

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gaudete Sunday — TODAY

In many places, following a tradition going back at least to medieval times, the Third Sunday of Advent is observed as *Gaudete Sunday*. The Latin name comes from the traditional choral introit for the day, which begins, *Gaudete in Domino semper ...* translated, “Rejoice in the Lord always.” This morning’s epistle echoes the theme.

Rose-colored vestments have traditionally marked the change in emphasis for the day. And so the day is often referred to as “Rose Sunday.” Either way, things tend to be a bit “gaudy” today!!

Gaudy ole St. Nick!

And in that gaudy vein, we have a rather gaudy St. Nick on display this morning during the morning liturgies. No getting around it, he’s got a look going on ... and he’s very comfortable with himself!

Please stop by the Alternative Giving Table in Brooks Hall after the morning services today to pick up a raffle ticket – \$1 each! Proceeds will benefit Trinity Outreach. And the winning ticket gets to take our elegant St. Nicholas to its forever home. It could be yours!

Adult Forum — TODAY @ 9:15 AM

Our weekly adult forum meets in Brooks Hall between our morning services, offering a time of fellowship, as well as a chance to exchange information or engage in deeper reflection.

Today, the topic is “Money Smarts for Older Adults.” We will talk about such topics as why older adults often are the target of financial exploitation, scams and identity theft, and ways you can help your parents and yourself. We only will explore the tip of the iceberg on this topic.

Advent -- Sharing Joy and Blessings with Others

- **Christmas Giving Tree – gifts for children**

Thanks to those who have picked up tags from the tree in Brooks Hall! Please return unwrapped gifts with the tag by Tuesday, December 18.



- **Alternative Christmas – support for established charities**

Make a donation to any of Trinity’s sponsored charities: Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), Condega Nicaragua Program, Cove/COPY, and/or Family Kitchen. Donations will be matched by ERD, Cove/COPY up to \$3600, and Family Kitchen up to \$500.

Donation forms are located in Trinity Church and at the Alternative Christmas Table. Complete the form, fold it in thirds, and include your cash or check made payable to “Trinity Episcopal Church.” To use a credit card, contact Joan Wellman @ 541-408-5435.

Questions? Contact Marie Suhre @ suhreds@hotmail.com or 541-306-6043.

Greening of the Church — TODAY @ 11:30 AM

The “hanging of the greens” is an old English custom of adorning one’s home with evergreens and other festive trappings. We’ll do the same at Trinity after our later service this morning, under the watchful eye of Helen Brisson, supported by members of the Altar Guild.

Christmas Flowers — Due back to office by TOMORROW

We have special envelopes in the pew racks this morning for you to use to support our seasonal greens and flowers. Please **print** -- VERY legibly -- your thanksgiving or memorial intentions.



Help Needed for our Christmas services

If you're going to be here for Christmas, please let the office know if you're available to help with any of our special services. Most of the assignments have been made, but we'll be looking for a few greeters (and possibly some singers) for the Christmas Eve Family Service. We're also looking for a couple of ushers at the Christmas Day service at 10 am.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services — December 24th and 25th

Bring all the family to church Christmas Eve! We have three services on Christmas Eve and one service only on Christmas Day.

- **Christmas Eve @ 4 PM**

Our first Christmas service is a "family service," especially appropriate for families with young children. This service will be held in St Helens this year, and will feature something special for our younger participants.

- **Christmas Eve @ 7 and 9 PM**

The later services are more traditional, with music provided by the Trinity Choir. Caroling begins 30 minutes before the 7 pm service and 15 minutes before "Midnight Mass," as people arrive.

- **Christmas Day @ 10 AM (one service only)**

The service on Christmas Day is a relatively simple affair, with carols to sing and a story for everyone to enjoy on Christmas morning.

An invitation is included this morning ... a handy reference for yourself or an opportunity to help you invite others to join us.

Trinity Men's Breakfast — Saturday, December 29th

All men of the parish are invited to Brooks Hall for friendship, fellowship, fun and connection. RSVP by Thursday, December 27th to Brian Douglass @ bdouglass2014@centurylink.net.

Year-end Contributions

Based on IRS regulations, we ask that all contributions intended for 2018 be received by noon on Monday, December 31. If you have questions about your pledge balance, please contact Joan Wellman, our Contributions Secretary, @ contributions@trinitybend.org or 541-408-5435.

And if you are 70½ or older, you can make a contribution directly from your Traditional IRA. Your financial advisor can tell you how to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), counting it toward your minimal distribution requirements for 2018 and not having to report it as income.

Save the Date: Season of Nonviolence Community Book Conversations begin January 16th

Save the Date: Women's Group Salad Potluck on January 24th

CALENDAR

This following list of events is not comprehensive. To add your meeting or event to our calendar, please contact the parish office by phone - 541-382-5542, or email - ministry@trinitybend.org.

12/16	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
		9:15 AM	Adult Forum: <i>Money Smarts for older adults</i>
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist in the season of Advent
		11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
		12 PM	Greening of the Church
12/17	Monday	5:30 PM	Education for Ministry
12/18	Tuesday	5:30 PM	Vestry Meeting
12/19	Wednesday	9 AM	Sermon Reflections
		12 PM	Noon Eucharist
		2 PM	Outreach Commission
		6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
12/22	Saturday	8:30 AM	Men's Breakfast
		9 AM	Altar Guild
12/23	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
		9:15 AM	Adult Forum: <i>Music for the season</i>
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist in the season of Advent
		11:30 AM	Coffee Hour

