THE TRINITY TIMES

Advent 2026



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY



Inside this issue:

Are you called to the Vestry?	**2**
It's Stewardship Season	**6**
22nd annual Golf Outing photos	**10**
Blessing our Pets	**13**
Acolytes' Car Wash	**15**
Welcome The Rev. Danny Thomas to our Diocese!	**20**

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Greetings from the Acting Dean

Dear Beloved,

Grace and peace to you!

"There is a time and a season for every matter under heaven."
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)

As the church year draws to a close, we look forward with hope to a new season. The seasons of our lives come and go: some surprise us, while others arrive long anticipated. Now we welcome the Church's New Year with Advent—a season of new beginnings. Advent means "coming." For us, it points to the coming of Christ: Christ has come, Christ is here, and Christ will come again.

You will notice this new season in our worship. The green of the Season After Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, gives way to Advent purple. The Advent wreath returns, and our service music changes as we move from singing the Gloria to the Kyrie Eleison.

These changes invite us to enter Advent with fresh attention and expectation.

Although Advent is less penitential than Lent, it remains a time of self-examination and preparation for our Lord's coming at Christmas. In this season of expectation, we are called to remember, repent, and rehearse.

- **Remember:** We look back to Christmas, when the Son of God entered our world and turned history upside down.
- **Repent:** We turn from self to Christ. Advent calls us to conversion so that Christ may not only live in us but come alive in us.
- **Rehearse:** We prepare for Christ's final coming by living as though he were coming in majesty this Christmas.

Like many of you, I eagerly await my favorite season: Christmas. Yet Advent invites us to linger in the waiting—to pause, pray, and prepare for Christ to come not only into the world, but into our hearts.

This past season has been anything but ordinary. As we spend this "in-between time" awaiting Jesus, may we find joy, peace, and love—and, most importantly, discover ourselves anew in the waiting.

Have a most blessed Advent season!

In Christ's Love,



The Very Reverend Terence Alexander Lee+, M.Div.



All services held in-person and livestreamed, when possible:

Sunday, December 20:	8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I – Advent 4 (in-person only)
	10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II - with Baptism & Confirmation
	with The Right Reverend Sally French, Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey
Wednesday, December 23:	12:15 pm - Mid-week Eucharist in All Saints' Chapel (in-person only)
Thursday, December 24:	4:00 pm – Christmas Eve (Family) Crèche-Building Service
	10:00 pm – Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist (9:30 pm carol prelude)
Friday, December 25:	9:00 am – Christmas Day Worship in All Saints' Chapel (in-person only)
Sunday, December 27:	8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I – Christmas 1 (in-person only)
	10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Mid-week Eucharist off Wednesday, December 30th

Sunday, January 3:	8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I – The Epiphany (in-person only)
	10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II featuring The Trinity Strings



We are seeking children and young people to participate in our Christmas Eve crèche-building service at 4:00 pm. As lessons are read, participants will carry up pieces of the crèche and add them to the scene in front of the lectern. If you have youth in your family who would like to participate, please contact Althia Muse at (609) 802-2303.

Dear Beloved,



As we discern the leadership needs of Trinity Cathedral, I invite you to reflect on the qualities we seek in members of the Vestry. The nominating committee will soon seek nominations for election. This is an opportunity to consider who among us may be called to serve—including ourselves.

Vestry members are the "elders" of our community. Their call encompasses both practical responsibilities and spiritual leadership. They are asked to give as much attention to the parish's spiritual life as to its finances and administration.

Whether you are considering serving yourself or nominating a fellow parishioner, reflect on the responsibilities of this call:

1. Have you *accepted* Jesus Christ as the Son of God and acknowledged him as Savior and surrendered to him as Lord of your life? **See Acts 4.12, John 1.12, John 14.6**

2. Are you committed, as God enables you, to worship with your Parish in church every week? **See Deuteronomy 5.12, Luke 4.16, Hebrews 10.24**

3. Are you involved in (or actively seeking) a Christian ministry by which you will give your time and talents to or through the church? **Romans 12.6, 1 Corinthians 12.7**

4. Are you working to develop your personal devotional life through regular prayer and study (bible study), and through regular gatherings with a small group of Christians for fellowship, study and prayer? **See Mark 1.35, 3.14, 9.2; Matthew 18.19**

5. Are you and your family committed to trusting God with a tithe of your anticipated income, and if you are not already tithing, willing to begin today? **See Malachi 3.10, Mark 12.41-44**

6. Are you prepared (or will you learn) to seek opportunities to give verbal witness to your faith, describing in appropriate ways God's action in Jesus Christ and his work in your life? **See Romans 10.9-10, 14-17; 1 Peter 3.15, Acts 1.8**

7. Do you accept the responsibility of giving witness to your faith through your living, maintaining a good reputation with all people and manifesting the fruit of the Spirit in such ways that Christ is glorified? **See 1 Timothy 302-7, Romans 12.1-2**

8. Are you willing to serve as an "elder" of your Parish, seeking only Christ's will for God's church, and giving as much attention to the spiritual life of the congregation as to the financial and administrative decisions? **Acts 1.21 & 1 Corinthians 1.26-31**

9. Are you willing to support church functions, social and spiritual, with your work and attendance, and place church activities high on your list of priorities? **See Ephesians 4.1-2, 11-16; Acts 2.42, 44-46**

10. Are you committed to attending every meeting of the board/ministry, to participate in any teachings and trainings, and to pray daily for your church? **See John 20.24-29**

As the prayer book reminds us, the ministers of the church are laypersons, priests, and deacons. I invite you to approach this discernment prayerfully, considering who among us is called to serve.

