

Trinity Tidings

From the Interim Rector

ADVENT: NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT PERFECTION

A few suggestions from Father Raymond

From what we see on TV and read, already it's Christmas and we just started Advent. We get any number of suggestions about the best way to cook, how to decorate, and how to reduce your stress during the holidays. With all the help from morning TV shows, you'd expect you'd be able to find the perfect gift for everyone, perfectly redecorate for the holidays, prepare a perfect gourmet meal for a cast of thousands, meet every need of every member of your family, and still lose weight in the process.

My Aunt Mardell, God rest her soul, used to complain about Martha Stewart: "how's a normal person going to compete with that kind of perfection!" Mardell was a marvelous woman. She was supportive and loving, and I could always go to her when I was feeling down. She always pointed out the good, and never worried about criticizing the less than perfect.

My mother, may she rest in peace, was like Mardell, very loving and caring. But during her last years, as her health began to fail, she begged off buying us presents, and chose to give us a check. It was just too stressful trying to find the perfect gift for each of us, worrying and fretting about whether my sister, brother and I would like them.

Holidays are supposed to be occasions of celebration, not stress-producing gatherings of torment. From suggestions I've read, the "experts" on reducing our perfectionism advise us to do three things:

- set more attainable goals;
- learn from the past; and
- be more realistic about what's possible.

The result of all this, they say, is a shorter to-do list, a smaller set of expectations, more limited hopes.

However, I'd modify the list to suggest:

- Don't try to do everything all by yourself;
- Ask for help when you need it; and
- Rely on family and friends to help out;
- Talk with those you love; and
- Don't forget to pray.



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Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 am: Rite I Holy Eucharist
(reservation required)

10:30 am Rite II Choral Eucharist
(reservation required)

Wednesday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

12:30 pm: Healing Service

Both in St. Athanasius Chapel

Friday

7:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom)

www.latoth.org/digitalworship

~ Come Worship With Us! ~
All are Welcome

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal
can be found at:

3900 Trinity Drive,

Los Alamos NM 87544

www.latoth.org

admin@latoth.org

505-662-5107

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FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR



Now that we have had our all-parish meeting with Canon Curtis, several people have asked what happens next in the search process. So here is the timeline:

- By Christmas, complete OTM questions;
- January: complete OTM terms of employment;
- Mid-February: submit OTM to Canon Curtis;
- March 1: post Rector position for applicants;
- Spring: interview candidates via Zoom;
- Invite suitable candidates for visitation to Los Alamos.

Details:

By Christmas the search committee will have developed answers to the 12 questions in the OTM (Office of Transition Ministry) profile. In January, based on the response to this year's stewardship drive and the budget developed from it, the Vestry will fill in the part of the OTM profile that details the terms of employment (compensation offered, vacation policy, etc.). Meanwhile, the Search Committee will be working with the office and others to prepare and post an addition to our TOTH website that carries more information about the parish and the town to help candidates decide whether to apply. And we will be continuing to improve our online streaming service, since prospective candidates will no doubt look at that as well in deciding if we are a parish of interest to them.

In mid-February the Search Committee will forward to Canon Curtis the completed OTM Profile we and the vestry have developed, and he will enter it into the final online profile for TOTH.

About March 1 this profile will become available online to prospective candidates. Between March 1 and the end of April prospective candidates will submit their applications to the diocese, and Canon Curtis will forward them to us. At that point the Search Committee will decide which, if any, of the candidates we want to interview via Zoom. And if, based on those Zoom interviews, we find one or more candidates who seem a good fit for us, we will arrange for them to travel here, visit the town and church, talk, have a meal and celebrate a private Eucharist with the Search Committee.

Confidentiality is essential in this phase. Candidates need to know that their interest and applications are confidential. Not even the Vestry will be told the names or current parishes of applicants, until one is finally recommended to them. So please understand if Search Committee members are reticent to discuss the applicants we have received.

If we find a suitable candidate, we will recommend them to the Vestry, who will make an offer and, if the offer is accepted, the new rector should be with us by the end of summer. If no suitable candidate is found, we repeat the process during the fall hiring season. COVID has upended many things and it may have upended this hiring process as well. We are in unknown territory here, and we will just have to see if the pandemic has significantly changed the field of priests looking for new parishes.

