



# Lifeline

VOLUME 12  
ISSUE 10

October 2019

*The Church of the Holy Trinity*

*An Episcopal Church*

*office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org*



A Message from Our Rector, *Fr. Kevin M. Cross*

## All Shall Be Well

One never knows what challenges will be encountered on this journey through life. As you all know by now, I recently received some unsettling news about my health. I am not going to pretend it didn't shake me up. I have enjoyed a life of excellent health – no broken bones, no surgeries, no hospitalizations. So, to hear news that not all was well did come as quite a surprise. However, as the testing and diagnosing has proceeded, I felt calm and certain that all will be well. Not that I think I am invincible, but my belief that no matter what stumbling blocks come our way, all will be well. This belief comes out of a deep place in my soul that knows of God's love. God is with us in all things. God's message to Moses when Moses thought he couldn't possibly go through what was requested of him (going before Pharaoh and leading children of Israel out of Egypt) was "*Certainly I will be with thee*"

Ex 3:12

Whatever the outcome, as Julian of Norwich proclaimed after she emerged from one of her visions, "*But Jesus, who in this vision informed me of all that is needed by me, answered with these words...all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.*" *All shall be well.* I first became aware of St. Julian and her confidence in God's goodness reigning supreme through a hymn written by English hymnist Sydney Carter, *The Bells of Norwich*. The refrain of that hymn sings out, "*Ring out, bells of Norwich, and let the winter come and go; All shall be well again, I know.*". One might question whether I am being honest with myself in my saying so, in the face of this health issue. It may strike one as being too blithe or naïve. We typically say the love of God surpasses all but also the truth is this love infuses all.

Martin Laird O.S.A. writes of this vividly in his book, *Into the Silent Land: A Guide to the Christian*

**Practice of Contemplation.** "We might liken the depths of the human to the sponge in the ocean. The sponge looks without and sees the ocean; it looks within and sees the ocean. The sponge is immersed in what at the same time flows through it. The sponge would not be a sponge were this not the case. Some call this differentiating union; the more we realize we are one with God the more we become ourselves, just as we are, just as we were created to be. The Creator is outpouring love, the creation, the love outpoured."

Do I have periods of anxiety about the surgery and the possible outcomes? Of course, I do. In fact, my dream life has been full of anxious moments. I have read that upsetting dreams are often the product of the mind working to get rid of what is disturbing to one's being. If so, during the night, my mind has been working at full force! Our Bishop Santosh told me that in his culture if one dreams of dying (yes that has been the content of some of my dreams), it is a sign that one will live. I believe so and I believe I will be just fine. As a consequence of having faith and the strong support of this faith community, more often than not, in the times of anxiety, a sense of stillness and calm envelopes me and quiets my restless mind. Possessing faith that all will be well, praying to support that faith, and God's loving embrace all help me overcome fear and doubt. Jesus has instructed us "*Do not let your heart be troubled, believe in God, believe in me.*"

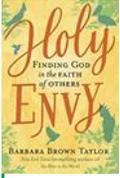


*Dear Jesus, I do truly believe in you and am thankful for your love. All will be well, I know.*

John 14:1

**Blessings, Father Kevin**

## WOMAN ON A JOURNEY



Women on a Journey will be starting a new book – **Barbara Brown Taylor's** latest inspirational discoveries from her own experiences teaching world religions to undergraduates in rural Georgia.

*Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*

October 2<sup>nd</sup> & October 16<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am – 10:30 am In the Parish Hall

For more information contact Beverly Rohman at 410-829-9561 or beverlyrohman@gmail.com

## Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study continues in October. Many thanks to Linda Wilson for the lovely "Proverbs Breakfast" she hosted at her home to kick-off the Fall series. And welcome back to Judy Lutkus.

Our Advent study will begin November 18. From the author of last year's lesson "Dickens Christmas Carol," we will explore "The Gospel according to It's A Wonderful Life." To reserve a study guide contact Mary Ann Hensinger at 443-439-6381 by Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

## A Users Guide to the Book of Common Prayer

How well do you know the prayer book? Come to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Forum on Oct. 20 at 9:15 am to learn everything you always wanted to know, but were afraid to ask! The Book of Common Prayer is the backbone of our Episcopal liturgy. It traces its root back to England in 1549. With its many permutations throughout the years, it is both a product of, and shapes, our beliefs. Most Episcopalians are familiar with the Rite II and maybe Rite I Sunday services, but there is so much more to the BCP. It is an amazing resource we have for both corporate and personal prayer life. Come to the forum as we explore it together. Feel free to send any questions you may have ahead of time. Or bring questions that day and try to stump the Deacon Postulant!