Dean Lee+

To the Entire Trinity Cathedral Community:

Thank you very much for the gift that the Dean presented to me on your behalf at my Retirement Luncheon. I greatly appreciate your kindness.

Thank you, Dean Lee, for your prayers and remembrance of us during the Holy Eucharist.

The luncheon itself was beautifully arranged. Thanks again to all those who were responsible for bringing it about. The food and the special cake were scrumptious. The room was prepared in a welcoming and beautiful way which must have taken a lot of work.

For Jane and me the most special part was your love and kindness to us. We treasure your many tributes about my ministry (and Jane's). Thank you! And thank you for the special message from the African Festival Committee.

The outsize and so nicely made card with lovely prayers and remarks will be a great memory for us. Thanks to all for your personal and meaningful messages.

Jane greatly appreciated your kind remarks and the beautiful flowers, and she sends love and many thanks.

The choir's dedication to me of the offertory anthem "How Beautiful" touched our hearts and will never be forgotten.

I'm sure I'm leaving something out. Forgive me. We just want you to know how much we love and appreciate you all. And always will.

Many Thanks and Much Love from both Jane and me.

Many Blessings!

Peter



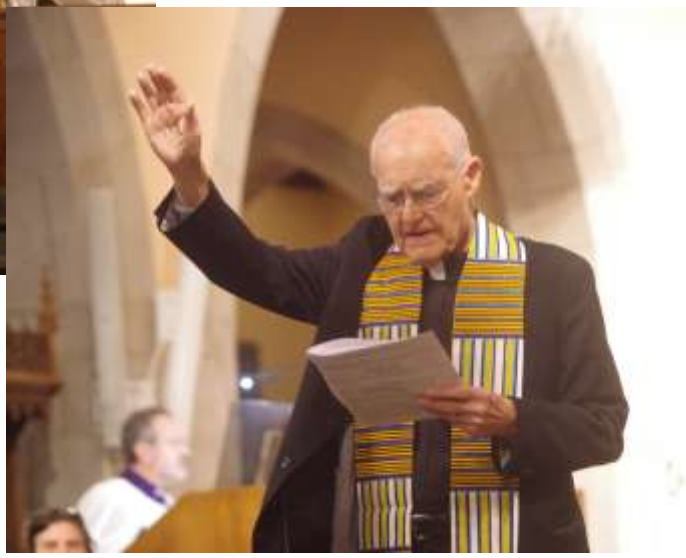














Did you know the we host virtual Rosary Devotions each week? Rosary Devotions are conducted by the Society of Mary (SoM) via Zoom (phone access also available) every Thursday at 8:00 pm. If you would like to participate, please E-mail Erica Warner at vassose@aol.com and she will send you guide sheets with the Zoom link (and telephone number if needed) so that you can join us virtually in these devotions. We'd love to see you there! (We are off on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve.)



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Peace to you and your family in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

It has been nearly six months since we began our ministry together. I thank God for each of you and look forward to all that lies ahead. We have much to be grateful for, and through your continued commitment and support, we can sustain our ministries while preparing faithfully for the future.

As we approach the Church's new year and the First Sunday of Advent, I look forward with hope to the movement of God in this place. Each of us has a ministry and a calling. My prayer is that together we will discern God's will for our lives and for the life of our Cathedral community. As part of that discernment, I invite you to consider how you will offer your **time, talent, and treasure.**

This is Stewardship Season in our Christian communities. Across The Episcopal Church and throughout our diocese, congregations are prayerfully discerning the gifts they will offer to God. Here at Trinity Cathedral, our theme is "Stewardship as a Way of Life."

Although the church observes a stewardship season each year, stewardship is a lifelong commitment to care responsibly for all that God has entrusted to us.

What are you going to do with what God has given you?

This question is for each of us individually and for our whole community of faith. God has been good to us; therefore, we give back—not out of obligation, but out of gratitude. I invite you to make a pledge for 2027 and to prayerfully consider the biblical practice of tithing.

Every year during our stewardship campaign, we often ask, *"How much should I give?"* A better question is, *"How is God calling me to give?"* We may think our gifts are primarily for a budget, a fundraiser, salaries, or a building fund. Yet tithing is not simply about meeting institutional needs; it is a spiritual response to God's generosity.

We do not merely give to a need; we have a need to give, because God has first given to us.

We tithe because:

Scripture calls us to give.
Proverbs 3:9–10
Malachi 3:6–10

Tithing requires faith and trust in God. It invites us to rely on God rather than on ourselves alone.

Giving supports the Church's mission. It strengthens the ministry of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As the saying goes, "Money follows mission."

