see Grace on the North American Tour of Dirty Dancing on MARCH 15th 2025. Cost is \$100 per person, which will include your seat on the bus, a packed dinner, and your ticket to the show! Sign up in this link to reserve your seat by February 14th, 2025. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/letsgoseegrace>

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

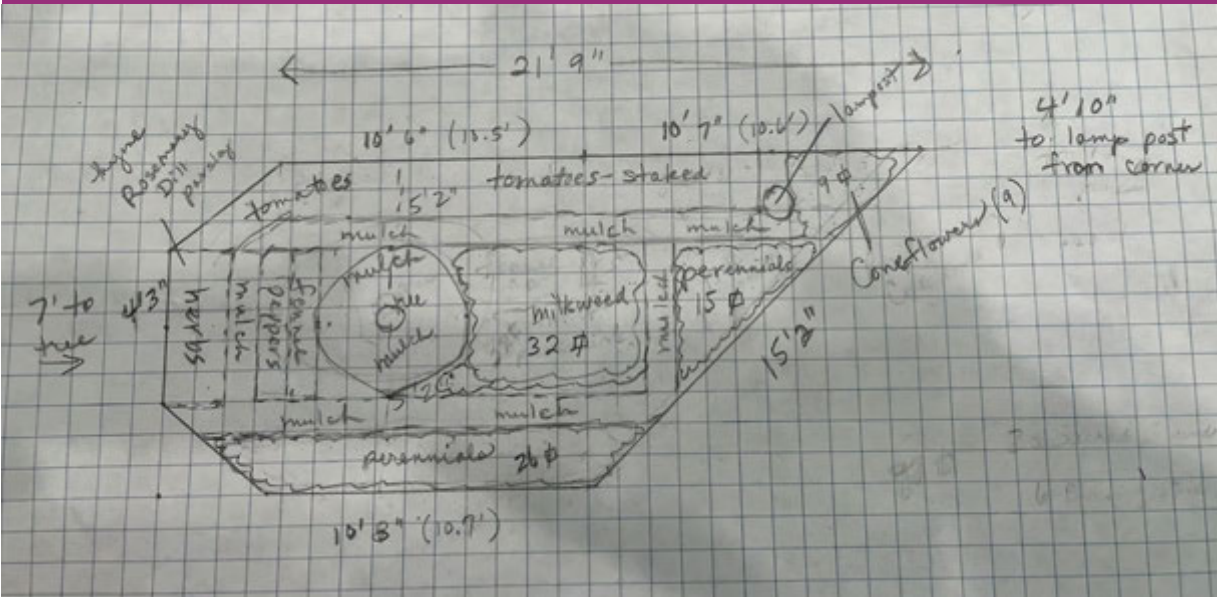


Join us for women's Bible study on **February 15th from 9:00–10:30 am**. We will explore and pray with the gospel selection appointed for the following day at church. Bring a Bible (print or online) and an open heart. The great news is that it doesn't matter how much experience you have (or don't have) with scripture. We'll learn together.

When you sign up, you'll include your email address. The week of Bible study, Jolene will email you directions to the house and a copy of the passage under discussion, so you can read it in advance. If you have any questions, please email jolene278@gmail.com.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AADAC23A0FD0-54105807-womens>

SAVE THESE DATES TO HELP WITH THE PLAZA



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Saturday, May 10 1:00–4:00 p.m. on the Plaza **Purpose:** Afternoon plaza work day to plant the plants we buy at the [Wild Ones plant sale](#) on the morning of May 10.

