



St. Paul's Epistle
The Newsletter of St. Paul's & Trinity
Parish
Tivoli, New York
June 2018

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*From the
Pastor*

Welcome to Life in the Trinity

Christian belief insists that God dwells in community - that God exists in relationship. This famous icon created by the 14th Century Russian artist, Andrei Rublev, illustrates the relational reality of God -- the Holy Trinity. Of course, it is important to keep in mind that any attempt to represent the reality of God is merely an approximation, since all language and images fail to capture the totality of "The Ultimate Reality." Nevertheless, we try to articulate it - or some dimension of it, as best we can.

Here, Rublev depicts three figures positioned at a table, lovingly inclined towards each other, gathered around what looks like a chalice. Much has been written about the meaning of this icon, but the heart of the message is that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit dwell in harmony with each other, and because of the space that remains open on the front side of the table, they welcome us into that space to be in relationship with them. This, then, can be understood as a symbol of the Church. We the Church, representative of "The Community of the Holy Trinity" on earth, are called to welcome others to this Table of Loving Fellowship.



How fortunate we are that the name of our parish includes the Trinity - a constant reminder that our vocation is to live in loving harmony with each other and to extend welcome to others to participate in our life together. I am glad to see that we at St. Paul's & Trinity Parish are indeed expanding ways to welcome others of our village and surrounding community into our life of fellowship, worship, and service. May we continue to do so. God's Table is spacious.

May God's peace and blessing be with us all,
Fr. Masud+

An Inspiring Event

Recently, I had the honor of meeting Erick Magollon, a 30 years service navy man. He is currently bicycling coast to coast, raising money for his fellow Veterans, at the New England Center and Home for Veterans.

A friend of mine Joseph (Trip), was returning home to Clinton Corners from church in Millbrook. As he was going past his old parish, St. Joseph's, he saw this gentleman riding his bicycle looking pretty worn out. Trip turned his car around and asked if he was okay? I don't believe this was just a chance meeting. This was a case of divine intervention. Erick was looking for the fire house in hopes of spending the night there. Trip explained that the fire house was a volunteer station and that there wouldn't be anyone there to offer him a nights stay. After a couple of minutes of conversation with Erick, Trip knew he had to invite Erick to his home that evening for a hot meal, a soft bed, and a relaxing jacuzzi.



I went to work at Trip's the next morning prepared to cook a hearty breakfast for his new house guest before he started on his next day's journey. Little did I know how much I would find myself mesmerized with his stories. He left Boston on May 14th., and just 10 days into his journey, he could write a novel. A novel that would include how God has led him to different towns and the kindness he has received from strangers. In a world where there is more emphasis on bad news, it's refreshing to witness such acts of kindness.

Erick spoke of many things during our breakfast that morning. He talked about his 30 years service in the navy. How he received a special award at the Pentagon, and how God kept him humble that day. When he walked into the Pentagon his shoes ripped. The only shoes he could find were a half size too small. As he was receiving his award, he felt the pain in his feet. As he himself had said, "it was a reminder of who is in charge" and "to not let this go to his head".

Another story I found very captivating was when he had been biking on a day it rained cats and dogs. A lady drove past him, turned around and came back. She spoke to him for a bit and when she left she said I'll see you soon. Erick continued on his journey in the pouring rain. When he came to a point of complete exhaustion, he decide to stop at the first house he found. He knocked on the door and guess who answered it? None other then the lady he met earlier that day. He was then invited in for a hot meal and a nice bed.

You can follow Erick's journey on Face Book at "cycling senior chief". Please consider including Erick your prayers. He is doing such great work on so many levels. If you are so moved by what he's doing and would like to donate to his cause, the info is on his face book page.

Submitted by Leigh Knickerbocker

Church Open House

On May 5, St. Paul's participated in a state-wide Open House of Sacred Spaces sponsored by The New York Landmarks Conservancy and our diocese. The sites opened their doors to inspire residents to be tourists in their own towns and learn about the programs and services available locally.

We had eight visitors who were all very impressed with our beautiful church and cemetery.

Thank you to Jackie Szatko, Susan Rohrmeier, Mary Cody, and April Marsh for making this day successful.

Submitted by Fernando Soto.



We Will Miss You Kathy

Kathy Petrick will be moving on to a new residence in Poughkeepsie in order to be nearer to her family.

On May 20th a special coffee hour was held to honor Kathy and all her years of service to St. Paul's & Trinity Parish.

As well as doing a great job on all her tasks, Kathy brought a good sense of humor that will be missed very much.

We wish you well on the next chapter of your life.