Tithing expresses gratitude. We give because we are thankful for all that God has given us.
Giving forms us spiritually. It frees us from the human tendency to take full credit for our own success.

We focus on money during Stewardship Season because the way we handle money is a spiritual matter. It reveals what we value and, ultimately, what we worship. Jesus spoke often about money and possessions because faith finds practical expression in how we use our treasure. As he teaches, ***"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"*** **(Matthew 6:21, NRSV).**

In the tithe, God asks us to trust. We do not tithe because it is easy; we tithe because God calls us to entrust every part of our lives to God. As you prayerfully consider your pledge, ask yourself:

Do I truly believe in God?
Do I truly trust God?

I believe that God is real and that God can and will provide for the needs of Trinity Cathedral when we place our trust in God. Jesus said to his disciples—and these words still speak to us today—***"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back"*** **(Luke 6:38, NRSV).**

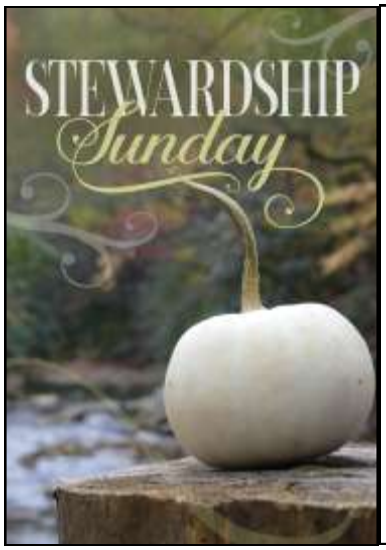
As you consider all that is being asked of you, remember the words we often recite from 1 Chronicles 29:14: *"All things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee."*

May our giving be a faithful response to God's generosity and a joyful expression of gratitude, trust, and hope.

In Christ,



The Very Reverend Terence Alexander Lee+
Acting Dean



November 22, 2026 is Stewardship Sunday. Please look out for our stewardship mailing, including a pledge card, which you should have already received. If you need a pledge card, please ask an Usher or contact the Cathedral office.

Christmas Decorating

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It's almost time to "spruce" up the Cathedral for Christmas! On behalf of our Flower Guild, The Reverend Canon Art Powell has been busy planning the decorating of our beautiful worship space with wreaths, greens, poinsettias and trees! The greening of the Cathedral will take place on Saturday, December 19 from 8:00 am—2:00 pm. Please join us if you can, as many hands make light work! It's always a fun time when we gather to make our Cathedral even more beautiful. If you would like to contribute greens to use around the building, donations are welcome—please drop them off here by Wednesday, December 16th. Donations toward Christmas greens and our wonderful musicians, along with the names of who you would like to honor with those contributions, are due in no later than Sunday, December 13th—please see the form below, or in your Sunday bulletin. Thank you all for everything you do to make our Cathedral beautiful for Christmas!







A Special Offering for

Christmas



In grateful Thanksgiving for all of God's blessings on our life and our work,
please accept my offering of $_____ to be used for (please check one):

___ Christmas greens & poinsettias
___ Christmas musicians and music
___ Split evenly between greens and music

My donation is (CIRCLE ONE) in memory of OR thanksgiving for (PLEASE PRINT!):_____

_____
_____

_____
_____

My name & phone #:_____

Offerings and this request form may be placed in the alms basin by Sunday, December 13
or given to Patrice D'Angelo in the Cathedral office.

Trinity Altar Guild Shop Update:

Check out the many new items great for gift giving!

Christmas Cards starting at $1
Variety of Stocking Stuffers * 2027 Church Calendars
Advent Candles, Wreaths, & Inspirational/Devotional Books
Cathedral Lavender Bath Salts & Warmers



Weekly Specials are waiting for you!
The Shop will be open Sundays during Advent.

SALE!
"Justice Love" by The Cathedral's Own Rev. Peter Bridge

SALE!
"The Window of Grace" by The Cathedral's Own Rev. Kimme Carlos



Need that unique gift? The Shop has a variety of nativities & ornaments from around the world.

The ornament tree is waiting to get bare!
Also featuring beautiful upcycled jewelry.

Free Gift Wrapping!
Shop local; save gas, time, & money!



Golf, Gratitude, and the Bishop's Cup

by La'Tonya Johnson
Chair, Golf Committee

After a weekend of wind and rain, October offered a gift. Monday, October 12, dawned warm and bright, with sunshine and the welcome lightness of autumn air providing a beautiful beginning for the **Cathedral's 22nd Annual Bishop George E. Councell Memorial Golf Outing**.



Before the first ball was struck, the day began in prayer. Bishop French celebrated the opening worship service, and Dean Lee offered a stirring homily on forgiveness, with particular consideration for its practice on the golf course. It was a fitting message for the 83 golfers preparing to take to the fairways, where patience would surely be tested and opportunities to extend grace — to oneself and to others — would be plentiful.

From worship to friendly competition, the day unfolded in a spirit of warmth and shared purpose. At the reception, Charlotte Small's beautiful voice offered a gentle counterpoint to the day's sporting pursuits, while easygoing games of cornhole kept the playfulness alive. There was time to linger, laugh, and enjoy the company of friends.

