

TRINITY TALK

December 2025

2400 N. Canal Street, Orange, California 714-637-1390

TrinityOrange.org

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A message from Fr. Steve:

The Joy of Giving at Christmas

As the Christmas season draws near, our hearts often turn to the joy of giving. In a world that can sometimes feel rushed or uncertain, the simple act of giving becomes a powerful expression of love, hope, and connection.

Whether it's a thoughtful gift, a warm meal, or a kind word, every gesture carries with it the spirit of Christ's love.

Christmas reminds us of the greatest gift ever given: God's gift of Jesus Christ to the world. Born in a humble manger, Christ came not to be served, but to serve—to give himself fully for the sake of others. In this holy season, we are invited to follow his example by sharing our blessings with those around us.

Giving does not always require grand gestures. Sometimes, the most meaningful gifts are the smallest ones: a handwritten card, a visit to someone who is lonely, a donation to a local food pantry, or volunteering time at a church event. These acts of kindness reflect the heart of Christmas and remind us that we are part of something greater than ourselves.

In our Episcopal tradition, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, and our giving becomes a way of honoring that truth. When we give generously, we participate in God's work of healing and reconciliation. We become instruments of grace in a world that longs for peace.

At Trinity, the spirit of giving is not just something we do during the holidays—it is part of who we are. Thank you for the many ways you have shared your love and resources this season. Your overwhelming generous donations of toys for the Western Service Workers Association have brought joy and dignity to families in need. Your faithful support of our pantry ministry for the Friendly Center and your commitment to Sunday Suppers continue to nourish bodies and spirits alike. These ministries are a reflection of your deep compassion and your desire to serve Christ in others.



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May this Christmas be a time of joyful giving for each of us. Let us give not out of obligation, but out of gratitude—knowing that in giving, we receive the true blessings of the season: love, joy, and the abiding presence of Christ.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Christmas season.

Fr. Steve Swartzell



Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Service

Christmas Eve:

4:00pm: Family Service

9:30pm: Gift of Music

10:00pm: Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day:

10:00am Service



El Modena Family Resource Center Holiday Food Drive

We are requesting food donations to support families within our city of Orange community, ensuring they have the opportunity to enjoy a holiday meal.

Some Items to Consider:

Pantry Items:

(canned foods, peanut butter, rice, beans, canned proteins, knorr chicken bouillon), diapers for all stages of life, personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, body wash), home cleaning supplies (dish washing liquid, comet, sponges, pine-sol, laundry detergent)



Items can be left in the back of the church.

Thank you so much!

SUNDAY SUPPER

Many Thanks for everyone's support of our Sunday Supper "ASK!" As a parish, we are donating over fifty \$25 gift cards that our Sunday Supper guests will receive at the holiday party this month. Your generosity is the reason we are able to do this. **THANK YOU!**

Sunday Supper



Communities Coming Together

And just a reminder, Trinity's next opportunity to host Sunday Supper is January 4.

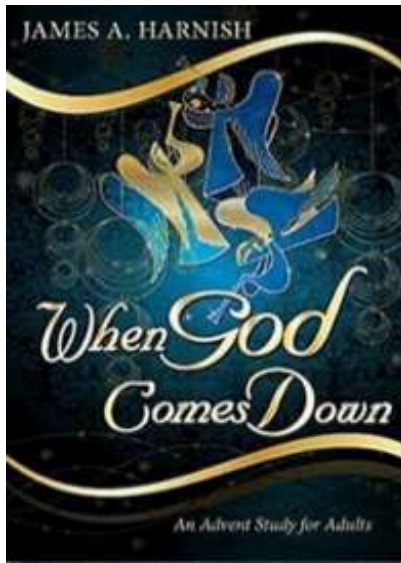
Mark your calendars!

ADVENT & SWEETS

Join us for our Advent Book Study of 'When God Comes Down' by James A. Harnish. Advent is a sacred season of watching, waiting, and preparing to witness the arrival of the true light of God's presence in Jesus Christ. Through worship, Scripture, and prayer, we tune our hearts and minds to recognize God's presence so that, amid the busyness of the holiday season, we are ready to truly celebrate the holy day — the moment when God came down to dwell among us.

In 'When God Comes Down,' Harnish explores the lives of those who first encountered the miracle of the Incarnation. He invites us to reflect on their experiences and, through our own reflection, become modern-day witnesses to the light that darkness can never overcome.

Join us on December 3rd at 6:30 PM as we begin this meaningful three-week journey together.