The COVID pandemic has also upended our services and many of our ministries, as it has for all churches, and it is essential that we all do what we can to restore our parish life as quickly and as fully as conditions allow. In that regard, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the current stewardship drive and of our commitment of time and money to the parish. Candidates will not be interested in moving to a new parish if it doesn't look financially healthy, or if it doesn't seem to have an active and committed congregation.

Bill Godwin

Search Committee Chair

THOUGHTS FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Hopeful News for Advent and Beyond

Margaret Odell, Senior Warden

The actual season of Advent is now here, but for me, the feelings of waiting, anticipation and hope have been paramount for months. At TOTH we have spent 2021 waiting and hoping for an end to the pandemic or at least more widespread vaccinations. With children and youth able to receive COVID shots and adults getting boosters, our parish has cautiously returned to in-person worship, Christian Education, and singing – Praise the Lord! Since April we have anticipated saying goodbye to many long-term staff and welcomed a new crew who are getting the church back on track both sacramentally and administratively. Thanks to Mother Laurie and Nelly Case, we've also weathered this year with grace, hope, and a welcome sense of continuity. Your Vestry has faced a myriad of unforeseen challenges, precipitated by COVID and the changes in leadership, but they are persevering and looking forward to 2022. Finally, TOTH is anticipating that Bill Godwin and the strong, committed, and prayerful Search Committee is on track to having all of TOTH's information ready for posting with the Office of Transition Ministry (OTM) in the spring (see Bill's more detailed article).



Waiting, anticipating, and hoping also played a big part in this year's Stewardship messages from your Vestry. We now know the initial numbers from our In-Gathering Sunday:

- 50 Estimate of Giving cards, totaling \$265,350 – as compared to 39 pledges for 2021, totaling \$178,000;
- Based on previous years' financial data, it's safe to anticipate an additional \$33,000 from non-pledging families;
- None of the committed givers decreased their pledges from 2021 to 2022 and many pledges have been increased.

Total Estimated 2022 Giving (as of December 1, 2021)

\$298,350

These numbers are very positive, and do not include additional revenues such as Shop on the Corner or special offerings, but you can see we are not where we need to be for a balanced 2022 budget and the strong financial picture we hope to present to candidates to be our new Rector. Based on our 2021 approved budget, here are the basic expenses to keep the parish running:

Diocesan Fair Share	\$54,086
Clergy Support (salary, housing, pension, insurance)	\$117,570
Personnel (Parish Admin, Office Mgr, Music Dir, Nursery, Sexton, Landscape)	\$104,056
Non-Personnel (insurance, utilities, mortgage, office, computers, phone)	\$100,780
Buildings & Grounds (maintenance, snow removal, utilities)	\$23,940
Ministries (Christian Ed, Parish Life, Outreach, Worship)	\$7,148

Total Approved 2021 Operating Expenses

\$407,580

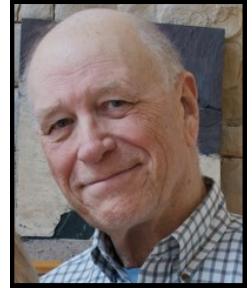
These are preliminary numbers for illustration only. We've paid our staff in 2020 and 2021 with the help of governmental Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, which will not be available in 2022. By hiring an Interim Rector who had already retired, we are saving on pension and medical contributions. By continuing to use our facilities below pre-pandemic levels we are saving on other operating expenses, but we are hoping and anticipating the return to more normal activities in 2022. TOTH

(Continued on page 7)

FROM THE CO-JUNIOR WARDENS

Advent greetings from your Junior Co-Wardens. It is hard to believe that we are only a month from the end of this year. The past year has literally flown by for us as we are sure it has for everyone at TOTH.

Our efforts to prevent the recurring leak in the flat roof over the men's bathroom near Kelly Hall are now complete. When Kelly Hall was constructed, drainage from both the Sanctuary and Kelly Hall roofs was directed onto the flat roof between Kelly Hall and the Sanctuary. We think that amount of water then found its way into the men's bathroom below whenever there was a heavy rain or winter snow melt. The Kelly Hall drainage was fixed by installing a gutter the length of the roof with drainage off the flat roof. With the help of Mark Hartman, we were able to install two down spouts and PVC pipes to drain the Sanctuary roof water and carry it away from the flat roof section.



You may also note that we had the hand rails at the south entrance to TOTH sanded and painted. We are now working on finding a contractor to paint the roof fascia along the same south-facing section of TOTH.