As evening gathered, 57 additional Cathedral members and friends joined the golfers for dinner. The celebration included recognition of individual and team achievements, along with the excitement of a raffle





featuring a wide array of prizes generously donated by the Cathedral community.

Third-place team honors went to First Tee of Trenton, and **second place to St. Peter's, Perth Amboy**. **Trinity Church, Princeton, claimed first place and the Bishop's Cup**, bringing the day's friendly rivalries to a celebratory close.

Behind the beauty of the day stood many generous hearts and willing hands. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Bishop French and Dean Lee for grounding our planning and gathering in faith and grace, and to Cathedral administrator Patrice D'Angelo and the other members of the Golf Committee, whose dedication and thoughtful preparation brought the day to life.

We are equally grateful to our sponsors, financial supporters, prize donors, and you, the Cathedral members, whose generosity sustained the outing's purpose and enriched its celebration. Every contribution—whether of leadership, time, resources, or a gift for the prize table—became part of something larger: a shared expression of love for the Cathedral and commitment to its ministry. The outing's success belongs to all who helped make it possible.

For a full gallery of pictures from the outing, visit: https://bit.ly/TrinityGolf2026





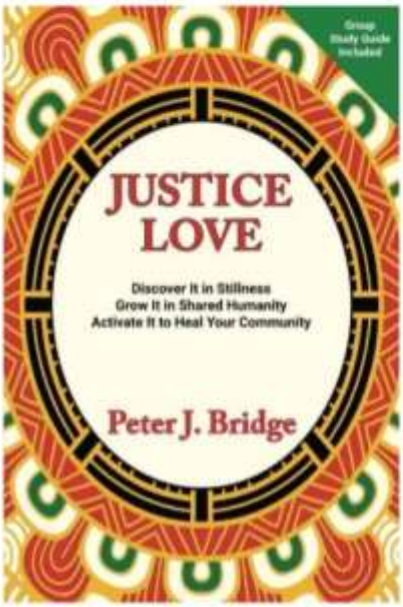




ON SALE NOW!

Peter Bridge's Book

"Justice Love"



BOOKS CAN BE PURCHASED IN THE CATHEDRAL ALTAR GUILD GIFT SHOP FOR JUST $7

When you purchase from the Gift Shop: 100% of proceeds will support the Urban Promise Neighborhood Youth Program

MAKES A GREAT GIFT TOO!

"Acclaimed by leaders, teachers and grassroots justice-seekers from multiple faith traditions, Justice-Love invites us to probe our own thoughts and emotions on the way to more loving and healing connections with others. Fourteen brief readings address the attitudes we must assume and personal obstacles we must overcome if we truly seek justice for and healing between individuals and groups. Each reading is followed by questions for reflection and creating one's own personal action plan for Justice-Love."

DON'T MISS OUT! GET YOUR COPY TODAY!









Blessing our Beloved Pets

Many thanks to The Reverend Julia McKeon for celebrating for the Feast of St. Francis!







Join us on Thanksgiving Day
for worship in
All Saints' Chapel
at 9:00 am
(in-person only)







Join us for An Advent Service of
Lessons and Carols with Eucharist
on Sunday, December 6th at 10:30 am
(in-person and livestreamed.)

This summer our Acolytes organized their first fundraiser, a car wash in the Cathedral parking lot! Rolling up their sleeves were Lafayette Dennis, Prince Dennis, Cyrus Ketter, Laurus Ketter, Noah Lee, Thomas Moore, and Ra'Shonda Washington, with an assist from Vestry Member Ed Greenfield. Many thanks to all who supported their efforts, which resulted in $1,410 being raised toward new vestments and Acolyte fellowship activities. Stay tuned as we continue to share their plans!



Summer Memories ...











Creation Care Corner

November 2026

Plastic vs Planet!

Those of you with good memories may remember the Cathedral's "Plastic vs Planet" Earth Day campaign in April 2024. For several months we displayed plastic-alternative household items in Synod Hall, - everything from plastic-free trash bags, water bottles, cutlery, kitchen products, and alternatives for other single-use plastic items.



Plastics have become a danger to both humanity and all living creatures. According to Earthday.org[1], 95% of all plastics in the US will not be recycled. As plastics break down into microplastics, they release toxic chemicals into our food and water sources and circulate through the air we breathe. The rapid phase-out of single use plastics is urgently needed, especially as the serious long-term health effects are now coming to light.

Following the original 2024 campaign, the Cathedral has gradually "greened up" our Sunday morning coffee hour. This included improving our recycling habits, but more importantly, reducing single-use non-recyclable plastic and non-compostable paper products. (In other words, plastic cutlery, plates, cups, and non-compostable paper products.) The initial approach was to utilize our large range of ceramic tableware and stainless-steel cutlery. That worked well for a while, but washing dishes ultimately became too much of a burden for our already overworked hospitality volunteers.

So as the next best alternative, we are introducing a range of eco-friendly bio-degradable cups, plates and cutlery that will have a much smaller environmental impact than traditional single-use products. You will see these at coffee hour from mid-November, and we want your feedback! Please don't hesitate to tell one of the hospitality volunteers or a member of the Creation Care team if you have any comments, good or bad. If acceptable, we plan to use these biodegradable products on a permanent basis in the near future.



