



Trinity Tidings

From the Rector

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TOTH

March 29 – April 5

March 29, 8:00 and 10:30 am - Palm Sunday

The use of palm branches on this day is an ancient custom although, in climates where palms did not grow, the use of other branches was common. On Palm Sunday, we will begin our service in Kelly Hall. After the palms have been blessed and the Gospel lesson about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is read, we will process around the block and then into the church. The Gospel of the day will be the Passion Gospel - the complete narrative of the betrayal, trial, and crucifixion of Christ, with parts read by various members of the congregation. The remainder of the Palm Sunday service is somber. The palm branches distributed on Palm Sunday have been blessed and should be treated accordingly. If you must dispose of them, please burn or bury them, or bring them back to church. Traditionally, palm branches are placed behind a picture or cross at home and are returned to the church by Shrove Tuesday to be burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

April 2, 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Liturgy 8:30 pm-11:30 am Vigil in the Chapel

Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the holiest three days in Holy Week, called in Latin the *Triduum*, meaning "three days". These days are in actuality one liturgy, beginning with the Maundy Thursday Eucharist and foot washing, continuing on Good Friday with the solemn collects and communion from bread and wine consecrated on Thursday, and culminating with the renewal of our baptismal vows and the first Eucharist of the resurrection at the Great Vigil of Easter.

The liturgy of Maundy Thursday commemorates the humility of the Lord in his willingness to do the most lowly of tasks. The word "maundy" is an English version of the Latin *mandatum*, from the 'new commandment' that Jesus gives his disciples after washing their feet. In our re-enactment and remembrance of that event, the clergy wash the feet of volunteers of the gathered congregation who then, in turn, wash others' feet. At the conclusion of our eucharistic feast on this solemn and somber night, the church is quietly stripped of all adornment by members of the altar guild and altar party, while the congregation remains kneeling, reciting Psalm 22. We are invited, as were the first disciples, to watch and pray with the Lord on the night before his crucifixion and death. Consecrated bread and wine are removed to an "altar of repose" in the Chapel,

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Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 am: Rite I Holy Eucharist

**10:30 am Rite II
Holy Eucharist (with music)**

**6:00 pm Choral Evensong, 1st Sunday
(No Compline)
7:00 pm: Compline**

Wednesday

**12:30 pm: Healing Service
St. Athanasius Chapel**

**~ Come Worship With Us! ~
All are Welcome**

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and members of the parish keep watch through the night and the next morning. We leave the church in silence that night – for we know what the first disciples did not: that Jesus will soon be arrested, tried unjustly, and put to death.

April 3, Good Friday: Noon - Christ's Seven Last Words from the Cross

6:00 pm: Passion Gospel and Communion from Reserved Sacrament in the Chapel

This marks the day on which we commemorate the Lord's crucifixion and death. This year, we will again have the service of "The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross" at noon with meditations, prayers and music. Participating clergy include Cynthia Biddlecomb, Marshall Cook, David Elton, Mary Ann Hill, Colin Kelly, John Nash, Amy Schmuck, and Raymond Raney.

At 6:00 pm we will have the proper liturgy for Good Friday in the Chapel. The worship offered is, in fact, a continuation of the liturgy begun the previous night at the Maundy Thursday eucharist and it will not 'end' until the Great Vigil of Easter. Consequently, the liturgy begins – or more properly, continues – without the familiar acclamation and it ends without a formal dismissal. The vesture of the sacred ministers is simple, recalling the solemnity and sobriety of the day, and the passion Gospel according to John is read. Afterwards the solemn collects—a series of intercessory prayers dating from the second century—are read. Finally, communion is shared from bread and wine consecrated at the Maundy Thursday eucharist, and all depart in silence to the awkward waiting of Holy Saturday and the restrained anticipation of the Great Vigil of Easter.

April 4, 7:30 pm: The Great Vigil of Easter

(astronomical sunset is at 7:24 pm in Los Alamos on April 4, 2026)

The Great Vigil of Easter is the most solemn and ancient liturgy of the entire year. It is the culmination of Lent and Holy Week, and the *Triduum*. The service consists of four parts: The Service of Light, in which new fire is kindled to light the Paschal (Easter) Candle, and the entire congregation lights candles from the Paschal Candle, and then processes into the church; The Service of Lessons, in which God's saving deeds in history are retold; The Baptismal Covenant, in which new Christians are baptized and believers reaffirm their commitment to the Christian way; and The Holy Eucharist, which breaks the Lenten fast with the proclamation of the Easter Alleluia and the first celebration of the Eucharist since Maundy Thursday. The altar and clergy are vested white, symbolizing the light of Christ.