We have been replacing the burnt-out, 60-watt, more expensive halogen bulbs that have been lighting the Sanctuary (but seldom seen since they are hidden above the soffit) with equivalent 5-watt LED bulbs. The lighting quality is just as good but in the long run will significantly reduce our electrical usage.

Finally, Rick, Lisa, Mark, and others have continued to make improvements to our ability to reach the worshipers with video of our 10:30 am Sunday service. In addition to new camera capability, improved control of the sound system is now in place. Given the uncertainty we are facing with new variants of COVID, this is likely to be even more important for our ability to worship in the months to come.



Once again, we are thankful to everyone making contributions of their time and talent to keeping TOTH a place where we can feel at home with the Lord.

We wish everyone at TOTH a wonderful Advent season and a Merry Christmas!

Paul Lisowski and Lisa Rothrock

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE

TOTH OFFICE!



Continued from p. 1

With God's help, what is not attainable? We are children of God. We see the world through the eyes of a love so large that it defies death.

As Isaiah (2:1-5) writes: We are people who dream of swords beaten into plowshares, and lions and lambs lying down together. We hope for world peace, not as wishful thinking, but as something we're expecting God will accomplish, and we want to help.

In our lives, particularly when the demands of the world begin to get us down, we need to remember the words from Romans 13:11-14:

- + Lay aside the works of darkness;
- + Put on the armor of light;
- + Live honorably; and
- + Let Christ transform us into people who love one another.

May this be an Advent filled with the joy of anticipation.

PO Box 1663 and all that....

When your kids exit the Children's Christmas Bazaar this week, have them stick her or his head into the "stage set" (right) and take a photo. Turn photo sideways as if the kid is in mailbox no. 1663. Born.... or Born again. ...

In the 1940s Los Alamos was a secret community where people made bombs and babies. The bombs were used in war. The babies were said to be born in PO Box 1663, Rural Santa Fe. Celebrate that bit of absurdism. (photo: Petr Jandacek)



THE SHOP ON THE CORNER

Thrift Shop Hours of Operation:
Weekly Wednesdays 8:30 to noon
Second Saturday of each month 8:30 to noon
Third Thursday of each month 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

3900 Trinity Drive – lower parking lot

Clothing for the entire family, household items, books, CDs, DVDs, linens, toys, games, shoes, boots, seasonal items and more!

An Outreach Ministry of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church
 Proceeds support nonprofit charities

FROM THE MEDIA MINISTRY TEAM

Streaming the 10:30 Sunday service online to the TOTH Facebook page continues to be important for many in our congregation as the nation and Los Alamos County continue to weather periodic spikes in COVID cases. Prospective rectors will be looking at our streaming services next spring in deciding whether to apply to TOTH, which is another important reason we are working so hard on it. Thus, it seems useful to bring the TOTH community up to date on our attempts to improve this ministry.

First, to those of you who might have tried streaming the Sunday service in the past and have given up on it because of quality issues, we encourage you to try it again and see the improvements.

We are in need of more volunteers to learn to run the system on Sundays and be part of the rotation of operators. Thus far the same few people have managed the streaming every Sunday, but people get sick, need to travel, etc., so we need more depth. If you have ever had an interest in this sort of thing, please volunteer to help. And donations to help cover the cost of the new hardware are always welcome.

We have installed two new remotely controlled cameras, a new computer, and new broadcast software, which has substantially improved the video quality. We are still learning how best to video the service in terms of camera choreography. Our objective is to produce a satisfying experience for remote viewers while disrupting the traditions of the in-person service as little as possible. Some difficult issues to deal with are how much, if at all, to show the congregation without unduly imposing on their privacy. For example, if we choose not to show people at the communion rail for privacy reasons, where do we point the cameras instead? And is that satisfying enough for remote viewers? Or if we revert to reading the Gospel in the midst of the congregation, are we intruding on the privacy of people visible around the edge of the image? Never fear—we have an ongoing group of clergy and interested parishioners discussing these policy issues.

We are aware that the audio quality is still a problem and are working hard to improve that. We have added a new soundboard and are experimenting with microphones and microphone placement. Capturing the organ sound satisfactorily has been a particular challenge. This effort has required a major rewiring of audio cables throughout the church to bring them all back to the new soundboard.