Thank you for helping to make our Cathedral a little "Greener"!

[1] https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2024/



Christmas Wreath Sale

Fundraiser

Wreaths $30

Once again, we are taking reservations for our Christmas wreaths!

Find something cheerful to grace your front door, or to honor a loved one at the cemetery.

Please have reservations in by
Wednesday, December 2, 2026.

Wreaths can be picked up on
Sunday, December 6th.

To reserve your wreath, speak with Georgia Koenig at **(609) 273-3351** or ***gbkoenig@verizon.net.***

Proceeds benefit Trinity Cathedral
801 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08618

Highlights of the September 2026 Major Chapter Meeting of Trinity Cathedral

Nineteen of the 25 members of the Major Chapter of Trinity Cathedral along with a guest attendee, Deacon Kimme Carlos, met via Zoom on Tuesday, September 15, at 6:30 pm. The Bishop Sally French called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm and offered the opening prayer. The main agenda items were as follows:

Financial Summary. Treasurer Ron Zilinski presented a financial summary of the Cathedral's operations as of August 31. Income was $475.5k, while expenses were $616.6k, resulting in -$141.1k net income. The Cathedral has not drawn down expected income from the *Diocesan Investment Trust* (DIT) funds, driving the lower income to date.

Investment Report. Vestry member Alison Smith presented an estimated summary of the Cathedral's investments through July, which totaled $2.856M. $1.117M of the total is invested in *Diocesan Investment Trust* (DIT) funds, $1.104M of the total is under the management of the trustees of the *Dean Adams Trust* (DAT), $549k is in the Wells Fargo brokerage account, and the estimated remaining $85k is a bequest by the estate of Jane Ramsdell in PSEG stock. The Cathedral still has not received an estimated remaining $109k bequest from Dr. Fred Rogers' estate.

Property & Maintenance (P&M). Acting Dean Terence Lee reported for *P&M* Chair Mike Raab and shared that: roof repairs to the *Kids R First* school area were recently completed by Cody Roofing, an electrician has been contacted to repair electrical lines in the boiler room, and a camera and thermometer have been put in the school and Cathedral to monitor gas demand. The valve issue in Synod Hall is being analyzed by Mack Industries; and Cody Roofing is reviewing Cathedral and chapel roof leakages to recommend further repairs.

Fund Raising. Acting Dean Lee addressed this topic in his report below.

Bishop's Report. Bishop French shared the following in her report:

Diocesan Staff Updates. Ms. Nancy Langan is now serving as the Bishop's Executive Assistant, Rev. Deacon Greg Geehern is serving as the Interim Curate for Congregational Vitality, Ms. Keisha Brown is serving as Operations Manager, and Ms. Pat Hawkins is returning to work part-time as the Diocesan Benefits Administrator along with Ms. Mirelle White who will assist with Diocesan Benefits and Finance Support.

Diocesan Audits. Significant progress has been made to bring the diocesan audits up to date. Audits from 2019 through 2024 have been completed or are awaiting final sign-off, leaving 2025 as the remaining current audit. The completed audits have uncovered no fraud or theft but did identify funds that had not always been properly allocated or reconciled. The Diocese has been addressing those obligations and has repaid more than $1M over the past 18 months. Bishop French emphasized the Diocese's continued commitment to stronger financial practices, transparency, and accountability.

Diocesan Convention. The 243rd Diocesan Convention will take place at the Cathedral on November 20–21, 2026.

Strategic Planning. This fall, the Diocese will begin a strategic planning process building on last year's listening sessions which indicated opportunities for greater collaboration among congregations, creative clergy models, partnerships with other ministries, and new ways of thinking about church buildings. The Diocese will focus on what new possibilities may be emerging and where God may be calling the Church next.

Cathedral Support. The Bishop and Diocesan Council continue to support the Cathedral. Diocesan funds were used to restore a dislodgement of Dean Adams' casket and secure the undercroft crypt. Broader restoration in the crypt is underway.

Dean's Report. Father Lee shared his continued gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Acting Dean of the Cathedral and acknowledged the completion of his first four months and the beginning of our 2026-27 program year. During his first four months, he has focused on building relationships with parishioners, listening and learning about parish life, and observing daily operations of the cathedral. He sent in his report with the highlights as follows:

Spiritual and Liturgical Life. The Acting Dean has completed 1 baptism and 2 funerals at the Cathedral. On Sunday, July 26, he met with leaders and members of the Cathedral to share his observations and ways to move forward together. At the July 26 meeting, he discussed the role of the Cathedral as a Parish, Diocesan Convener, and the Bishop's Church; a journey map moving the Cathedral from Maintenance to Mission; and planned changes for the 2026-27 program year including a return of the Rite I service at 8am each Sunday, and the Rite II service with choral

music at 10:30am. Christian Formation will take place from 9:15-10am every Sunday discussing "Anglicanism 101" and serving as Confirmation class. At the beginning of service, the choir will process with the Altar party; and chalice bearers will be vested. The Acting Dean also shared his goals for a Sunday nursery and pre-school as well as increased adult participation during service as servers and vergers. In addition, he intends to establish a Wednesday midday Eucharist with Diocesan clergy participation.