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



Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Ornament Exchange

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST AT 5:30PM

Tickets will be \$10 and can be purchased after Sunday service. Please bring your favorite dessert or appetizer to share with everyone! We are also accepting toys valued at \$25 or less to donate to the Friendly Center.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE BRING A HOLIDAY DECORATION. IT CAN BE AN ORNAMENT FOR THE TREE, A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE HOME, OR MAYBE A SPECIAL HOLIDAY BOOK. YOU JUST WANT IT TO BE WRAPPED AND SMALL ENOUGH TO PASS COMFORTABLY TO THE PERSON ON YOUR RIGHT OR YOUR LEFT WHEN YOU ARE SEATED FOR DINNER AND WE BEGIN THE GAME.





I WANT YOU
*TO COME TO THE NEXT TRINITY
PLAYERS SHOW!!*

*Trinity
Junction* ... **Take Two!**

It's Trinity Players history! We are going back in time to the very first Trinity Players show and updating it for 2026! It's also American history; the year ... 1943. You are in the audience of the opening of a new radio show:
Trinity Junction!

Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th: - SHOW ONLY - Starts at 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$10; Children 6 to 11 - \$3; Children 5 and under - free

Saturday, February 14th: DINNER AND SHOW **(MAKE IT A VALENTINE'S DAY DATE!)** -
Dinner @ 6pm, show @ 7:30 p.m.
Adults, \$20; with preferred show seating, \$25; Children 6 to 11, all seats \$8;
Children 5 and under - free.





WSWA TOY Drive



**PICK AN ORNAMENT, SPREAD SOME CHEER!
SHOP FOR A GIFT THAT FITS THE AGE GROUP YOU
CHOSE—USE OUR SUGGESTED LIST FOR IDEAS
OR PICK OUT SOMETHING SPECIAL OF YOUR OWN.**

THE LAST DAY TO BRING A GIFT IS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

PLEASE PLACE YOUR GIFT IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2400 N CANAL ST. ORANGE, CA 92865**



SAS Encore Presents...

Christmas Caroling with Trinity's Music Director, David Ripley!



Thursday, December 18, 2025

Doors Open at 11am

Sing Along with David starts at 11:30am

A festive lunch will be provided
at no cost by SAS at 12:30pm



All are welcome to join us on this festive
day of music! Please sign up on the board
in the back of the church.



The Book Club

No Book Club for December. See you in January!

The book club meets in the Library from 9:30-11:00am the 2nd Saturday of each month.

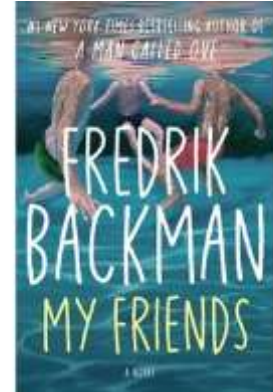
Come join everyone for a truly enjoyable morning and some lively literary discussions. Interested?

Please contact Laurie McKinnell at mckinnell4@aol.com.

January

My Friends by Fredrik Backman

Most people don't even notice them—three tiny figures sitting at the end of a long pier in the corner of one of the most famous paintings in the world. Most people think it's just a depiction of the sea. But Louisa, an aspiring artist herself, knows otherwise, and she is determined to find out the story of these three enigmatic figures.



February

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime.



March

Here One Moment by Lianne Moriarty

Aside from a delay, there will be no problems. The flight will be smooth, it will land safely. Everyone who gets on the plane will get off. But almost all of them will be forever changed.



April

Something in the Water by Catherine Steadman

Erin is a documentary filmmaker on the brink of a professional breakthrough, Mark a handsome investment banker with big plans. Madly in love, they embark on a dream honeymoon to the tropical island of Bora Bora. While scuba diving in the crystal blue sea, they find something in the water. . . .



Get to know a Parishioner!

Faith Goldman

How long have you been a part of the Trinity Family?

Harry Elliott and I first attended Trinity Church on Christmas Eve 2018 and were warmly greeted by Rev. Jeannie and Rev Annie. We found it to be a very warm and loving church. As we were leaving church that night, we heard a man's voice say, " I thought that was you Harry" and it was Roy Wojahn, whose late wife, Rev. Karen Wojahn, was the associate priest at St. John Chrysostom Church in Rancho Santa Margarita where we came from. We were so happy to see him and know that we knew someone here.

Unfortunately, Harry's health deteriorated and by the next Christmas, he was on hospice and passed in February 2020. I continue to be active at Trinity joining the weekly bible study and now a member of Outreach and the Clerk of the Vestry. Trinity is a very loving and accepting church that I am happy to be a part of.

What's your favorite hobby?

My hobby is knitting, and I participate in a program called Pathways of Hope based at St. Andrews Church in Fullerton where we knit and crochet hats, blankets and afghanis for the veterans and unhoused in the area.

What's your favorite place to travel?

I don't do much traveling now since my family and friends live very close to me. Harry and I did travel to New York many times for the Baptism's and weddings of his Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren and to Boston for my son's college graduation.

