



# TRINITY E-NEWS



## Trinity Episcopal Church

302 Greenwood Street  
P.O. Box 1776  
Morgan City, LA 70381  
trinity@teche.net

PHONE  
(985) 384-7629

SUNDAY SERVICES  
9:30 AM

Rev. Stephen Shortess  
Rector  
sshortess31@gmail.com

### Our Mission

*In and through Christ, to restore people to unity with God and each other (2 Cor. 5:14-21)*

### Our Vision

*Recognizing that we are all one in Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church is an embracing family, growing spiritually, and joyfully serving the community; a home that comforts the spirit; a place where people's gifts for ministry are identified, nourished, and shared; and place of learning where disciples are formed.*

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.trinitymcla.org](http://www.trinitymcla.org)

[www.facebook.com/trinitymcla](https://www.facebook.com/trinitymcla)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Trinity gives thanks for the loving leadership of Fr. Stephen Shortess during the last two years. He and his family will be missed at Trinity!

At 9:30 am on August 2, 2020, Fr. Stephen Shortess will be celebrating at Trinity for the last time. As you know, he has accepted a call to serve as rector of St. Andrew's church in Seguin, Texas, and his first Sunday there will be the Sunday after Labor Day. .



Your Vestry has voted to give Fr. Stephen a picture of Trinity and some money to help him with his transition from Trinity and St. John's to St. Andrew's. If you would like to add to the gift, you can send a check to the church and Peggy will add it to the gift. There will be a card in the narthex of the church for you to sign, but if you prefer to purchase your own, you can give that to him.

Canon Shannon Manning will be meeting with the Vestry via Zoom July 28th to discuss how we move forward. Fr. Travers Koerner has agreed to serve at Trinity two Sundays a month starting in September. We may have Morning Prayer the other two Sundays and on occasion, Canon Manning will be with us. Of course, services will not be conducted until we have permission to do so. Our church is so small, that keeping a six-foot distance with no side aisles makes it difficult. You will be notified when services will be held at church again.

As we go forward, your Vestry is committed to keeping you informed of messages from Bishop Thompson and Canon Manning. Please feel free to call your Vestry members with your needs or concerns. Your Vestry members are Charles Parsiola, Ed White, Tim Cherie, Peggy Coats, Mary Hughes, Judy Weber, and David Webster. You can call the church office and leave a message if you would like someone to call you.

### Vestry Action:

- Accepted the resignation of Fr. Stephen Shortess July 15, 2020
- Planned for the service to honor Fr. Stephen for his dedicated service
- Tentatively accepted an offer on the rectory
- Took action to sell stock owned by the church
- Agreed to update Trinity's web page



After August 2, in an emergency for a priest, please call Fr. Craig Dalferes at 985 790-1086.

# AUGUST

## Birthdays

06 Joan Garber      21 Jennifer Shortess  
15 Sean Dennis     27 Henry Thibodeaux  
18 Wyatt Webster   29 Charles Parsiola  
21 Paul Coats       30 Patrick Leleux

# AUGUST

## Anniversaries

17 Buddy and Ana Rogers  
23 Ed and Dean White  
24 Bob and Mary Hughes



**Please Pray For:** for this nation and the world as we deal with Covid-19, the staff and residents of Maison Jardin, Ellen, Nancy, Cathy and Barry, Jane and David, Kay and Mike, Roy, Norma, Lonnie, Sharon and Steve, Emilie, Sandy, Judy, Dean, Chuck, Joan and Charles, Denver, Chantel, Nick, our partner in ministry: St. John's, for all Christians who are persecuted around the world, for all First Responders in our area, those serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, our partners in mission at the Deaneries of Copan and Maya in Honduras and our sister parish Cristo Salvador; and our prayer partners in the Anglican Diocese of Tohoku, Japan; and the Anglican Diocese of Lango, Uganda.



## A Compline Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen*

## Sometimes

by Natasha Joseforwitz

Sometimes when I dial a phone number by the time someone answers I forget who it was I was calling

Sometimes when I write a note to myself to answer a call or a letter I forget where I put it

Sometimes I have to check if my toothbrush is wet to know whether I already brushed my teeth that morning

Sometimes on my way home I drive right by my house and only notice it a few blocks later

Sometimes I forget whether I meant to say something or whether I have already said it

But often I remember the kind words, the sweet smells, sunlit days, a tender touch, a book I loved, music, a picture, a special event

I guess I remember more than I forget

*(Sent to Trinity years ago by a former rector's wife, Dana Seatvet. Both Fr. Lloyd and Dana Seatvet have passed away.)*

## God amid pandemic

Last spring, life changed as we became familiar with terms such as social distancing, flattening the curve and self-quarantining. We could hardly believe the closed schools, businesses and especially churches — just as Holy Week and Easter drew near! The coronavirus ran rampant in the world. Where was God?

But as the spread continued, many civic leaders stepped up, calmly informing us of the facts, of actions being taken to mitigate the crisis and of how we could help. Healthcare professionals risked their lives and endured separation from families; teachers drew on astounding stores of creativity to teach online; pastors delivered sermons and lessons to empty sanctuaries as members listened and prayed while living in lockdown. Surely God was present — through them!

Then I remembered how God assures us through Isaiah, “Fear not! When you pass through the waters, the fires, yes, even the pandemics of this world, I will be with you” (43:1-2, paraphrased). And Jesus echoes, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20).

—Sandy Hyland

## Patient attention, valuable discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his *annus mirabilis* (“year of wonders”) and reportedly said, “If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent.”

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God’s presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope” (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?

Hello all, as you know we will have Holy Communion on Sunday, August 2 at 9:30 am. The service will look very different due to Covid restrictions. Please do not come if you aren't feeling well. Wear a mask, please. If you don't have one, we have some masks in the narthex. Fr. Stephen will email the bulletins. Please print your bulletin and bring it with you. There will not be any prayer books or hymnals in the pews.

Please do not gather in the Parish Hall either before or after the service. It will be open only for the restroom. And when entering the church, please use the front door and do not enter the sacristy.

Due to social distancing there will not be much space in the church to sit. Please RSVP to Peggy if you plan to attend Sunday and how many people.

Contact info:

Peggy Coats

cell 985 255-9323 for calls or text message

[trinity@teche.net](mailto:trinity@teche.net)

Hope to see you Sunday,

Peggy