Your Friends at St. Paul's & Trinity

Our Own Royal Wedding

On May 26th, Jen Mason and Jamie Crane were married in our church. Congratulations to Jen and Jamie as well as their families.

Many thanks to all who prepared the church and church grounds and music for this special occasion.



Feed My Neighbor

Serving Up Dignity One Meal At A Time

Ruth Anderson, founder of “Taking it to the Streets”, has received another load of goods from our Parish in helping her efforts to feed the hungry and clothe the homeless in Poughkeepsie. I recently asked her approximately how many people does she serve and she replied well over 100.

A big thank you to all who donated toiletries, clothing, water, and healthy snacks. Our collection box will remain in Memorial Hall to receive any donations from anyone who may wish to help this cause.

Once again thank for your generosity.

Leigh Knickerbocker
Co-Chair of Mission and Out Reach



- Burial for Margaret Lemon Sunday, June 3, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist.
 - Vestry Meeting 6/18 at 6:30pm
 - Parish Picnic 7/1 after church.
 - Children's Community Clothes Closet at Third Lutheran Church in Rhinebeck 1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
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A Parish Picnic will be held on July 1, 2018 at 11:30 am, rain or shine. Please bring a dish to share. Meat and beverages will be provided. To extend fellowship, invitations have been sent to different community organizations. Please feel free to bring your neighbors and friends. There will be a sign up sheet in Memorial Hall to allow for the appropriate planning as to the number of people to expect and what you would like to bring. If you have any further questions, please speak to Leigh Knickerbocker.



Into your hands, O Lord. . .

As you know, soon after her death in January, we celebrated a Funeral Eucharist in honor of Margaret Lemon, giving thanks to God for her many years of life and service to the parish and larger community. Now that it is spring, and the ground is more welcoming, her family invites us all to the burial of her remains in the parish cemetery this Sunday, June 3, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist.

Roots & Branches Summer Missions

As most of you know, *Roots & Branches: Programs for Spiritual Growth* is the name of the ministry I founded some twenty years ago, which in the past five years has been given the opportunity to flourish more fully. It is a ministry providing a broad range of opportunities for Christian spiritual formation including retreats, conferences, pilgrimages, interfaith programs, and parish development programs. In fact, it was through *Roots & Branches* that I first became acquainted with St. Paul's & Trinity Parish when I led the vicar, wardens, and vestry through a Mutual Ministry

Review in 2014. This summer, *Roots & Branches* is scheduled to present two significant programs: *Agents of Peace in a Time of Fear*, and *Taizé Pilgrimage:2018*.

Agents of Peace, a two-and-a-half-day workshop designed to strengthen people in their Christian faith and equip them to discern and engage a Life-giving project in their own environment, is being offered as a component within a nine-week youth leadership program at the Volmoed Retreat Center near Cape Town, South Africa. Having learned of *Agents of Peace*, the director of the Volmoed program, a priest of the Anglican Church of South Africa, invited me to present it to support their mission to cultivate peace-making, social justice, and reconciliation leadership skills in young adults ages 17-27. Inspired by the ministry of former Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Volmoed program seeks to be a resource to strengthen the health of both Church and society. I, along with one of my ministry associates, the Rev. Charles Kramer, Rector of St. James' Church, Hyde Park, am scheduled to be part of the Volmoed program June 20-29.

From July 6-15, I, along with another one of my associates, my younger daughter, Amina, am scheduled to lead a pilgrimage to the Ecumenical Community of Taizé in France. There, we will be among several thousand youth and young adults from around the world, representing many Christian denominations, to experience a week-long spiritual formation program offered by the Brothers of Taizé, whose mission it is to inspire youth and young adults to be followers of Christ and witnesses of Christ in the everyday world. Through daily Bible study, communal prayer and meditation, singing the chants of Taizé, small group discussions, fellowship, experiencing Christian faith in an international setting, and lots of fun, our group will grow in appreciation of the great diversity of God's people. Most pilgrims return from the experience renewed in their commitment to be instruments of God's peace in the world -- beginning from right where there are.

I ask your prayers for me, along with my co-leaders, and participants in these two programs. Pray that the seeds we plant of faith, hope, love, and peace will bring forth much fruit in the lives of all who participate.

May God's peace and blessings be with you,
Fr. Masud+



**WE WELCOME ARTICLES
FOR OUR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS:**

If you have something that might be of interest to your fellow parishioners, please send them on to Barry Knickerbocker at bkknickerbocker2@hvc.rr.com. Hand delivered paper copy is welcome as well.