And we are dealing with issues around the online bulletin for the service. It is helpful for those at home if we embed the music for the hymns in the bulletin, but that involves copyright issues. During the “emergency” phase, when everyone had to watch from home, we neglected this issue, but now we need to remove the hymns from the bulletin or work on copyright compliance. We are happy to provide and deliver hymnals to those who are homebound. Please take advantage of this service so that we are better able to worship together.

The Media Ministry Team:

Rick Rothrock

Michelangelo Lobato

Bill Godwin

Lisa Rothrock

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will end the year with money in the bank and designated funds for such things as capital improvements and specific outreach projects. However, we all need to be in prayer as we journey through Advent, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, hoping for discernment for parishioners eager to stand for Vestry, and anticipating the continuing and renewed generosity of all members of the TOTH family.

I know the Vestry joins me in wishing everyone at Trinity on the Hill a blessed and peaceful Advent season.

From the Editor:

Greetings friends,

The next issue of Trinity Tidings will be published at the end of January, 2022. Thank you for allowing me a little break at the end of December! You are welcome to submit photos of your Christmas celebrations, vacations, and even your Christmas meal, if you so wish.

We look forward to welcoming you to all our Christmas services on December 24 and 25. It will be very different from the situation last year and I look forward to being able to welcome visitors to our church again. Please invite your friends and visiting family members to join us. See the schedule of services on page 11/

Advent blessings and Merry Christmas!

Claire

For the record: November 2021

Memorial: Dick Rochester (11-12-21), in the St. Athanasius Chapel



Trinity Tidings

A newsletter of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

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Trinity on the Hill's Mission

*The Mission of Trinity on the Hill is to share the power and joy of
God's love, to fully embrace all God's children,
and to respond to the needs of our community
and the world in the spirit of Jesus Christ*

**The next regularly scheduled issue will be
in February. Submission deadline:
Friday, January 28, 2022.**

Submit electronically to admin@latoth.org

CALL FOR VESTRY CANDIDATES

It's that time of year when Trinity on the Hill needs to think about the Vestry for 2022. At the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23 (following the 10:30 service) we will need to elect parishioners to fill the following positions:

3 positions for 3-year terms

1 position for a 2-term

Candidates for Vestry must be members of the parish who regularly attend worship services, are involved in the ministries of TOTH, are contributors of record, and are interested in guiding and shaping the life of the parish for the duration of a Vestry term – and beyond. Generally, the Vestry is drawn from the adult members of the congregation, but exceptional youth members (at least age 16) have served in the past. Active TOTH members with a strong prayer life and faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ are ideal candidates for Vestry. You do not have to consider yourself as a leader to be interested in serving on the Vestry. This is a group effort where different life experiences, backgrounds, ages, and talents come together to form a strong, cooperative, leadership team.

Potential candidates should indicate their willingness to be nominated for service on the Vestry by submitting a 1-page letter via email to the Senior Warden, Margaret Odell, (mcodell18@gmail.com) no later than Wednesday, January 5, 2022. The letter needs to include:

Your name, address, phone, and email

How long you have been a member of Trinity on the Hill

How long you have been a member of the Episcopal Church

How you have served or are serving the parish and parishioners at TOTH

What gifts you think you would bring to the Vestry

Why you want to be considered as a candidate for the TOTH Vestry

Any other information you feel the current Vestry needs to know about you

The current Vestry will prayerfully consider all the letters and put together the official slate of nominees, to present at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23.

Parishioners are encouraged to nominate themselves, but if you know someone in our TOTH family you think could be a strong, thoughtful Vestry member, please urge them to nominate themselves as well. The next year promises to be an exciting time of discerning what church activities will emerge or continue as we learn to live with COVID and also a time for listening to the leading of the Holy Spirit as the Search Committee and Vestry work to call a new permanent Rector. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of this important ministry.

Margaret Odell,

Senior Warden



Embracing Joy with Gratitude December 1, 2021

By Heather L. Melton, staff officer for the United Thank Offering



When I was growing up, Mary, the mother of God, was held up as an archetype of the perfect woman in the church I attended, revered for her obedience to God, dedication to Jesus, and overall servanthood. This way of describing Mary, with her worth being through her motherhood or others, has always been a struggle for me. I've been thinking about Mary as we approach Advent. I've looked up icons, Holy Land sites, and how long it would have taken Mary and Joseph to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

What I've come to appreciate in all this searching and reading is how amazingly vulnerable Mary was.