Pastoral Care. The active Cathedral clergy are providing pastoral care to the parish and Diocese, and phone numbers are included in the service bulletins each week for those in need. The clergy have conducted visitations to hospitals for prayer and to administer the Eucharist, conducted visitation to a nursing home for a parishioner of the Diocese, provided pastoral care through counseling and referral for help, and provided financial help for transportation and food.

Staff and Leadership. To create greater efficiencies, there needs to be some reimagining of our use of staff and continued communication with parish leaders. The Acting Dean has observed the opportunity to communicate more regularly and provide expectations for cathedral employees by implementing weekly staff meetings. He plans to implement training for Lay leaders including the Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Acolytes; and ensure that all Cathedral staff, leaders, and those with keys are *Safe Church* trained. He intends to revitalize the Stewardship and Nominating committees given the cathedral financial and vestry succession needs. More broadly, the Acting Dean plans to review all Cathedral commissions and committees with emphasis on meeting timing and membership—incorporating participation from the broader Diocese as appropriate.

Operations and Administration. In these first months, the Acting Dean has reviewed all Cathedral contracts with the assistance of Rev. John Mitchell, Chancelor Paul Ambos, and Georgia Koenig; and shared their statuses with the Chapter. The previous license of the *Trinity Cathedral Academy* has been transferred to *Kids R First* and the school has signed their initial lease agreement. He has revised the Cathedral check signing and reimbursement procedures to require the Dean's signature; and plans to conduct a financial audit as the last one was completed in 2016. There are several cathedral operational challenges that will require thoughtful prioritization and shared leadership including building and grounds cleaning and upkeep, administrative staffing needs, calendar coordination for space usage in partnership with the Diocese, and a review of existing ministry programs and partnerships.

Community Presence and Cathedral Identity. As the Cathedral church of the Diocese, Trinity occupies a unique role both in the diocese and the city of Trenton. The Acting Dean has observed an ardent desire to deepen the cathedral's visibility, accessibility, and public witness in the Diocese of New Jersey, Trenton and the wider region. To that end he has been meeting with community partners in Trenton and Mercer County, having breakfast and lunch meetings with Diocesan clergy, and plans to reestablish the Cathedral Day celebration. He observed that the recent September 11 Remembrance and Prayer Service at the cathedral should be a Diocesan and city-wide event in the future.

Golf Outing. The Annual Cathedral *Community Day Golf Outing* will take place on Monday, October 12 at Mercer Oaks Golf Course. The goal of this Cathedral signature fundraising event is to raise $75,000, and the *Golf Outing* committee members will call all Diocesan churches that have not made a commitment to solicit their support.

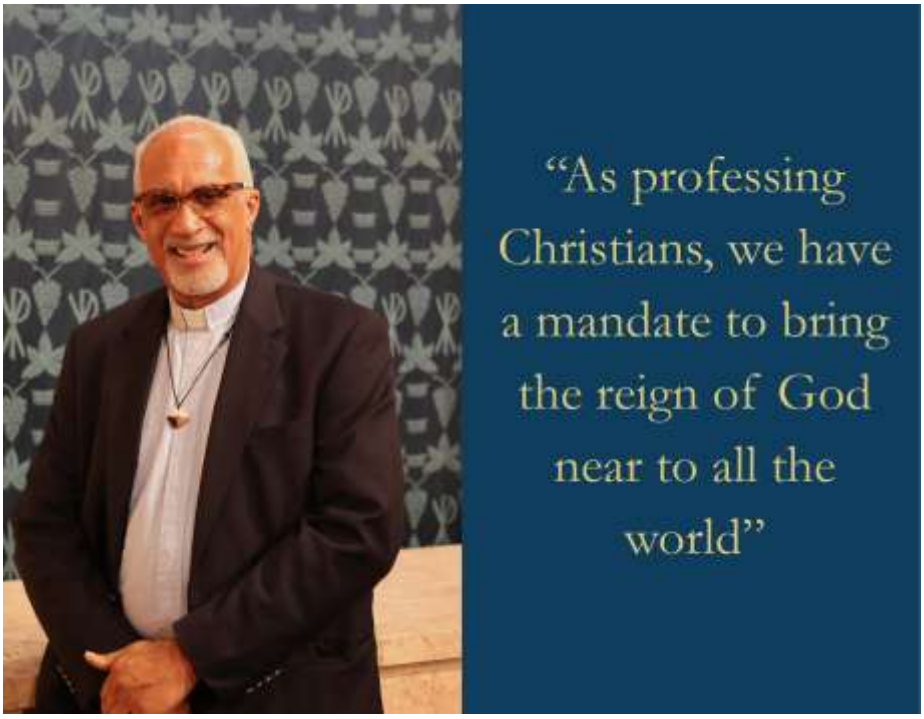
Next Steps. In the coming months, Father Lee plans to have an in-person Vestry and Major Chapter meeting. He remains grateful for the opportunity to serve as Acting Dean and looks forward to working together with the Chapter in service to Christ and His Church.