POP UP DINNER HOSTS



Calling Hosts! Parish Life is excited to be coordinating another round of **Pop-Up Dinners** in **March and April**. If you're a host who would like to participate, please sign up using this link!
<https://forms.office.com/r/00t8YMuP07>

BUILDING OUR HOUSE ON ROCKS

AN EVENING OF PRAYER AND UNITY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 7PM
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH DOWNTOWN TOLEDO



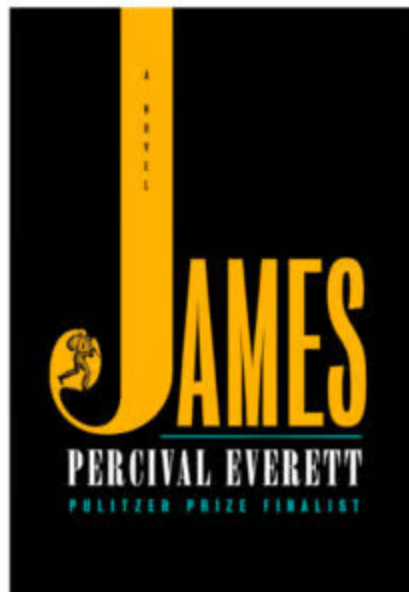
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WEDNESDAY NOON SERVICE



BOOK CLUB



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TRINITY@HOME LIVE-STREAM

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www.trinitytoledo.org/live

EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

[Episcopal Church's resolutions support rebuilding Gaza, Israeli-Palestinian self-determination](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Several resolutions passed in June 2024 by the 81st General Convention speak to current events in Gaza, where Israeli...

[Alabama bishop calls for election of new bishop as she prepares to retire](#)

[Diocese of Alabama] The Rt. Rev. Glenda Curry, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, has announced her intention to retire later this year...

[Minnesota couple relies on their Episcopal faith as they serve their local wrestling community](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Jayne and Nick Kinney are sometimes a bit late for Sunday services at St. Martin's by the Lake in Minnetonka Beach,...

[World Council of Churches calls on Trump to follow international law for a just peace in Gaza](#)

[World Council of Churches] World Council of Churches general secretary the Rev. Jerry Pillay has described the proposal of President Donald Trump as...



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DEAR FRIENDS

Trinity Response Team



Dear Friends,

The Trinity Response Team (TRT) had their first gathering this past Sunday in My Brother's Place to contemplate and act on many justice issues – gun violence, food insecurity, racism, and LGBTQ shaming – to name a few. This gathering was specifically to discuss appropriate actions and reactions to the new president and his administration these last two weeks.

Twenty-two of us attended and there were many contributions and ideas during our active discussion. Folks collected handouts that contained:

1. contact information for elected representatives and Senators in DC;
2. a description of "how to" speak to a staffer when one calls or writes an email/letter, and
3. a brief description of 10 Executive Orders (E.O.'s).

Postcards with the Trinity logo on one side were written to senators and representatives during our time together kindly stating our objections to the Executive Orders. Those were mailed out this week.

Those gathered agree this is just the beginning of TRT's advocacy for people, both in our community and around the country, who find themselves excluded or oppressed by these E.O.'s. It was suggested that the TRT plan to meet monthly

for continued advocacy and support. We will work on doing just that.

Please prayerfully consider whether you have a role to play in TRT. All people of goodwill are welcome! Please contact George Benson at Trinity with any questions, contributions, or concerns. george@trinitytoledo.org

God's Peace,
Mark Dubielak

TRINITY SNOW/WEATHER POLICY ON SUNDAYS



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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