As many of you know, I'm a certified facilitator in Brené Brown's work, and one of the key principles is that vulnerability is an act of courage. Vulnerability requires us to show up and be seen in places that draw criticism or even struggle. I've come to appreciate that practicing vulnerability takes tenacity and determination. It also takes faith, for me, at least. And as hard as it is to be willing to be vulnerable, I also find that when I do it, my life is fuller. This year, I've seen Mary for the first time as something beyond a necessary footnote in the story of the incarnation, but rather as an icon for vulnerability.

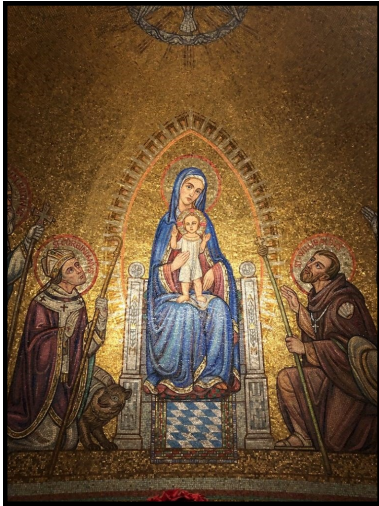
During Advent, we'll hear a lot about Mary as a vessel for the incarnation. In 431 the Council of Ephesus deemed her the "Theotokos," or God-Bearer, but focusing on just that moment of her story lets us elevate her to the divine and potentially overlook that she was fully human with free will and the ability to make choices. Mary was also a person of a particular moment. We know that life for women in those days was challenging, and purity laws only would have increased the strain she would have experienced as an unwed, pregnant woman.

Mary is someone who chose to be very brave and vulnerable because of her faith. She chose discomfort over comfort. There is no doubt that Mary was the talk of Nazareth, but she held firm to her faith and values and continued on the path set before her. It must have felt overwhelming at times. She must have wanted to hide away, and yet it's clear she continued to fully be a part of her community.

After Jesus is born, there's a line in the gospel about Mary "treasuring these things in her heart." This reminds me of one of the most important lessons I've learned through my work on "The Daring Way," which is to push back against "foreboding joy." Foreboding joy is something that many of us do without noticing that we're doing it. Brown talks about it as that moment when you realize that everything is pretty great, but then you come up with all the ways it could be destroyed.

For example, when someone looks at a new baby with their heart full of joy, in the next second they might start thinking about all the terrible things that could happen to that baby. I'm really good at foreboding joy—I can plan out doomsday scenarios really fast, so when I first read about this phenomenon and identified with it, I was shocked to learn that when we interrupt the opportunity to embrace joy, we begin to numb our brain's ability to identify and feel feelings. So how do

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we stop foreboding joy? According to Brown, we practice gratitude. We treasure these things in our heart.

Mary is a reminder to live in the moment, to be fully vulnerable and full of joy, both of which are hard things for many of us to do. Many of us know the Christmas song, “Mary did you know?” which is like *the* anthem for foreboding joy, ironically written to press the action onto someone whom the Gospel clearly wants us to see as able to stay in the moment and practice gratitude as she treasures the moment in her heart. I’d like to think that even if Mary did know, or simply had an inkling of the events to come, that she would give thanks for the moment instead of worrying about what was to come. It takes tenacity to stay present to joy, and we know that Mary was tenacious.

We need to remember, especially this year, that joy is part of the gift that is given to us at Christmas. We must follow Mary’s lead and embrace joy, treasure it in our hearts, give thanks for it. This Advent, I hope you will look for ways to embrace the gift of joy that comes with the season and stay present to it by practicing gratitude. If you feel like you are starting to rehearse potential tragedies or annoyances, practice gratitude and re-center on the joy.

Holidays can be bittersweet, especially remembering those we’ve lost over the last year. Embracing joy does not mean that we can’t feel sadness or loss, but it means that gratitude can help us not let one feeling overwhelm the other. We can feel two feelings at the same time, without either being wrong. Gratitude can acknowledge that both feelings are true and important. We’ve been trained to forebode joy, minimize our feelings, and keep our vulnerable hearts safe.

But here’s the thing: Christmas is a reminder that God is fully invested in us living more authentic lives, and authenticity requires vulnerability, and vulnerability takes courage and tenacity. We know this because God showed up as a tiny baby, completely vulnerable and dependent upon others at time when being a baby was especially challenging. God reminds us that love is a vulnerable act, as is joy and being present in the moment.