Lisa Webb - lisa.pagano15@gmail.com



## CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- The Just Once Per Year Program would like to thank **Doris Hughes, Sally and Gordon Fronk, Deb Smith, Mary Jordan and Curt Reintsma, and Suzanne Litty** for their generous donations to the Wednesday Lunch Bunch.
- Bless our **Daughters of the King** for holding our loved ones in prayer each day. Thank you also for their service as Healing Ministers at our monthly Eucharist healing services.
- Thank you to **Cameron MacTavish** for lending his architectural skills to the design of the new front entrance to the Church. Thank you also to **Michelle MacTavish** for her designing the landscaping for this project. Much gratitude to **Loretta Blume and Deborah Barbour** for their generosity in making this dream come to fruition through funding it.
- Wonder who keeps our pew literature up to date and organized? Thank you to **Margaret Munsch** for performing this regular ministry.
- We thank the **Benedictine Busy Bees** for keeping our buildings swept, mopped and dusted.
- Thank you to our Deaconal Postulant, **Dr. Lisa Webb** for all of her service to this community. We are blessed.
- Thank you to our 2019/2020 Sunday School teachers, **Barbara Cross, Pucky Lippincott, Linda Wilson, and Sophie Bredar** for their dedication to help raise our children ensuring they know the love of God.

Blessings.

Fr. Kevin

## Daughters of the King Meetings

Monday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am

## Inquiring Believers

The sessions for the Men's Bible Study on Monday nights at 6:00 pm.

## Mission

### Study Group – The Return of the Prodigal Son



The parable of the Prodigal Son is one of the best known and most beloved of Jesus's teachings. Fr. Henri Nouwen wrote a book about his own meditations on this parable. His interest in writing about this parable

was inspired by his viewing of Rembrandt's painting "The Return of the Prodigal Son," which hangs in the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg. This parable is a story of transformation, the kind of transformation that our faith can lead to if we are open to it. Each of the main characters in this parable, the younger son, the older son and the father, all experience life changing challenges, decisions and consequences of their actions. Each character speaks to the same life challenges we all experience as we develop and refine our selves for life as disciples of Jesus. Please consider joining this small group discussion. This group will start after Fr. Kevin returns from his surgery. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Kevin.

### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Each year, in celebration of the feast of St. Francis we hold a Blessing of the Animals service on the front lawn of the church. All four, two legged animals and creatures that fly, swim and slither are welcome to celebrate the beauty of God's creation and receive a blessing.



### Care Pack Food Drive Before & After the 9:30 am service on Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>

Once again we will be holding a Food Drive for the Care Packs project benefitting those Talbot County students (in excess of 400 children) who are in need of (and qualify for) food on weekends. This very worthwhile endeavor services four elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. The following is a list of INDIVIDUAL serving items:

Single serving cereal	Raisins	Canned Pasta
Oatmeal packets	Applesauce Cups	Canned Tuna
Cereal Bars	Fruit cups	Canned Soup
Toaster Pastries	Pretzels	Instant Lunch
Granola Bars	Trail Mix	Noodles
Easy Mac & Cheese		

This is a very organized, very well run program by extremely competent and dedicated members of our community. All are very grateful for your continued support. Thank you again in advance for your generosity. As well, we thank Doris Hughes for her efforts, leadership and dedication to this ministry in the past by enabling the parishioners of Holy Trinity to be aware of and contribute to this very worthwhile ongoing project.

### Fill The Cart, Feed The Hungry

items for families in need.