Worshippers at the Great Vigil of Easter are encouraged to bring with them any sort of hand-held bell they would like to ring as we sing "The Strife is O'er" at the beginning of the first Eucharist of Easter and during the final hymn.

April 5, Easter Day - 8:00 and 10:30 am

Services on this day are solemn high celebrations of the Eucharist for Easter Day. The church is filled with flowers and there will be special music and guest instrumentalists. Please feel free to bring bells to ring during the final hymn.

FROM THE OUTGOING SENIOR WARDEN

It has been an honor to serve Trinity on the Hill as Senior Warden for the last two years. Thanks for the support, encouragement, suggestions, and kind words throughout that time. I appreciate all of you! I am continuously amazed at our parish, the way we love and take care of each other, the many ways that we serve God through our church, and the faith and love for God that we all share. Trinity on the Hill is such a blessing!

Patrick Moore is stepping into the role of Senior Warden and I look forward to his energy and ideas as he leads the Vestry. Lisa Rothrock will be Co-Junior Warden along with Mark Hartman. If you notice facility items that need attention, please be sure to let one of them know.

Serving on the Vestry is an educational and rewarding experience. It's a great way to learn what makes our church tick, an opportunity to build deeper relationships with other parishioners, and a wonderful way to get to know our priest. I encourage you all to consider standing for Vestry in the future when the time is right for you.

Respectfully,
Kandice Favorite

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES	
March 29, Palm Sunday	8:00 am: Liturgy of the Palms and Passion Gospel 10:30 am: Liturgy of the Palms, Procession, and Passion Gospel (service begins in Kelly Hall)
April 2 Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Eucharist and foot-washing. 8:30 pm—11:00 am: All-night vigil at the altar of repose (Chapel).
April 3, Good Friday	12 noon: The Seven Last Words of Christ. The Chancel Choir will sing for the first hour. Guest preachers will be in attendance. 6:00 pm: Passion Gospel and Communion from Reserved Sacrament in the Chapel
April 4 Holy Saturday	7:30 pm: The Great Vigil of Easter. Bring hand-bells. Incense will be used.
April 5, Easter Day	8:00 am: Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 am: Brunch in Kelly Hall 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with brass accompaniment. Incense will be used at 10:30 am. 11:45 am: Easter Egg Hunt

FROM THE CO-JUNIOR WARDENS



I was reminded this week that St. Gertrude of Nivelles (626–659), whose feast day is celebrated on March 17th, is the unofficial patron saint of cats. So, I hope you had a Happy Saint Caty’s day.

I have been informed that Rick and Lisa Rothrock are traveling so, as Co-Junior Warden, I write. Of course, offered to you with restraint so as to make the message slightly more succinct, but I hope that Lisa can read this before you do.

Thank you for the invitation to be of service on your Vestry, again. Please reach out with feedback if you wish.

We have had a mild winter season around the church, rarely needed a call for shoveling and probably have not used all the ice melt yet. Inside, the heat in Kelly Hall was somedays not functioning but we had some work done to the system which may help. I am in the process of replacing the thermostat in the main sanctuary, so as to make that more easily manageable by remote control. Light blubs are OK, bathroom fans seem to be working.

We have an ongoing situation that is causing doors to become more frustrating. The door near the education wing needs immediate repair and a call for volunteer help has been sent out but, two days further into the situation, I admit that perhaps I need to pay a service professional. As always, please be mindful of closing/locking doors as you pass through them.

Sometime in the near future we will want to do an annual clean of screens and lube of mechanisms on windows in Kelly Hall. Yet another opportunity, should you be so inclined. Akin to the cartoon birds you may remember, a list of things to do circles around in my conscious both day and night and perhaps you could ask about that, or suggest help—professional or otherwise.



For your consideration
 Mark Hartman
 For Your Co-Junior Wardens

From the Editor:

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this Lenten edition of *Trinity Tidings*. We have switched to quarterly publication, which means four issues per year at approximately Advent, Lent, Pentecost, and “back to school.”

Are you ready for Holy Week? Personally, I feel that if I miss a church service during Holy Week, I am missing part of the story that culminates on Easter Day with Jesus’ resurrection. The Chancel Choir and our Organist are working hard to provide beautiful music, the Altar Guild will be adorning our Sanctuary appropriately for each service, the Office will be churning out mountains of bulletins, and Mother Mary Ann will be preparing in multiple ways for this especially busy and exciting season.

