November 2026

Trinity Talk

Trinity Episcopal Church

A MESSAGE FROM FR. STEVE



Dear friends,

I want to talk with you about money, not because the diocese requires it from me this time of year, and not because the electric bill has opinions of its own, but because I care for this community, and I think this matters to you as well. I have noticed, over years of parish life, that we Episcopalians will argue happily about almost anything. The correct shade of green for Ordinary Time. Whether the coffee is hot enough. How many committees a parish our size can sustain (I have come to believe the answer is always "one more"). But when the pledge cards appear, I watch people remember sudden, urgent business away. I understand. Money is tender ground. I only ask that you stay long enough to hear me out.

The word tithe simply means a tenth. In Scripture, Abraham gives a tenth to Melchizedek, and Israel's common life is supported by the tithe. The New Testament does not give a fixed percentage, but it does call us to give willingly and cheerfully, not under pressure. So the tithe is not a ceiling on generosity. It is a good place to begin.

In Episcopal life, giving is part of worship. When we bring forward bread, wine, and the people's gifts at the Offertory, we are offering ourselves to God. Our Catechism says that every member is called to "work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God." Money matters here because it is one of the ways we live out our baptismal promises.

The Church encourages proportionate giving: choosing a percentage of income and growing in it over time. Many people begin with what they can give now and increase it gradually. That is not about earning God's favor. It is about learning generosity. A tithe asks the same trust of every person, whether the amount is small or large.

Is the tithe required? No. It is held before us as a goal, and many faithful people, some of them sitting in your own pew, are still working towards it.

What if money is tight? Give what you can, and remember that prayers, presence, and service also matter.

Gross or net? Faithful Christians answer that differently. The important thing is that your giving be thoughtful and prayerful.

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I want to be clear about something: the best giving I have ever seen in this parish has never come from guilt. It has come from gratitude. Practiced patiently over years, tithing loosens the grip money can take on a life, deepens our trust in the God who provides, and binds us more closely to this community we love and that loves you back. If you are not yet giving in a regular, proportionate way, I would simply ask you to consider this your invitation. Pray about it this week. Choose a percentage that is honest for where you are right now.

And if all else fails, remember, we are a people who have survived centuries of schisms, more prayer book revisions than I can count, and a great deal of lukewarm coffee. I have every confidence we will survive a pledge campaign too, and that God will meet us, faithfully, in the giving.

With gratitude to you all,
Fr. Steve
Fr. Steve Swartzell

FINANCIAL CHECK-IN
IN SEPTEMBER 2026



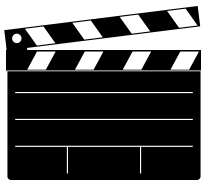
We had 388 visitors.
We averaged 97 a week.
Our expenses were $32,278.01
Our income was $24,405.34
Our plate donations were $246.
Our pledge donations were $22,411.59
Please continue your support during the Fall and Winter.

SAS ENCORE

Cathy Smith, Showtime producer, will share her Hollywood and Television experiences, and maybe some secrets, from her time with the stars! Most recently she has escorted Carol Burnet at the recent Turner Classic Movies Gala Event. Come and enjoy Lunch and Fellowship and an interesting program.

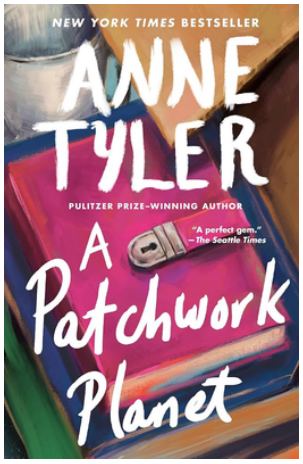


November 19th , doors open at 11am!
Please sign up in the back of the church!



BOOK CLUB

Book club meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month in the library at 9:30am.
No book club in December.



November 14th book:

Patchwork Planet by Ann Tyler

Beginning on New Year's Eve and concluding the following Christmas, Barnaby Gaitlin grapples with his identity and societal expectations. Coming from a socially prominent family, Barnaby feels the weight of his family's shame due to his past, which includes a criminal record and a failed marriage. Despite these challenges, he finds purpose in his job with Rent-a-Back, where he assists the elderly and ill, and forms connections with his clients. Barnaby learns about the value of human connection and the importance of loving acts over material success.

ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Monday, December 7th.
More information will be available soon!



PLANNED GIVING

Planned giving is a wonderful way to make a larger, lasting contribution to Trinity. To learn about planned giving, and how to get started, please contact the Vestry Liaison for Planned Giving. Contact Rich Heim, 714-313-9252 or rich4usc@gmail.com

DAY OF THE DEAD ALTAR FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY





The holidays will be here before you know it!!!

Make your plans to join us!

Outreach Commission

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Saturday, November 7

9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Gift Items - Holiday Decorations - Bake Sale And More!

Plus the ever-popular *Trinity Table!!

**As you know, one person's trash is another person's treasure! If you have any new or gently used items that you would like to donate for the Trinty Table, please place them in the blue bin at the back of the church.*

WSWA TOY DRIVE



We are partnering with WSWA again this year to help provide as many gifts for children. You may see the Christmas tree full of wooden ornaments go up early this year. WSWA hands out the gifts to parents at their Christmas Party and this year it's early! All toys need to be put in the bin in the back of the church by Sunday, December 6th.

Like last year, pull an ornament from the tree and it will say what kind of gift is reccommended. You can provide anything you'd like though, we wanted there to be options! Unwrapped gifts only! Thank you!

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Join us on Sunday, November 29th at 4pm, at the church to create your own advent wreath. All materials will be provided. Bring your family and friends, everyone is welcome! And if you're able to, please bring along an appetizer or dessert to share.

Suggested donation of $15 per wreath.

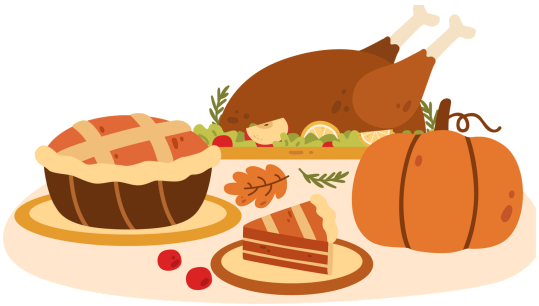
This is a wonderful way to begin the holiday season. We hope to see you there!



FRIENDLY CENTER - FULL SHELVES, FULL HEARTS

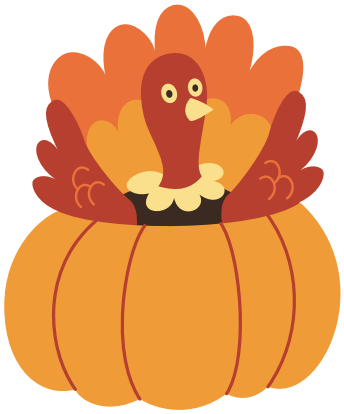
Instead of traditional Thanksgiving baskets, our Full Shelves, Full Hearts Drive gives every family the choice and dignity to fill their own grocery bags with food items they need.

- Can of Candied Yams
- Cans of Corn
- Can of Cranberry Sauce
- Boxes of Dry Potatoes
- Cans of Green Beans
- Pumpkin Pie (not frozen)
- Bag of Rolls
- Box of Stuffing
- Jars of Turkey Gravy
- $25-50 gift cards from grocery stores such as Orange Grocery Outlet, Target, Walmart, H Mart, and Super1Mart.
- Canned Grape Leaves
- Dried Rice Noodles
- Fish Sauce
- Hominy
- Legumes
- Rice Paper
- Sesame Oil
- Tamale Husks
- Tortillas

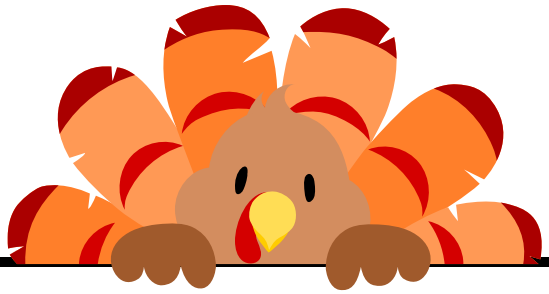


Please bring items and leave them in the bin in the back of the church. The last day to bring items is November 19th.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE 10AM