As autumn descends upon us, please help feed those in need by dropping off items for the Neighborhood Service Center Food Pantry. Start a child's day off with some oatmeal or cereal. Supply canned goods to help with a dinner meal. Open your hearts when you shop for your family and add some extra





HOLY TRINITY CHURCH-OXFORD
502 South Morris Street, P. O. Box 387 Oxford MD 21654



HOLY TRINITY MULLIGANS FOR MISSION APPLICATION

All Golfers and Sponsors are invited to the Mulligans for Mission Golf Tournament and Reception. Additionally, all Supporters are welcome, even if neither a golfer nor sponsor, and you don't have to be a Holy Trinity parishioner to join in the fun. Scramble format allows players of all skill levels to enjoy and contribute to the round. Spaces are limited, so sign up early, but by no later than October 22, 2019. All Entry Fees and Sponsorships in excess of expenses will support Holy Trinity's Missions Outreach to victims of Hurricane Dorian.

- WHAT: Golf and Reception
WHEN: Saturday, October 26, 2019
WHERE: Talbot Country Club
TIME/FEE: 12:30 P.M. Shotgun start for 18-hole Golfers - \$150 (includes Non-Golfing Guest at Reception)
2:20 P.M. Tee times start for 9-hole Golfers - \$120 (includes Non-Golfing Guest at Reception)
5:30 P.M. Reception for all Golfers and their Guests, and Sponsors and Supporters.
MULLIGANS: \$10 buys three Mulligans; all the proceeds go to Mission.
SUPPORTERS: \$50 to attend Reception for Supporters who are neither Golfers nor Golfers' Guests nor Sponsor.

Register me individually or as a twosome, threesome or foursome. The Committee will fill out the foursome, as needed.

Table with 5 columns: NAME, HOLES (9 OR 18), HANDICAP (IF KNOWN), TELEPHONE, EMAIL. Includes four rows of blank lines for registration.

Enclosed is my/our check(s), payable to "Holy Trinity," for \_\_\_\_\_ 18-Hole Golfers, at \$150 per Golfer, and/or \_\_\_\_\_ 9-Hole Golfers, at \$120 per Golfer; and three Mulligans for each Golfer at \$10 per Golfer, for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s) for Non-Golfing Guest(s) to attend the Reception, at no additional charge.

SPONSOR APPLICATION

Enclosed is my/our check for \$100 to attend the Reception and to have my/our name(s) or the name of my/our family/organization on a "Tee Box Sign," as follows [your name only; we cannot add "in Honor" or "Memory"]:

[PRINT NAME(S) OR ORGANIZATION]

I/We wish to support the Golfers and our Missions Outreach and enclose \$50 per Supporter to attend the Reception.

[PRINT NAME(S)]

If you have any questions, please contact Gordon Fronk at (410) 226-1044.



### FORE! Hurricane Dorian Relief

### HOLY TRINITY MULLIGANS FOR MISSION October 26, 2019



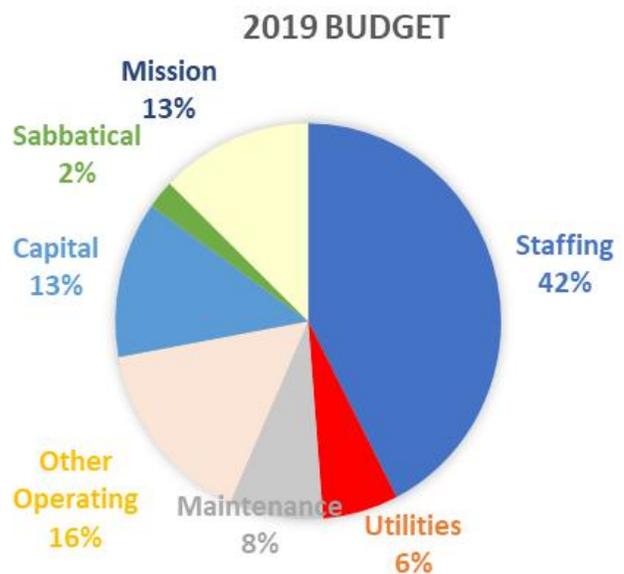
Golfers and sponsors are invited to the Mulligans for Mission Golf Tournament and Reception sponsored by The Church of the Holy Trinity. All entry fees and sponsorships in excess of expenses will be donated to the Bishop’s Bahamas Appeal which has been set up to support Bishop Laish Boyd’s appeal for his Bahamas Relief fund.

This event will take place on Saturday, October 26 at the Talbot Country Club. Both 18 and 9 hole tournament rounds are available to play. Additionally, all supporters are welcome, even if neither a golfer nor sponsor, and you don’t have to be a Holy Trinity parishioner to join in the fun. Scramble format allows players of all skill levels to enjoy and contribute to the round. Spaces are limited, so sign up early, but by no later than October 22, 2019.