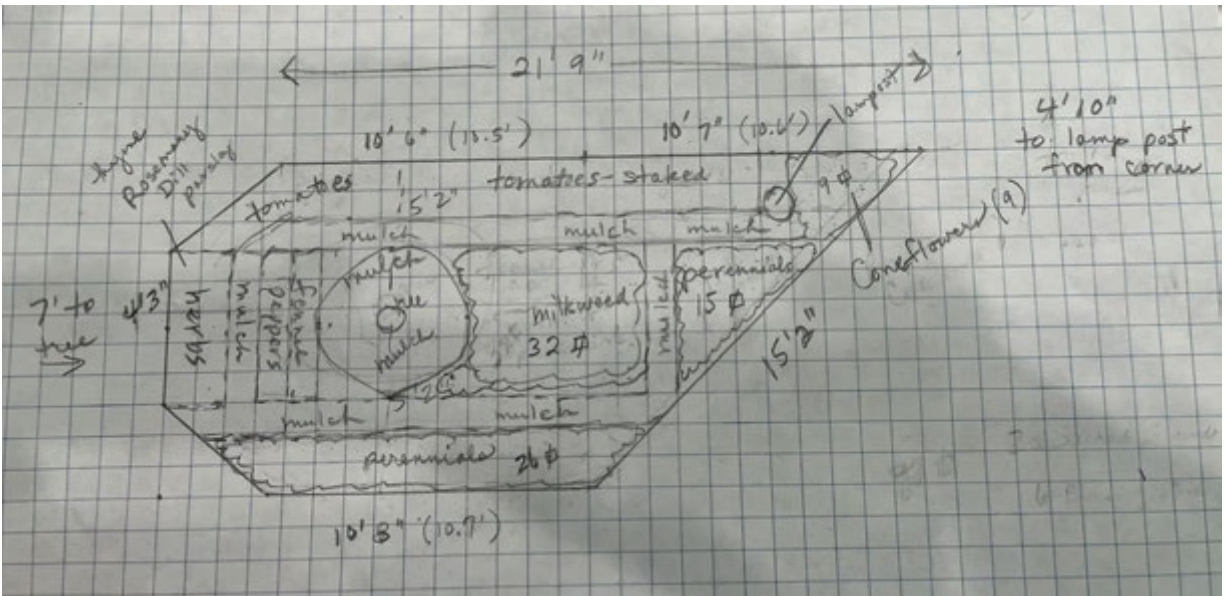


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Saturday, May 10 1:00–4:00 p.m. on the Plaza Purpose: Afternoon plaza work day to plant the plants we buy at the Wild Ones plant sale on the morning of May 10.

LENT 101

The season of Lent is fast approaching, and on **Sunday, February 23rd**, we are hosting a Lent 101 Session. This is a season that has been going on in the church for hundreds of years, but we recognize that not everyone knows what it is. Lent 101 will be a short class held immediately after service in the Walbridge Room where we will discuss facts, misconceptions, and whether or not Sunday is in fact a free day where we don't repent but celebrate! [Please click here for the signup genius to RSVP a spot today!](#)

BUILDING OUR HOUSE ON ROCKS

AN EVENING OF PRAYER AND UNITY

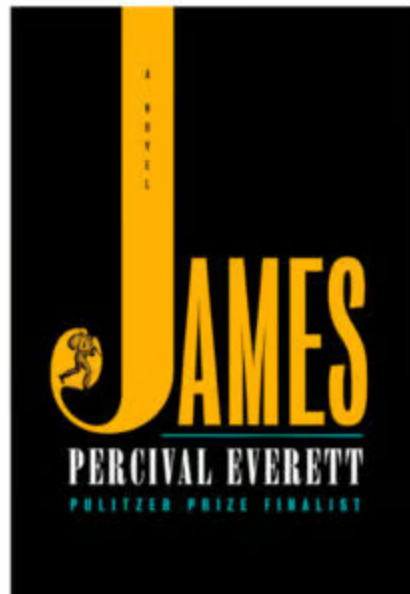
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TRINITY'S PRAYER LIST



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EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

[New York Bishop Assistant Mary Glasspool to retire in June](#)

[Episcopal News Service] After almost 45 years of ordained ministry, New York Bishop Assistant Mary Glasspool will retire this summer. Her last day...

Episcopal leaders respond to federal government's removal of cultural holidays, observances

[Episcopal News Service] As the new Trump administration leads public and private entities to remove calendared holidays and observances...

After Welby's resignation, England seeks new archbishop of Canterbury amid debate over role

[Episcopal News Service] The Church of England's General Synod is meeting in London this week for the first time since the resignation last month of...

Gladness of Heart dating services help single Episcopalians find love

[Episcopal News Service] As a young Episcopalian, dating in person and online has been tough, and oftentimes frustrating, for Eva Warren. She's too...

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DEAR FRIENDS

What do you mean I don't have to give up chocolate?