I hope this Christmas you will stay present to joy, practice vulnerability and gratitude with those you love and those in your community. I hope you will find things to treasure in your heart and give thanks for, just like Mary. I hope you won’t worry too much about what’s to come but find ways to stay present to the beautiful things happening all around you, from a favorite carol to a snowflake, to a beautiful sunrise. I hope you find signs that remind you how loved you are this Christmas and that you’ll welcome the joy that Mary felt in Bethlehem so very long ago with the same hope and vulnerability and courage.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, December 4	Children's Christmas Bazaar
Sunday, December 12	Greening of the Church
Sunday, December 19	Service of Lessons and Carols, 10:30 am, followed by Choral Eucharist
December 24 Christmas Eve	Christmas Eve services at 5:30 pm and 10:30 pm No incense will be used
December 25 Christmas Day	Christmas Day worship at 10 am
Sunday, December 26	Services at 8 am and 10:30 am
Saturday, January 1, 2022	The Feast of the Holy Name, 10 am, Chapel
Sunday, January 2, 2022	Services at 8 am and 10:30 am
Thursday, January 6, 2022	Epiphany Eucharist, 6 pm

Important Year-End Donation Information



We are grateful for your faithful tithes and offerings this year, and want to make sure you know some important information for your year-end gifts.

Our church office will close on
December 24 at noon and reopen January 3, 2022.

If you would like your contributions to be on this year's statements, please have your cash or check donations to the church office by that time or be sure they are postmarked before December 31.

A good way to be sure your contributions are processed before the end of the year is to consider making an online gift at

<https://latoth.org/supportus/>

Christmas 2021 – Gift ideas with a difference*

- EVERYONE gets their hair cut (some have their nails done too): How about gift certificates from your favorite stylist or barber or the Hair and Nail Studio, or Hilltop Spa?
- Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement. Check out Anytime Fitness and the Y in Los Alamos for gift passes.
- Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course.
- And, if your giftee isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint? Morning Glory, Chili Works, Viola's, Pig+Fig, and Ruby K's can help!
- How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck, or motorcycle, at a shop run by locals? RPM, Auto Doc, Glover's, and Knecht Automotive are all locally-owned and operated.
- Local craftspeople spin their own wool and knit it into scarves. They make jewelry, pottery, and quilts. Think of the local yarn cooperative and Atomic City Quilts (quilting lessons available), Village Arts, Fuller Lodge Art Center, and Karen Wray Art Gallery – all featuring work by local artists.
- There are many owner-run restaurants - all offering gift certificates: Blue Window, Muy Salsas, Senor Tortas, El Parasol, Rose Chocolatier, and many more. Plan your holiday outings at local, owner-operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip.
- And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your hometown theatre? OK, it's Los Alamos, but you can still support the arts well into the New Year, such as Los Alamos Little Theatre, Los Alamos Light Opera, En Pointe School of Dance (recital December 11 and 12), Dance Arts Los Alamos ("Ratcracker on the Hill", December 3, 4, and 5).
- And many more.... If you do decide to shop online, remember to use Amazon Smile. go to smile.amazon.com and nominate Trinity on the Hill to receive cash! The AmazonSmile foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to us. Just remember to shop through AmazonSmile and search for Trinity on the Hill.

* Editor's note: These local businesses all sprang to mind as I was preparing to insert this article. No bias towards any particular business should be assumed. Shop Local! (PS: I do eat at some of them!)





Bishop's Ridge and Camp Stoney
Cordially Invites You to Your

4th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

December 18

3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

(Property will be open to Friends and Visitors beginning at Noon)

7855 Old Santa Fe Trail,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Live Music
Hors d'oeuvres

RSVP to
Christopher at
505-980-5371, cjewell@dioceserg.org



LISTENING FOR THE LIGHT

*A Lectio Divina series
for the Season of Advent*

Join us Each Tuesday in Advent
for a short reading of scripture and contemplative reflection.
Begins at 6:30pm and ends no later than 7:30 p.m.

Each service will be Zoomed from a different
El Paso Episcopal Church campus.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88082771560>
Meeting ID: 880 8277 1560

Contact Deacon Sondra Jones with questions and for more
information
sondrakjones@gmail.com 915-203-3251



Christmas, or Christ's Mass

Christmas (in old English, Cristes maesse) is a festival celebrated on December 25, commemorating the Incarnation of the Word of God in the birth of Jesus Christ. In the BCP it is also called The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In the United States it is also a popular secular holiday.