Information and registration for this event are available at: <http://www.holytrinityoxfordmd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/APPLICATION-MULLIGANS-FOR-MISSION-2019.pdf> or, you may call the parish office at 410-226-5134

### Financial Report

Did you know that Holy Trinity expenses average approximately \$1,000 every day of the year? That expense covers our excellent staff, heat & lights, insurance, building maintenance, and guest musicians. In addition, we have consistently incurred expenses for major capital needs such as new air conditioning units, ceiling repairs, and kitchen appliances. Finally, at Holy Trinity we make every effort to tithe – our mission outreach has become an important statement of who we are. The summary at the right reflects how the Budgeted income was to be used in 2019:



## Notes from the Office

**Pledges:** If you are making up more than one week's pledge, Please write only one check and submit it in the most current week's envelope. ,Note: the system does not allow entry of an amount for a past date..

**Prayer List:** We welcome praying for those in sickness and need. Please call the office for removal of people from the prayer list upon their well being.

**Directory:** If your address, email, or phone numbers change, please notify the office by email at [office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org](mailto:office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org) or call 410-226-5134.

Thank you, Connie



## KIRKIN' O THE TARTANS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 9:30 AM

Holy Trinity will hold our annual Kirk in' of the Tartans service on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. This service is held to honor the role of The Church of Scotland in the founding of The Episcopal Church. We also honor our town's many ancestors from Scotland who settled this land. A Celtic Holy Eucharist service will be celebrated and will include our choir, guest musicians and members of the St. Andrews Society of the Eastern Shore. We will sing hymns from our Celtic roots and hold a Blessing of the Tartans.

## BACKPACK BLESSING September 22 during the 10:30 service

We welcomed all to bring their school backpacks to church on September 22 at the 10:30 service. From toddlers to college students, brought their backpacks for a special back to school blessing.



## Sunday School Humor and an Important Role for You!

As you read last month, on the first day of Sunday School there was the blessing of the backpacks. The children received a placard that said, **"GOD'S GOT YOUR BACK"** on one side and on the other side it said, **"and we do too, Blessings and love, The Church of the Holy Trinity."** The morning started with the children discussing what "God's got your back" means. We discussed how God is always with us and sees everything.

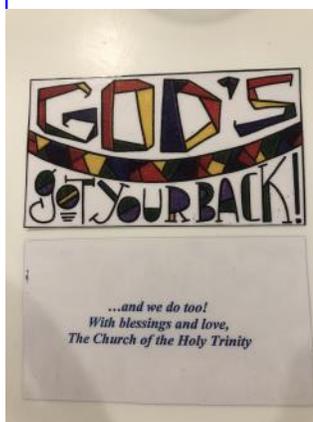
"Everything?" one child asked.

"God is everywhere" I replied.

"Everywhere? The child asked. "Even in the bathroom?"

To which Pucky quickly replied, "God is so polite I am sure he waits outside the door."

"Good," responded the child, "cause I really have to go to the bathroom!" And off he went!



We also discussed what "church" means. Yes, it is the building where we worship but it is also all the people. We are a community and watch out for and take care of each other. So please, remember that as a church community, we "got the backs" of our Sunday School children. Get to know them and their parents during fellowship time. They are delightful!

## Youth Group

The evening of Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup> our Trinity Youth Group will gather at the Family Affair farm for a fun trip through a corn maze. I am filled with joy to announce that we have 15 youth signed up for this activity! The group is composed of youth from Holy Trinity and Trinity Cathedral. This activity will be structured around two themes: experiencing the excitement and occasional puzzlement of life's journey as we wonder through life secure in the knowledge that God is always beside us. The youth will also have the challenge of making sure that as disciplines in God's flock, we make sure as in Jesus' Parable of the Lost Sheep that all, not just the 99, find their way safely home in the arms of Jesus. For additional information please call the parish office and ask for Fr. Kevin or Dr. Lisa Webb.