Dear friends,

We're coming up to my favorite liturgical season: Lent. Reading that, you probably fall into one of two camps: **What's Lent?** or **Lent's Your Favorite? Really**

What's Lent? Even if you haven't observed Lent in the past, you probably have heard stories of people who have. The stories I heard growing up were from Catholic friends, most commonly "I'm giving up chocolate for Lent." When I asked my friends why they gave chocolate up for Lent, they invariably answered, "I'm suffering because Jesus suffered." Back then, I knew very little about church traditions. What I've since learned is that Lent is the season that leads up to Easter, from Ash Wednesday through Maundy Thursday. Traditionally, this was a time of preparation for people wishing to be baptized at Easter and is associated with penitence and fasting. There are many spiritual practices associated with Lent: giving something up, taking something on, being intentional in spiritual reading, donating money to charity, and changing eating habits on some or all days of Lent.

If you made it this far, you may now be leaning to the other camp.

Lent's Your Favorite? Really? Penitence and fasting don't sound like much fun, so why is Lent my favorite liturgical season? Life is full of distractions, even distracting me from God. Lent lets me refocus my attention on God: Where am I falling short? What have I made more important than God? Where is God calling

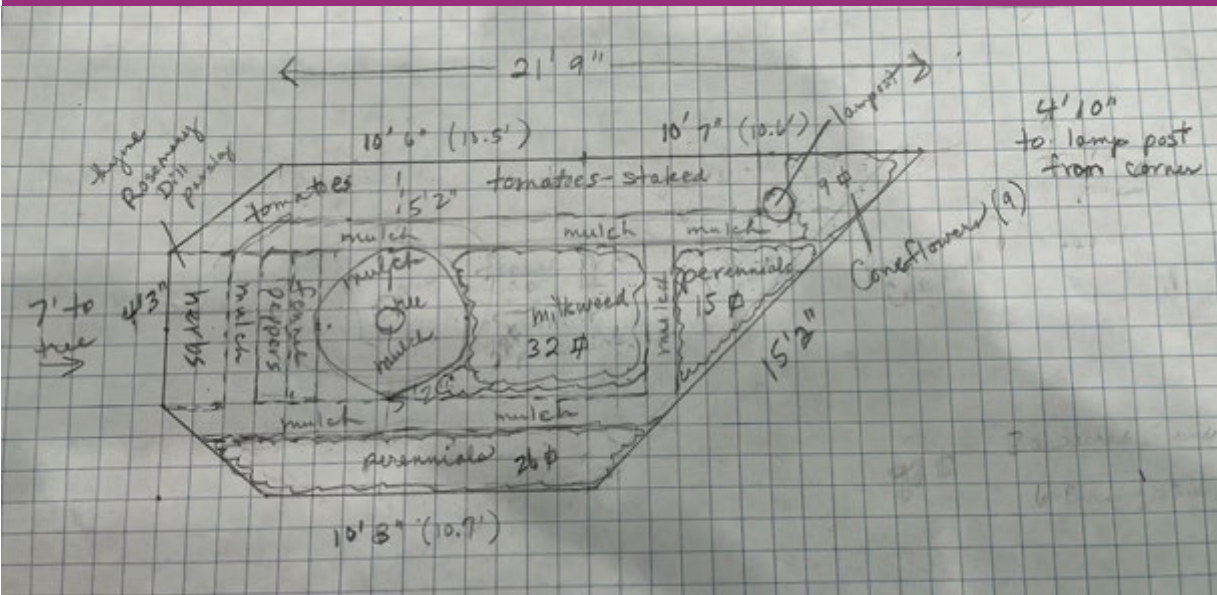
me to new life? Over the years, my lenten practices varied, such as coming to Wednesday soup suppers at church, being more intentional about daily prayer. Every year, I stumble over the same obstacles, like taking on the most challenging disciplines, so I can prove to God I'm serious, then feeling bad when I give up halfway. (Of all the things to give up for Lent, the hardest is ego-centered thoughts.) Lent is an intentional invitation to all of us to look at our relationships with God at the same time. Our faith community supports us, beginning with the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday (March 5).

Whether you are brand new to Lent or are looking for a refresh, join the Spiritual Formation Committee on Sunday, February 23, for **What do you mean I don't have to give up chocolate? An introduction to Lent.** (It's helpful to RSVP, but not required.) Grab a snack at coffee hour and meet in the Walbridge room. Bring your curiosity and your questions.