According to the Philocalian calendar, Christmas was first celebrated in Rome in the year 336. It gradually spread to the churches of the east, which already had a festival on Jan. 6 commemorating the manifestation of God in both the birth and baptism of Jesus. The date, December 25, rests on no historical foundation. It was probably chosen to oppose the feast *Natalis Solis Invicti*, the birthday of the "Unconquerable Sun God" (Saturn), which took place at the winter solstice to celebrate the birth of "the Sun of Righteousness."

The customs associated with Christmas have developed from many sources. From early days the popular observance of Christmas was marked by the joy and celebration characteristic of the Roman Saturnalia and the pagan festivals it replaced. It came to include the decoration of houses with greenery and the giving of gifts to children and the poor. In Britain, other observances were added including the Yule log and Yule cakes, fir trees, gifts, and greetings. Fires and lights (symbols of warmth and lasting life) and evergreens (symbols of survival) were traditionally associated with both pagan and Christian festivals. Their use developed considerably in England with the importation of German customs and through the influence of the writings of Charles Dickens

In the BCP, Christmas Day is one of the seven principal feasts. The Christmas season lasts twelve days, from Christmas Day until January 5, the day before the Epiphany. The season includes Christmas Day, the First Sunday after Christmas Day, the Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and may include the Second Sunday after Christmas Day. In many parishes, the main liturgical celebrations of Christmas take place on Christmas Eve. The Book of Occasional Services includes a variety of resources for use during Christmas, including a form for a Station at a Christmas Crèche, a form for a Christmas Festival of Lessons and Music, and seasonal blessings for use during the Christmas season.





Remaining Connected during COVID-19

Let's get something straight: Screen-Time Burnout is a real thing. But it's the safest way to stay connected, so let's use it to the best of our ability. Knowing this, however, we have expanded some in-person offerings for those who desire.

Tuesdays:

- **Women Alive** via Zoom at 8 am. Contact Rozelle Wright or Lynn Finnegan for the link. First Tuesday meeting outdoors at 6:30 am.
- Zoom **Coffee Hour** at 10 am. Link sent out via email (admin@latoth.org for more information)

Wednesdays:

- **Holy Eucharist at 7:30 am** in St. Athanasius Chapel. In-person service only.
- **Service of Healing** at 12:30 pm in St. Athanasius Chapel. In-person and Zoom service.

Fridays:

- **Morning Prayer** via Zoom at 7:30 am. Led by Deacon Lynn Finnegan. Zoom link sent via e-mail.

Sundays:

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I** at 8 am, in person only.
- **Choral Eucharist Rite II** at 10:30 am, in person and via Facebook live at www.facebook.com/trinityoth

December, 2021

Date	Time	Server	Lay Reader	Ushers	Altar Guild
Dec 5	8:00	Ben Schilling	Joe Cox		Marilyn and Paul Lisowski Andy and Linda Light
	10:30	Andy Light	Leni Moore	Maggie Moore	
Dec 12	8:00	Richard Triplett	Margaret Odell		Rozelle and Brad Wright Kathy and Pet Peterson Karen Humphrey
	10:30	Susan Sprake	Sally Cassil	Bill Godwin	
Dec 19 Lessons & Carols	8:00	Luke Favorite	Isabella Stephens		Ruth Cox, Renee Roybal Karen Humphrey
	10:30	Mariah Stephens	Susan Sprake, Jeff Favorite, Marilyn Lisowski, Lisa Rothrock, Margaret Odell	Linda Corliss	
Dec 24	5:30p	Isabella Stephens	Susan Sprake		Marybeth Stephens Michelle Espy, Rozelle and Brad Wright, Judy Crocker, Andy and Linda Light
	10:30p	Andy Light	Leni Moore	Maggie Moore Linda Corliss	
Dec 25	10 am	Claire Singleton	Rozelle Wright	Brad Wright	Marybeth Stephens Michelle Espy, Rozelle and Brad Wright
Dec 26	8:00	Joe Cox			Ellie Giovanielli, Michelle Espy, Marybeth Stephens
	10:30	Bill Godwin	Lynn Godwin	Linda Corliss	

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

3900 Trinity Drive

Los Alamos, NM 87544

Return Service Requested



Trinity Tidings
December 2021