### Vestry Nomination

#### Suzanne Fischer

Suzanne Fischer has attended Holy Trinity since moving to Oxford in 2011. From 2011 to 2014 she and her husband Joe resided in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania where she was the clinical director for a mental health / substance abuse treatment center. After moving to Oxford full time with the support of many Holy Trinity parishioners she opened a part time practice in Easton. Today, that practice is full time with employees. I think I can best help the church in assisting Fr. Cross in Pastoral Care, especially after care, visiting the elderly, etc. and Fellowship.

### Vestry Nomination

#### Kathy Becker

The Eastern Shore has always been my home. I was raised in Denton and was confirmed at Christ Episcopal Church. After graduating from Salisbury State College, I taught twenty-seven of my thirty years at Easton Middle School. I've also worked part time at Chesapeake College in various capacities.

Doug and I have been married for forty-three years and have two children and four grandchildren. Rich and his wife were married here at Holy Trinity. Since making Holy Trinity our church home, I have served on the Altar Guild, Fellowship Committee, as chalice, and former coffee hour coordinator.

I'm a firm believer in the power of prayer and will certainly be asking for His guidance while serving on the Vestry. I look forward to the rewards and challenges of serving on the Vestry and helping to promote the ministries of Holy Trinity.

### Vestry Nomination

#### Al Holston

Education: Baltimore Polytechnic Institute-High School Diploma, University of Maryland, College Park, MD-Bachelor of Science Degree. University of Maryland School of Dentistry-Doctor of Dental Science Degree. Career: 3 years U.S. Army Dental Corps, Fort Bragg, NC. Full-time faculty member, University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD, 18 years. Chairman, Fixed Restorative Dentistry Dept., University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD, 5 years. Director, Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD, 7 years. Private Dental Practice, Easton, MD-1988-Present Moved to Oxford 1982. Married Mary Y. Smith 1984. Attended Oxford United Methodist Church, The Church of Holy Trinity under Rod Brown, First Baptist Church, Easton, and The Church of Holy Trinity under Fr. Kevin.

## Pledging

### Stewardship

I hope everyone has seen Al Smith's short article in the September Lifeline announcing October as the kickoff for this year's Stewardship campaign.

I don't want to talk about the campaign itself, but rather about how your pledge dollars are used throughout the year to support Holy Trinity's programs and its ministry. The list of organizational and programs is truly impressive. Most of us do not know the full extent of all we do.

In terms of numbers supported, ECW is a leader. ECW organizes and runs two major fund raisers during the year; the Christmas Bazaar and the Spring Plant Sale. ECW concentrates on local charities in Oxford and throughout the County. Last year, 16 different organizations received support from ECW. To highlight just a few – The Neighborhood Service Center with its food pantry and its new West Street residence for low income individuals. The Hillsboro Retreat Center, Camp Wright, Camp Agape, Waters Church and The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Throughout the year our music director, Dr. Cora Bruner, has enriched our services with guest vocalists and musicians. She has arranged numerous concerts for the enjoyment of the whole community.

There are always situations and events which generate a response from the Church, the funding support for the crew of Coast Guard Station in Oxford and their families during the government shutdown. The event to assist Betty Jo which was a big success and great fun. The effort to raise funds for the relief of those affected by Hurricane Dorian.

To my mind this is the definition of pastoral care, not just in our parish, but in the community as a whole.

Your pledge dollars also go toward covering our everyday expenses of keeping the doors open. Paying the utility and fuel bills, normal maintenance, and salaries.

I hope you now have a better picture of the importance of the annual Stewardship Campaign. Please participate, fill out your pledge cards and send them in.

Thank you, Tom Reynolds

### Holy Trinity Milestones

**Marriage:** [Emily Jaramillo & David Colonna](#)

**Passed on:** [Dick Cover](#)

[Charles Monet](#)

[Alice Schimoff](#)

[John Southall](#)



## Music

### Service Music for October

October 6 9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity Choir

Weekly rehearsals began Saturday, September 28th at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Choir sings first and third Sundays.

### Hold The Date: December 22nd 3 pm Redd Christmas Concert

### Holy Trinity Choir—New Members Welcome!

Our choir is a group of fun people who enjoy singing together. We would like to invite people to join us, even if for a short period of time. If you only have one week a month to join us, please sing with us the 1st Sunday of the month at the 9:30 a.m. service. If you would like to sing for the Advent/Christmas season, we would love to have you join us for Saturday rehearsals in November and Sunday mornings in December. No further commitments are expected - just come sing! We will offer the opportunity again at Easter.