Maybe you'll find your way to the third camp: **Oh, Lent is My Favorite Season Too!**

Jolene Miller
Chair, Spiritual Formation Committee

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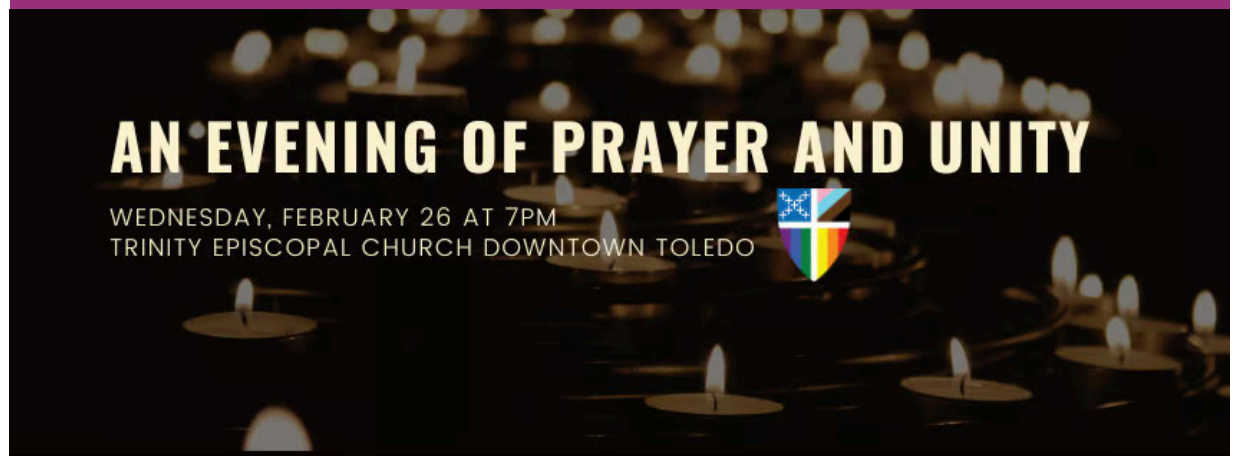
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MARDI GRAS

MARCH 2ND AFTER-CHURCH PARTY

MARDI GRAS

PANCAKES, GAMES AND MORE!



Sunday, March 2: Come on up to My Brother's Place after service for our second annual Mardi Gras party. Pancakes, games, and frivolity are just the beginning of this fabulous afternoon!

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ASH WEDNESDAY



Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 5th, when Trinity will offer two Ash Wednesday services at 12:00 pm noon (without music) and 7:00 pm (with music.)

LENTEN SUPPER AND BOOK STUDY STARTS MARCH 12

One of Trinity's Lenten traditions is to gather on the Wednesdays in Lent to gather to share a simple meal and have discussion. This year, we've chosen to read Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde's 2023 book, *How We Learn to be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith*. Church will have a small number of copies of the book to purchase at cost (\$28) from a local independent bookstore, though copies of the book can be purchased on your own (including Kindle and audiobook formats). Our supper and discussion series begins on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:00 pm. Discussion will begin around 6:45 pm. To give some cushion time for book delivery, on March 12, we will be watching a video of Bishop Budde. Please sign up for supper so that we can plan appropriately.

PS – If you can only make some of the sessions, that's fine. Come when you can!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/howwelearntobebrave>