What's your favorite food?

My favorite foods are baked goods and traditional holiday foods that I share with my family. I am teaching my 8 1/2-year-old Granddaughter all my recipes that were left to me by my Grandma. I am also teaching her to knit like my Grandma taught me.



Do you have any pets?

I do not have any pets myself but share the dog that my son's family owns when they go on vacation.

What's your favorite season?

Winter is my favorite season as the holidays are so much fun to celebrate with friends and family. I love the way Trinity is decorated at the Advent season.

AED Location Reminder!!! **(Automatic External Defibrillator)**

As many of you know Trinity has a third AED due to the bountiful generosity of Hoag and their Faith Community Nurse Program. Our newest AED is located in the Little's Room (formerly named Brides's Room) in the sanctuary on the left wall as you immediately enter the room. Its location is marked with a three-dimensional AED sign just outside the Little's Room door. The new AED is encased in an alarmed cabinet that will sound like a siren when opened but will turn off once the cabinet door is closed. This alarm will help to deter theft as well as alert everyone of an emergency if the door is opened. Please familiarize yourself with this new defibrillator as well as our two other AEDs located in the church office and the large kitchen in the parish hall. The use of these devices is critical to saving lives in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest. Everyone at Trinity needs to know of their location. Any of your nurses will gladly show you where the devices are located and answer any questions you may have. In our certification class we are instructed to use three commands if we encounter an apparent cardiac emergency, "You call 911, you get the AED, and come right back." We all can be members of a life-saving team. Let's all do our part to be prepared.

Ann, Yvonne, Chioma & Dennis

**We are in need of Acolytes, Ushers,
LEMs, and Altar Guild Members**

Trinity is hoping we could have some
new members of each!



Please contact the parish
administrator and she can help
you with next steps!

Altar Flower Donations

Flowers for the Altar provide a lovely way to offer a thanksgiving or remembrance of a loved one or a special event. 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.



Will you support the Chapel Votive Candles?

The Altar Guild kindly invites you to support the Chapel Candle Stand each time you light a candle in remembrance — whether it's in honor of a loved one, a birthday, a special moment of joy, or during a time of sadness.

We encourage you to place a donation in the box located on the wall above the matches. Your contribution helps cover the ongoing costs of candles, holders, and matches. Thank you for your generosity and support.



-Altar Guild

Happy Birthday!

Patty Carlton—December 1
Roy Wojahn—December 7
Barbara Jensen—December 8
Doug Omer—December 12
Brian Green—December 14
Robert Bilodeau—December 15
Ian Hicks—December 15
John McCulloch—December 19
Tobechi Elendu—December 23

Jim Little—December 23
Arianna Jaime—December 25
Priscilla Selman—December 25
Jane Peterson—December 27
Salina Amaro—December 28
Chris Candela—December 30
Victoria Knight—December 31

Happy Anniversary!

Cheryl & Miguel Sosa—December 11
Robert & Amy Morales—December 18
Betsy & Jim Little—December 21
Fred & Anne Warburton—December 28

All Saints' Day



130th Annual Meeting of Diocesan Convention



The Rev. Dr. Antonio Gallardo has been elected eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles by Diocesan Convention meeting in Riverside. Gallardo will be ordained and consecrated as bishop diocesan on July 11, 2026, in rites at All Saints Episcopal Church, Pasadena. We extend a sincere congratulations to Bishop Elect Antonio Gallardo.

Christ the King Sunday, with special guest preaching by the 7th Bishop of the Episcopal Church of Los Angeles, the Right Reverend John Harvey Taylor



Advent Wreath Making



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II 4:00pm Family Advent Event (Advent Wreaths)	1 Trinity Ornament Exchange 5:30PM	2 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	3 Advent Book Study –6:30pm	4 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 7:00pm AA Meeting	5 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	6 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
7 7:00am Altar Guild Team 1 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II 4:00pm Sunday Supper	8	9 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	10 Advent Book Study –6:30pm	11 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 6:30pm Orange Historical Society 7:00pm AA Meeting	12 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting 7:00pm OC Recorder Society	13 8:30am Debtors Anonymous 9:30am Book Study
14 7:00am Altar Guild Team 2 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	15	16 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 6:30pm Vestry Meeting	17 Last day to bring Toy for Drive! Advent Book Study –6:30pm	18 SAS Encore 11am	19 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	20 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
21 7:00am Altar Guild Team 3 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	22	23 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	24 4pm Family Service 9:30pm Gift of Music 10pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Office Closed Christmas Service 10am	26 Office Closed	27 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
28 7:00am Altar Guild Team 4 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	29	30 5:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	31 Office Closed	1 Office Closed	2	3 8:30am Debtors Anonymous