### Save the Date:

October 20, 2019

3 p.m.

concert

Elisabeth von Trapp

We are very pleased to welcome back Elisabeth Von Trapp, granddaughter of the legendary Maria and Baron von Trapp for whom “*the sounds of music*” are part of her earliest memories. Elisabeth’s voice has been heard from the subway platforms of New York City and small folk clubs and concert halls to the White House, National Cathedral and the Kennedy Center.

## Church Happenings

### The Story of a Chapel



In the early 90's Al and Claire Smith built a chapel on their West St. property. The idea to do so, was sparked by Claire falling in love with a pair of chapel doors that she found in a London antique store. Building on her love of prayer and the foundational history of the doors adorning an old English Chapel, she and Al had a private chapel designed that was inspired by the Anglican roots of the doors. Over the years it has become one of the most beloved buildings in Oxon Hill and sea alike.



Fast forward to 2019, parishioner Thomas Mandylas who acquired the West St. lot, offered to donate the chapel to The Church of the Holy Trinity. After careful consideration, the Vestry enthusiastically accepted this generous donation. The chapel is envisioned to offer a place for small prayer services and meetings of church committees. The chapel will be sited in the grove next to the East end (Morris St.) of the Parish hall. All costs associated with relocating the chapel have been generously funded by parishioners. It is hoped that this relocation will take place by later October/early November.



**The work on installing our new front entrance is underway!** A redesigned front entrance to the church is taking shape. The new design will provide a statelier entrance to the church as well as provide a safety buffer between the church entry way and the drive. Ornate period appropriate railings and beautiful gardens will embrace the stone plaza that leads into the church. This redesign has eliminated the step up into the church creating easy access for all. Thanks

to Loretta Blume and Deborah Barbour generously funding this project in memory of Marshall Blume and Dr. Chuck MacIntosh.

## ECW Bazaar

# Christmas Is Coming!

There was much excitement at the ECW general meeting about this year's **Christmas Bazaar**, which will be held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. The old favorites, such as wreaths, baked goods, frozen soup, mini trees and, yes, Larry's chicken pot pies are back! The Holy Trinity Table will again welcome those special items you make or donate, and the Bargain Table will welcome just about anything!

### Two **NEW** items are presented in the form of pre-orders:

**White Pine and Fraser Fir garland**, available in three lengths: 75 feet for \$90, 25 feet for \$32, 12 feet for \$17. This is a beautiful combination of greens not readily available elsewhere.

**Advent Wreath**, which includes the form, greens and candles, for \$25. You will have the opportunity to assemble your own at the advent wreath workshop on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, or you can pick up your completed wreath on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please see the **Christmas Bazaar Sign-Up Sheet** in on the back of the Lifeline Calendar, where you can volunteer to help with any of the tables at the Bazaar or the pre-bazaar workshops. You may also use this form to pre-order a garland or advent wreath. Completed forms may be dropped off or mailed to the church office or put in the basket in the church vestibule.

**NOTE:** *Deadline for ordering Advent Wreaths or Garland is November 17<sup>th</sup>.*

Ingrid Blanton is planning a workshop to make bows for the wreaths we sell at the Bazaar. If you would like to participate, please call Ingrid at 410-253-9413.

Look for the Basket Raffle article from Sandy Kaufman as there are exciting new themes and opportunities to join in the fun of bringing them to life. She is planning a kickoff gathering at her home in October. For more information call 410-458-2113

We look forward to another festive day to start off the Christmas season. All proceeds from the Bazaar go to support local missions and organizations.

Come join in the fun!

Margaret Munsch & Linda Wilson

Co-chairs



410.226.5134  
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PO Box 387

*The Church of the Holy Trinity*



*Lifeline*



*Happy Halloween!*

**MISSION**

The Church of The Holy Trinity, an Episcopal Parish in Oxford, Maryland: a caring Christian community dedicated to growing in God's love through worship, study, service and fellowship.

**Who We Are**

We are a small parish with a big heart comprised of committed people willingly sharing their talents to help those in need.  
We are all seekers on a spiritual journey; encouraging of others also on the journey, and non-judgmental of where one might be on that journey.

**See Christmas Bazaar  
order form on back of  
calendar.**