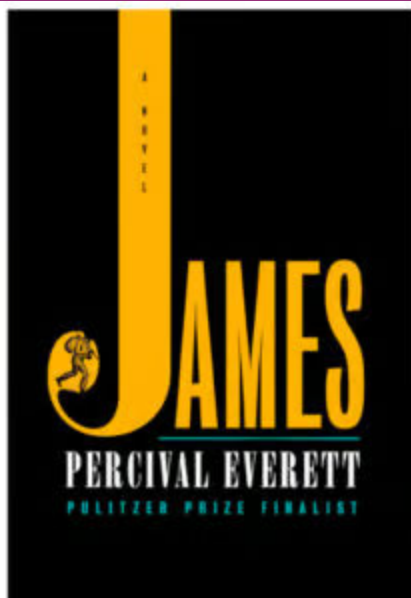
KATE BOWLER 'THE HARDEST PART' 40 DAY DEVOTIONAL

"Life is this strange, tender mix, isn't it? Joy and sorrow, love and loss, heartbreak and hope, all tangled together. This year, we invite you to embrace Lent as it is—raw, honest, and tender. This is the season that asks us to stop pretending we're holding it all together. It's a time to pause, sit with what's fragile and unfinished, and let God meet us in the hardest parts of our lives."

You're invited to use this Lenten devotional to draw closer to God in the hard time. Each day in Lent (except for Sundays) has a reflection, a prayer, and a question or topic for you to explore. On each Sunday in Lent (except for March 16), we will be gathering in the Walbridge Room after church for open discussion – all are welcome! Download the Hardest Part Daily Guide here: <https://katebowler.com/lent/>

We will also have a small number of printed guides available.

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EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

Episcopal Church lays off 14 as presiding bishop marks 'major milestone' in churchwide realignment

[Episcopal News Service] Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe announced staff cuts and the reorganization of several church departments on Feb. 20 as part of...

[Episcopalians cleaning up again after floods hit parts of Kentucky, West Virginia](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Episcopalians in eastern Kentucky and West Virginia are helping to clean up the damage and assess losses after flooding hit...

[7 times Episcopal and Anglican leaders spoke against Russia's aggression toward Ukraine](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Russia's unprovoked invasion of its neighbor Ukraine is three years old this month, and Russian aggression dates back...

[Archbishop of York sends prayers for Pope Francis' recovery](#)

[The Catholic Diocese of Westminster] Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell has written to Cardinal Vincent Nichols, archbishop of Westminster,...

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DEAR FRIENDS

Welcome home!



Dear friends,

It is hard to believe that March is Saturday. After January lasting for three years, and February seeming to fly by, we look forward to the season of Lent and a time of exciting change. If, somehow, you have not heard, our new Rector Jon M. Richardson, and his husband Michael arrive on the 16th for their first Sunday. But before we get there, we have some exciting news about a new team member!

This Sunday you will see a few new faces around our humble corner of Adams and St. Clair, specifically in our nursery. I am excited to announce that Trinity has hired a new Nursery Attendant, and her name is Nichole Ramirez. Nichole is a Toledo native and is a graduate of Performing Arts School of Metro Toledo and went on to Albion College on a performing arts scholarship.

Having worked at Children's Discovery Center for a long time, Nichole has a lot of experience working with children from pre-school to middle school ages. She also has a little one of her own who will be here from time to time. Aside from spending all this time with children, Nichole really enjoys reading, attending live theatre, art museums, but really enjoys her time with her partner, daughter, and four cats. We are thrilled to say to Nichole and her family, WELCOME HOME!

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ashwedsnesday

Trinity Toledo 12:00 pm
7:00 pm

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WELCOME HOME, JON+!



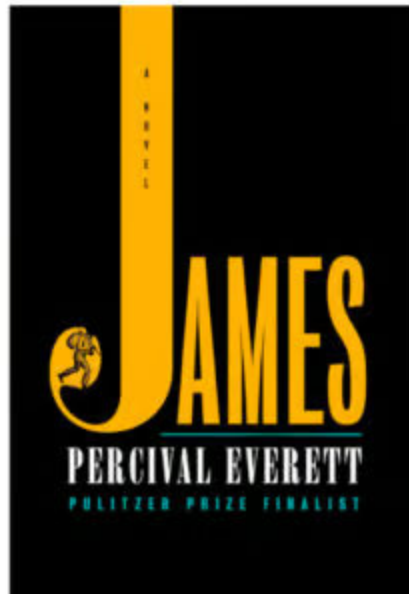
Friends, it's time to throw an after-church Trinity Party like no other! March 16th, Trinity welcomes home our next Rector, Jon+ and his husband, Michael. We need YOUR HELP! Trinity's got the sandwiches and beverages covered, but we need your magnificent side dishes and desserts. Please RSVP at the link below and let us know what fabulous side dishes you'll be bringing. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/welcomehomejonandmichael>