Old and New Business. Clerk Chinweze Ahaghotu shared that whereas the Major Chapter voted in February 2025 to amend Article 11 of the Cathedral Constitution to extend the duration for Convention-elected Chapter members (4 clergy and 4 lay persons) from three- to four-year terms, Article 14 of our Constitution requires two Major Chapter meeting votes to implement an amendment. Chinweze requested a second Chapter vote to formalize this amendment which passed unanimously.

Next Meeting. The next Major Chapter meeting will be on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Closing Prayer and Blessing. Acting Dean Lee offered the closing prayer, Bishop French gave her blessing, and Deacon Kimme Carlos dismissed the Chapter members. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chinweze Ahaghotu. 6 October 2026.



Conflict is part of life together. Congregations are no exception.

As the Diocese of New Jersey's new Interim Missioner for Reconciliation, Danny Thomas hopes to help churches navigate those moments with greater confidence, giving congregations tools to move through disagreement while remaining attentive to one another and to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Thomas began the 12-month appointment on November 1 as part of the Diocese's Congregational Support team. From his experiences as a pastor in several United Methodist Churches in New Jersey, and now a parishioner at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton, he brings experience in conflict resolution and facilitation, as well as many years of ministry and community involvement in Trenton.

"The goal for reconciliation is to restore broken or fractured relationships," Thomas said. "Many of our communities and churches navigate through the daily conflicts that arise just because we're human."

His role will include working with diocesan staff and clergy, as well as vestries and congregations, when conflict threatens to interfere with the life and ministry of a church. But Thomas sees the work of reconciliation as something broader than responding when relationships have already broken down.

He hopes to help congregations develop skills that allow them to become better agents of Christ's peace within their churches and in the communities around them.

"As professing Christians, we have a mandate to bring the reign of God near to all the world," Thomas said. "There is no better place to practice and perfect that than in our local congregations."

That can mean learning how to listen across disagreement, recognizing patterns that make conflict more difficult to resolve, or creating space for conversations that a congregation has struggled to have on its own. The goal is not necessarily to eliminate disagreement. Thomas noted that conflict itself is not always evidence that something has gone wrong.

"Sometimes the Holy Spirit moves us into, and through, conflict to view God's larger hope and promise for us," he said.

For congregations, the new role provides another source of support when relationships become strained, but also an opportunity to think more intentionally about reconciliation before a crisis occurs.

Thomas hopes that strengthening those practices within congregations will ultimately extend well beyond church walls.

The Congregational Support team, he said, hopes to help churches "reconcile with each other in whatever ways necessary so we can empower our larger communities to thrive as places of peace and hope where all are valued."

— JOIN US FOR —

WORLD AIDS DAY



Rethink . Rebuild . Rise .

A day of unity, education, and action as we work together to end the **HIV epidemic.**

Tuesday
December 1, 2026
11:30 AM to 3 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
801 W. State St.
Trenton, NJ 08618

FREE RIDE PROVIDED BY GO TRENTON
Pickup Locations:
Trenton Train Station | 72 S. Clinton Ave.
Cathedral Square | 26 W. Hanover St.

Live Music

Free Food Provided

Raffle Prizes

Community Resources

Free HIV Testing Provided by Henry J. Austin

To RSVP Email:
worldaidsdaymercercounty@gmail.com

"World AIDS Day is a time to remember those we've lost, support those living with HIV, and recommit to ending the epidemic through education, compassion, and action."

Let's Make a Difference TOGETHER

Sponsored by the Mercer County HIV Collaborative

God willing and the people consenting

The Right Reverend Sally J. French
XIII Bishop of New Jersey

will ordain the Reverends

Tiffany Ann Marie Campbell
Kimme Viorus Teola Carlos
Angela Arnold DiJoseph
Gregory Jon Geehern

to the Sacred Order of Priests in
Christ's One Holy and Apostolic Church

Sunday, December 20, 2026
at three o'clock in the afternoon

Trinity Cathedral
801 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08618

Clergy: cassock, surplice, red stole



Annual Meeting

The Cathedral's annual meeting is on Sunday, January 24, 2027. That day, we will have one Mass only, at 10:00 am, followed by the meeting and refreshments.

If you are the Chair of a Commission or Committee, or otherwise have a report that should go into the annual meeting booklet, please have them in to Patrice in the Cathedral office by Sunday, January 10th. You can E-mail them to: patriceattrinity@aol.com.

Thank you all for your continued contributions! We're looking forward to hearing all the good news about our Cathedral!



Altar Flower Sponsorships

Did you know that we rely on gifts from parishioners to provide altar flowers for our Sunday worship? Those who wish to remember the joys and sorrows of life (birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, etc.) contribute funds to create the arrangements for the Cathedral or Chapel altar. (Exceptions: Advent and Lent, when no flowers are present.) A message can be placed in the bulletin to announce who you are honoring. Please contact the office about providing altar flowers, well in advance of the date requested, or speak with Rev. Cn. Art Powell, our Flower Guild Chair. (The cost to sponsor the Cathedral altar has recently been set at $100, in order to offset the increased cost of purchasing flowers and supplies.)