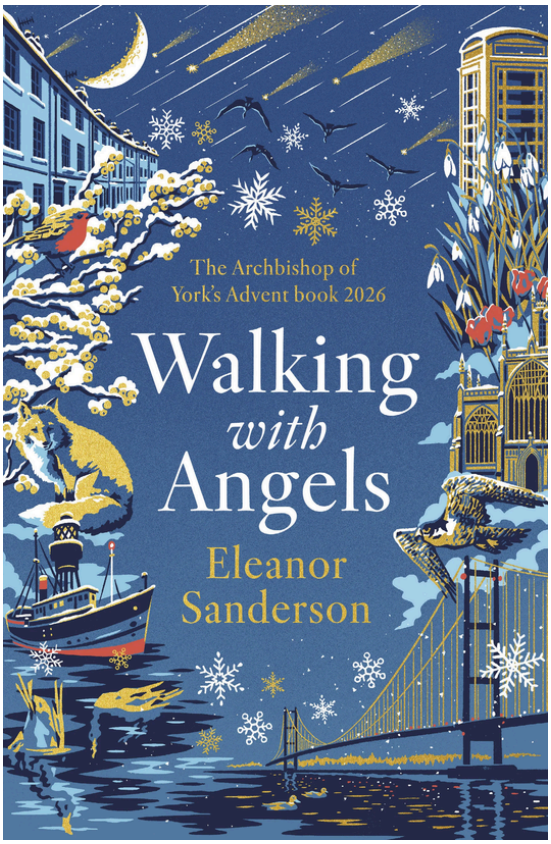


The office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 26th , and the Friday after, November 27th .



ADVENT & SWEETS

Tuesday Nights, at 7:00 pm, starting on December 1st - December 22nd in the Parish Hall.



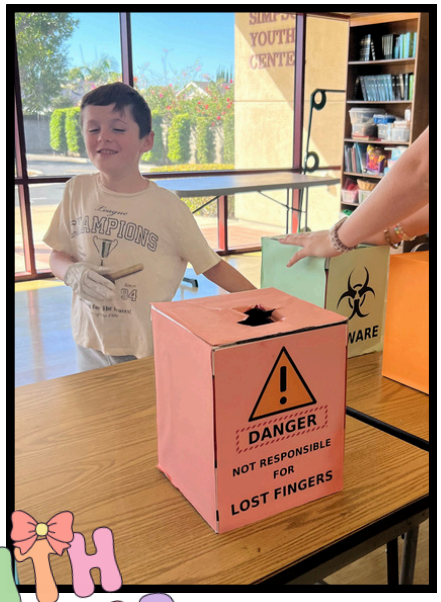
This Advent, we are invited to walk with greater awareness of heaven drawing near. Week by week, as we dwell on the angels of Scripture, we learn to pray as we walk through the streets of our towns and cities, attentive to the nearness of God, open to his peace, and ready to be shaped by his holiness. In a season so often crowded with noise and strain, this becomes a quiet discipline of hope: seeking the love that casts out fear, the glory of God, and the coming of his Kingdom.

We also invite you to share your favorite dessert or treat.

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

More than one acknowledgement may be given on a Sunday. You may offer flowers as often as you wish. Each Sunday's Altar flowers cost $160. Any amount towards the expense is very much appreciated! Please make the donation by whichever means you choose, just make sure you indicate that it is for the Altar Flowers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL





FAITH OVER FEAR



ALTAR GUILD LUNCH AT FR. STEVE'S HOUSE!



A wonderful afternoon was spent with Trinity's Altar Guild — a time to gather, get to know one another better, and plan for the year ahead. We are deeply grateful for this faithful and dynamic group, whose devotion and commitment help sustain the worship life of Trinity. Thank you all for the care, service, and generosity you bring to this ministry.

Absent from the picture were: Cheryl Sosa, Dreena-Lee Stephens, Karoline Johns and Kathy Racine.

NOVEMBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Scott Carbaugh—November 1
Suzanne Bilodeau—November 5
Jacob Atalla - November 9
Ken Kimura—November 9
Blake Messenger—November 11
Ed Calvin—November 14
Nicholas Hubbard—November 15
Gayle Kenan—November 15
Tilani Samarasekera—November 20
Samantha Heim—November 25
Jordan Simspon—November 25
Rachel Powers—November 26
Frankie Simpson—November 27
Isabella Beck - November 29
Frances Ross—November 30





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



John & Kimmie Powers—November 5
Susie & Bruce White—November 10
Chris & Sarah Candela—November 18
Dreena-Lee & Allen Stephens—November 27
Reginald & Chioma Elendu—November 30

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NEWS: THE OPIOID CRISIS

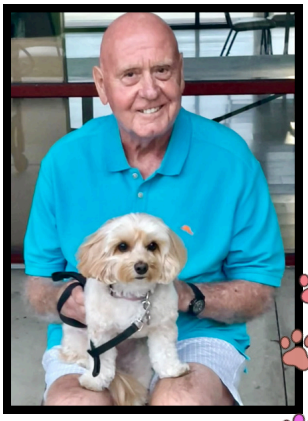
The opioid crisis continues to devastate communities across the United States, driven by widespread misuse of prescription painkillers, heroin, and synthetic opioids like fentanyl. Overdose deaths have surged, making opioids the leading cause of accidental death in many regions.

Narcan (naloxone) has become a critical tool in combating this epidemic. It rapidly reverses opioid overdoses by blocking opioid receptors in the brain, restoring normal breathing within minutes. Widely available as a nasal spray, Narcan can be administered by first responders, caregivers, or bystanders, making it a frontline defense in saving lives. Public health initiatives increasingly focus on distributing Narcan, expanding harm reduction programs, and connecting survivors treatment and recovery resources.

Because Narcan is readily available to the public, your Faith Community Nurses have a two dose supply in the FCN file cabinet in the “mail room,” also known as Rev Annie’s office. All our FCN supplies are kept in these file cabinets with labels for all the drawers. Please familiarize yourself where everything is located.

If you would like a personal tour of the cabinets’ contents or how to effectively use Narcan please see Ann Walker.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS










WOMEN'S BREAST CANCER VENDOR FAIR (IN OUR PARKING LOT!)



TREATS IN THE STREETS

























CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day 7:00am Altar Guild Team 1 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II 4:00pm Sunday Supper 5:00pm Church Mice	**2** 6:30pm Outreach Meeting 6:30pm Vangee Book Group 7:00pm Railroad Society	**3** 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	**4** 5:00pm Overeaters Anonymous 7:00pm Book Study 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	**5** 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Women's AA Meeting	**6** 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon Meeting	**7** Holiday Boutique 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
8 7:00am Altar Guild Team 2 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	**9**	**10** 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	**11** OFFICE CLOSED 5:00pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Rally Meeting 7:00pm Book Study 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	**12** 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 6:30pm Orange Historical Society 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Women's AA Meeting	**13** Chapman Film 12:00pm Al Anon Meeting 7:00pm OC Recorder Society CONVENTION	**14** Chapman Film 8:30am Debtors Anonymous 9:30am Book Study
15 7:00am Altar Guild Team 3 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II 11:30am Diocesan discernment committee Meeting	**16**	**17** 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 6:30pm Vestry Meeting	**18** 5:00pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:00pm Al-anon Information Service Board 7:00pm Book Study 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	**19** Last Day to bring Food Drive Items 11:30am SAS Encore 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Women's AA Meeting	**20** 9:00am Property Commission 12:00pm Al Anon Meeting	**21** 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
22 7:00am Altar Guild Team 4 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	**23**	**24** 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	**25** 5:00pm Overeaters Anonymous	**26** OFFICE CLOSED 10:00am Thanksgiving Day Service 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Women's AA Meeting	**27** OFFICE CLOSED 12:00pm Al Anon Meeting	**28** 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
29 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II 4:00pm Advent Wreath Making	**30**	**1** 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00pm Advent Book Study	**2** 5:00pm Overeaters Anonymous 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	**3** 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Women's AA Meeting	**4** 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Al Anon Meeting	**5** 8:30am Debtors Anonymous

November 1st: All Saints Day
Novemeber 2nd: Outreach Meeting
November 7th: Holiday Boutique
November 11th: Office Closed
November 13th: Diocese Convention
November 15th: Diocesan Discernment Meeting
November 19th: Last Day to bring items for Friendly Center
November 19th: SAS Encore
November 26th: Thanksgiving Service
Novemeber 26th: Office Closed
November 27th: Office Closed
November 29th: Advent Wreath Making

No Bible Study on November 13th, 20th and 27th!

Every Thursday: Eucharist Healing Service at 10am
Every Friday: Bible Study at 10am
Every Friday: Property Team at 9am