We are all looking forward to welcoming YOU to services during Holy Week. (See the schedule on p. 3)

Best wishes,
 Claire

(Note: The following has been appended to the Minutes of the 2026 Annual Parish Meeting)

Introducing the 2026 New Vestry Members

1. **Why are you interested in serving on the TOTH Vestry at this time, and have you ever served on any Vestry in the past, either at TOTH or elsewhere?**
2. **What talents/gifts do you feel you have to offer to our parish?**
3. **How long have you been an Episcopalian and how many years have you been a member at TOTH?**
4. **What do you think is the most pressing problem facing TOTH in 2026?**

Ellie Giovanielli

1. I would like to join the Vestry this year because I would like to continue my support of TOTH , hoping to add my prior experience to today's changing attendance pattern in the nation and beyond. I served on the TOTH Vestry as Junior Warden during the years before and after the Cerro Grande fire in 2000.
2. During my 45 years of membership at TOTH, I have been involved in many areas including Sunday School teacher, Bible School leader, Parish Life Chair, Funeral Reception Chair, Shop on the Corner leader, and painter/varnisher of walls and cabinets in the church. It's been a wild ride!
3. I have been an Episcopalian and member of TOTH for 45 years, quite honestly the best years of my life.
4. I believe the biggest problem facing TOTH and almost all organized religious groups is understanding and working with people who have lost their faith in not only God but in the community in which they live. People are floundering, unable to live peacefully in a changing, distrusting world. How TOTH can be a place of solace and growth will be our challenge.

Mark Hartman

1. I have a strong commitment to taking care of our building so being a returning member of the TOTH Vestry would make it easier for me to communicate what might be important ideas or concerns to the other Vestry members, as well as easier for me to hear direct communication of the ideas, desires or needs which other members of the Vestry bring in return on behalf of parishioners. I have been a member of the TOTH Vestry through many other cycles before and each time I was accepted for 3-year terms.
2. One of the great strengths I can offer is an acute understanding of the physical idiosyncrasies of our building. Another aspect of my experience lies within the understanding of business and accounting. Yet a third consideration might be that I own many tools and have 50 years of knowledge gained while using them as well as others that I don't have.
3. I joined Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church during the late 1990s, following an invitation from Fr. Kelly. I had once upon a time been raised as a member of the Catholic Church when I lived in Wisconsin but was not an active affiliate when I moved to Los Alamos. One might say that I have been a member at TOTH for 25 years or maybe more.
4. I think that building an active and involved membership is an important concern but that would

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probably fall into parallel alignment with the need to maintain a level of fiscal sustainability that can support the ministries and missions of our church as well as the other aspects of church life that we embrace. Finding a way to balance as we walk that line between desires and affordability is an important mission of the Vestry in concert with our Rector.

Celina Long

1. I am very devoted to serving our Lord in ways that are helpful to others – particularly through the Church. I am committed to giving back to our congregation, which has been my rock, and which I view as an extended family of sisters and brothers in Christ. Although not a Vestry position, when we lived in Illinois, I served on the architectural committee at Gary United Methodist Church during the construction of a large building expansion project and renovation. We were very involved in that congregation, having been married in this Church, and this is where I first recognized the personal reward in being of significant service to my fellow church members. The Church is so important to my spiritual development that serving in the Vestry will be a true honor. I see this as a tremendous opportunity to contribute to the church's well-being by utilizing my talents in a meaningful way.
2. I can bring various aspects of my extensive project management experience to this position. In addition to the specific roles I have held, I am very conscientious and well-organized in my planning and undertaking challenges set before me. My professional experience has primarily been as a project manager and exhibit designer. While we resided in Houston, I worked as Director of Exhibits at Space Center Houston – the large visitor center of NASA's Johnson Space Center. I designed and developed annual summer-long special exhibits, as well as the ongoing NASA-related activities and displays. Prior to this, I served as Head Designer in the creation of the Houston Museum of Health and Medical Science. I also previously served as a team exhibit designer in various science centers, such as the Houston Museum of Natural Science and Science World in Vancouver, BC. I was the Coordinator for the Tax Executives Institute Houston Chapter Tax School - the largest of its kind in the US. In this capacity, I organized multiple weeks of classes for over 3,000 professional attendees, coordinating with hundreds of speakers in the process. More recently (after our relocation to the Los Alamos area), I led the Los Alamos High School Choir Boosters for 4 years. I organized fundraisers, extracurricular trips to New York, and other choir events for approximately 100 students while coordinating with parent volunteers.
3. I have been an Episcopalian for about 15 years, dating back to the enrollment of our twins at Holy Spirit Episcopal School in Houston, where I served in various volunteer capacities. I was raised as a Catholic, but my husband, Ron (who is a lifelong Protestant), first introduced me to this branch of faith through the Methodist Church, in which we were married 21 years ago in Wheaton, Illinois and, ultimately, we migrated to the Episcopal Church. When we were house-hunting in Los Alamos, about 8 years ago, we met Susan Sprake's son, Jamie, who was seated next to us on the airplane to Albuquerque. Then, by apparent divine intervention, we bumped into him again the next evening, at the Blue Window restaurant with Susan. We asked Susan about her church - to which she extended us a very warm welcome ... and the rest is history!
4. I see two issues for TOTH in 2026 – perhaps related: The need for additional funding to support the ongoing activities of the Church, and progress towards the retirement of its debt; and building new membership. Perhaps one focus would be creating events to introduce new families to the wonderful congregation we have here.