LENTEN SUPPER AND BOOK STUDY STARTS MARCH 12

One of Trinity's Lenten traditions is to gather on the Wednesdays in Lent to gather to share a simple meal and have discussion. This year, we've chosen to read Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde's 2023 book, *How We Learn to be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith*. Church will have a small number of copies of the book to purchase at cost (\$28) from a local independent bookstore, though copies of the book can be purchased on your own (including Kindle and audiobook formats). Our supper and discussion series begins on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:00 pm. Discussion will begin around 6:45 pm. To give some cushion time for book delivery, on March 12, we will be watching a video of Bishop Budde. Please sign up for supper so that we can plan appropriately.

PS - If you can only make some of the sessions, that's fine. Come when you can!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/howwelearntobebrave>

BOOK CLUB



Join the book worms on Sunday, March 16 at 6:30pm via Zoom to discuss *James*, a book by Percival Everett. A brilliant reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*—both harrowing and ferociously funny—told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

[Sign Up Now](#)

KATE BOWLER 'THE HARDEST PART' 40 DAY DEVOTIONAL

"Life is this strange, tender mix, isn't it? Joy and sorrow, love and loss, heartbreak and hope, all tangled together. This year, we invite you to embrace Lent as it is—raw, honest, and tender. This is the season that asks us to stop pretending we're holding it all together. It's a time to pause, sit with what's fragile and unfinished, and let God meet us in the hardest parts of our lives."

You're invited to use this Lenten devotional to draw closer to God in the hard time. Each day in Lent (except for Sundays) has a reflection, a prayer, and a question or topic for you to explore. On each Sunday in Lent (except for March 16), we will be gathering in the Walbridge Room after church for open discussion – all are welcome! Download the Hardest Part Daily Guide here: <https://katebowler.com/lent/>

We will also have a small number of printed guides available.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Join us for women's Bible study on **March 15th from 9:00–10:30 am**. We will explore and pray with the gospel selection appointed for the following day at church. Bring a Bible (print or online) and an open heart. The great news is that it doesn't matter how much experience you have (or don't have) with scripture. We'll learn together.

When you sign up, you'll include your email address. The week of Bible study, Jolene will email you directions to the house and a copy of the passage under discussion, so you can read it in advance. If you have any questions, please email jolene278@gmail.com.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AADAC23A0FD0-54105807-womens>

TRINITY'S PRAYER LIST



Trinity continues to have an active prayer list. If you'd like prayers for yourself or for someone you know, you can request them by contacting the Trinity office (trinity@trinitytoledo.org or 419-243-1231). All prayer requests are shared only with a small intercessory prayer group who, along with parish clergy, offer recurring prayers for each request. When a request is received, it remains on the prayer list for four weeks before it's taken off. Requests can always be renewed or submitted again; having an "expiration date" simply prevents the list from overflowing with prayer requests that are out of date.

TRINITY@HOME LIVE-STREAM

Trinity@Home is now a live-stream of Trinity's 10:00 am in-person service with an interactive chat.

www.trinitytoledo.org/live

EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

[Decline in American Christian observance has slowed, Pew study finds](#)

[Religion News Service] The Pew Research Center Religious Landscape Study's 2023–24 edition, released on Feb. 26, points at changes in American...

[Bishop Mariann Budde receives mountain of supportive mail after post-inauguration sermon](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Washington Bishop Mariann Budde has drawn intense national and international attention in the past month for her Jan. 21...

[Presiding bishop discusses vision for church's future at Episcopal Parish Network conference](#)

[Episcopal News Service] "We're embarking on a season of change ... and it's never easy," Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe said during a Feb. 26 keynote...

[Archbishop of York responds to proposed cuts to UK aid while defense spending would rise](#)

[Office of the Archbishop of York] Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell has expressed concern over the decision by the United Kingdom's...

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