2	Adam Snow	Birthday
3	Mary Johnson	Birthday
3	Keenan Ross, Kenton Ross	Birthday
5	Gabrielle John and Gemelle John-Bedu	Birthday
5	Lori Cooper	Birthday
6	The Rev. Dr. John Luttrell	Birthday
7	Abel Bedu	Birthday
8	Jalen Ross	Birthday
9	Virginia G. Monte	Birthday
10	Karlene Blasse	Birthday
10	Kimme Carlos	Birthday
10	Stephen Slusher	Birthday
12	Janet Haring	Birthday
12	Theodore Miller	Birthday
13	Archie Ngwayah	Birthday
14	Dana Thompson	Birthday
15	Anthony Rabara	Birthday
18	Ugochinyere Opara	Birthday
18	Marjorie Jones	Birthday
18	Zoey Bertheau	Birthday
19	Theresa Dunn	Birthday
19	Clara Gregory	Birthday
19	Micah Dunn	Birthday
19	Natalya Kirmales-Prouty	Birthday
19	John & Sue Gummere	Anniversary
22	Lucia Smith	Birthday
22	Rachward Mathis	Birthday
22	Akeem John	Birthday
22	Leah Parker	Birthday
24	Tesia Miller	Birthday
24	Drs. Phil & Gail Lewis	Anniversary
25	Richard & Emily Fineburg	Anniversary
25	The Rev. Dorothy Auer	Birthday
27	The Rev. Lisa Caton	Birthday
27	Aliana Tejeda	Birthday
28	Hasaan White	Birthday
28	Noah Baxter Lee	Birthday
29	Courtney Walton	Birthday
29	Edna Marlene Garrison	Birthday
29	Lawrence S. Ford	Birthday
29	Manuel Elijah Quentin Tejeda	Birthday
30	The Very Rev. Rene John	Anniv. Of Ord.
30	Fatima Scipio	Birthday



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

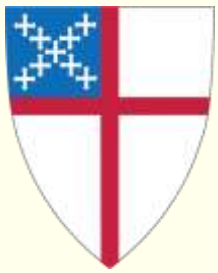
1	Mary Gay Abbott-Young	Birthday
1	Althia Muse	Birthday
3	Amy Elizabeth Wilson	Birthday
3	Dorothy Shean	Birthday
4	Janet Byard	Birthday
5	Hubert & Maureen Perry	Anniversary
6	Carole Porter	Birthday
7	Anthony Russo	Birthday
7	Jared Miller	Birthday
10	Albert Cooper	Birthday
10	Peter G. Lewis	Birthday
10	The Very Reverend Terence Alexander Lee	Priesthood Ord. Anniv.
11	Fatu Ansah	Birthday
11	Thomas Scott Porter	Birthday
12	Jane Bridge	Birthday
12	Joyce Johnson	Birthday
13	Virginia (Ginny) Harmer	Birthday
13	Jackie Ketter	Birthday
14	Anthony Monte	Birthday
15	Andrea John	Birthday
15	Charles McIntire	Birthday
16	Anthony Richardson	Birthday
16	Charles B. Hopkins III	Birthday
16	Pamela Koenig	Birthday
18	Archie Ngwayah	Birthday
19	Chinwendu Opara	Birthday
19	Mike & Debbie Raab	Anniversary
20	Methuselah McCrownsey	Birthday
21	Philip G. Lewis	Birthday
21	David Eastmead	Birthday
21	Hilary Cox	Birthday
21	Ciera Bertheau	Birthday
22	Sharlie Ross	Birthday
22	Isaiah Muse	Birthday
23	Manuel Tejeda, Jr.	Birthday
25	Cynthia Peterbark	Birthday
25	Scott Young	Birthday
26	Maria Newman	Birthday
26	Mike Raab	Birthday
27	Chris Kirmales	Birthday
28	Julia Bestman	Birthday
31	Samuel & Anastasia Richards	Anniversary

TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Of The Diocese of New Jersey
801 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08618

Phone: (609) 392-3805
Fax: (609) 392-2305
www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org









Our Vision:

A visible agent of God's love, joyfully embracing all people.

Our Mission:

God is here. Jesus loves you.
We are a welcoming, diverse community sharing God's love, spreading the Gospel and caring for all people and God's Creation. Come join us.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sundays:

8:00 am - Rite I
In-person

10:30 am - Rite II
In-person and livestreamed

Wednesdays:

12:15 pm - Mid-week Eucharist
In-person

Please go to
www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org
for information on how to join us
via livestream!

CATHEDRAL CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Sally Johnson French, Bishop
The Rev. Cn. Dr. Noel J. Amadi, Priest Associate
The Rev. Dr. Peter Bridge, Priest Associate
The Rev. Julia McKeon, Priest Associate
The Rev. Kimme Carlos, Deacon
The Rev. Christopher Cox, Deacon

CATHEDRAL STAFF

The Very Rev. Terence A. Lee, Acting Dean
Mrs. Patrice A. D'Angelo, Administrator
Dr. Kerry Heimann, Director of Music
Ms. Fay Manicke, Assoc. Director of Music
Mr. Al Shaw, Sexton
Mr. Tyree Bodiford, Associate Sexton