The TOTH Streaming Ministry

For most of us, churches are based on community. As Jesus said, “*When two or three are gathered together in my name...*”. Before the COVID epidemic there were certainly occasional pastoral visits to shut-ins, but the COVID epidemic taught us that we could do better; with modern technology we could bring more of the weekly community worship experience to those far away, or ill, or otherwise unable to attend in person. That is the mission of the TOTH streaming team: to bring as complete a worship experience as possible to those in our church community who cannot attend in person; to include them, and to let them know that we include them, even though they cannot be present in person.

We have made several improvements recently. We have been streaming to Facebook but now we are streaming to both Facebook and YouTube, which lets some of our viewers see us on their larger TV screens, instead of just their small computer or phone screens. This is especially important for some of our more elderly viewers with vision constraints. We have also added another camera to provide additional views.

We operate in teams of two - one managing the four cameras and the other managing the eight microphones. The equipment, especially the sound board, may appear daunting at first glance but, in fact, most things are pre-set and the controls are actually fairly simple to operate. What is required is not technical expertise, but focus; the ability for an hour or so to follow the service closely, anticipating which microphone needs to be on next and which camera needs to be focused where next.

There are seven of us on the streaming team now and we would really like to add 1-3 more of you to our team, so that we have better coverage when team members travel or become ill, as occasionally happens. Our goal is to have each team member scheduled only 1 or 2 Sundays a month, enough to keep their skills fresh, but not so much as to interfere noticeably with their own their worship experience. Many of us also serve occasionally in other roles, as Ushers or Lay Readers or at the altar. Being part of the streaming team does not preclude helping the TOTH community in other ways during the service.

If you are looking for a mission within the TOTH community, and have the ability to focus carefully for an hour or so, we would love to have you join us. We provide lots of training! If you want to explore the possibility, just come and talk to us in the back after the service.

Bill Godwin
For The Streaming Team

House of Hope Fiesta on the Hill

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with us on Saturday, May 2 from 5:00-7:30 pm in Kelly Hall! The last fiesta dinner was amazing, thanks to TOTH and friends' generosity of time and donations. This year we will again have entertainment, a taco dinner and paletas (Mexican popsicles), a dessert auction, a silent auction, slide show and crafts for kids.

We will need many hands to make this event a success. We appreciate any help you can provide. Hopefully, you will find something that suits your interests, from baking to cooking to sharing some of your treasures or talents. Auction items of service were very popular last year. We had donations of handyman hours, PT time, snow shoveling, and a fishing excursion on Santa Cruz Lake. Maybe you would be willing to share your expertise and time? Coming soon, there will be a sign up in the narthex. A link will also be available on the TOTH webpage to RSVP for the event.

We are commemorating over 20 years of Trinity on the Hill sending volunteers to Juárez to build a home for a family in need. Last year we were blessed, with your help, to construct a home for Blanca, Rogelio, Jairo, Santiago and Damian. We are already praying for the family God will place before us this fall.

This year's House of Hope team will be heading across the border from November 11 (Veteran's Day)-November 14. If you are interested in learning more, join us on May 2 or contact Julie Bulthuis or Joanna Gillespie. No building skills are needed to join the group.

¡Vamos a la fiesta!





Sundays:

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I** at 8 am.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II with music** at 10:30 am; streamed via Facebook live at www.facebook.com/trinityoth and on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@TrinityontheHill>.
- **Compline**, 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Prayers by candle-light, with plainsong. All welcome!
- **Choral Evensong**: 6 pm, first Sunday of the month (no Compline), followed by a reception in Kelly Hall.

Tuesdays:

- **Women Alive** at 7:30 am; in Sherrill Hall (2nd and 4th Tuesdays), via Zoom (3rd/5th Tuesdays). Contact Rozelle Wright or Claire Singleton for the link. First Tuesday walks around sunrise, followed by breakfast.

Wednesdays:

- **Service of Healing with Holy Communion**, 12:30 pm in St. Athanasius Chapel.

Thursdays:

- **Bible Study**, 11:30 am, Library, led by Susan Sprake

Trinity Tidings

A newsletter of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

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Distribution: Online publication only.
Paper copies mailed upon request.

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 around Pentecost. Deadline: check your email!

Submit electronically to admin@latoth.org

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

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Return Service Requested



Trinity Tidings
Advent 2025