

Trinity Episcopal Church Wrentham, MA

Striving to Know, Embrace, and Share Christ in a loving community.

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Trinity Church Profile - 2017

Trinity Episcopal Church was founded in 1863, and the original church structure was erected in 1872. We were officially accepted as a parish in 1879. Trinity comfortably seats 170 people, has a tracker pipe organ and beautiful stained-glass windows. The church is located in the center of Wrentham and overlooks the town common.

Today Trinity is a healthy community of approximately 100 families. We have an average weekly attendance of 80-85 congregants primarily observing a Rite II service. We're big enough that parishioners find plenty of ways to worship and get involved, but small enough that they don't get lost in the crowd. In fact, a recurring theme heard at Trinity is that it is the connection with people, with their kindness, friendliness, and sense of community that keeps folks attending services regularly.

During our Together Now Capital Campaign over the past five years, Trinity has focused on making major energy efficient and aesthetic improvements to the church building and parish hall.

Trinity Episcopal Church Goals and Gifts

- *Trinity's People*
- We are genuine, kind, warm, and welcoming with a strong social sense that consistently sends the message, directly or indirectly, "Let's spend time together and get to know each other."
- Trinity Wrentham is a parish home to a wonderful mix of people, including young families with children, families whose children have grown but still return occasionally, and senior members who have been worshipping at Trinity for many years.
- Congregants come from a number of towns in the area, including Wrentham, Norfolk, Plainville, and Franklin.
- Outreach is important, and we have an active Outreach Committee, which spearheaded a successful "#2069" drive, bringing awareness to the opioid addiction crisis.
- Open to the Wrentham Community including:
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
 - Girl Scouts
 - Boy Scouts



Trinity's Parish Community Life

- Currently Trinity has a full slate of Vestry with co-Wardens.
- We continue to build a strong lay leadership that is emerging as a key component of life at Trinity.
- It is our hope to continue to build an infrastructure of fellowship that will carry our parish well into the future.
- Events include:
 - Pot Luck Suppers
 - Time and Talent Auction (bi-annual)
 - Yard Sale
 - Christmas Fair
 - Children's Christmas Pageant
 - Monthly Senior Luncheon
 - Participation in Wrentham Day on the town common
 - Participation in the Plainville Fall Festival



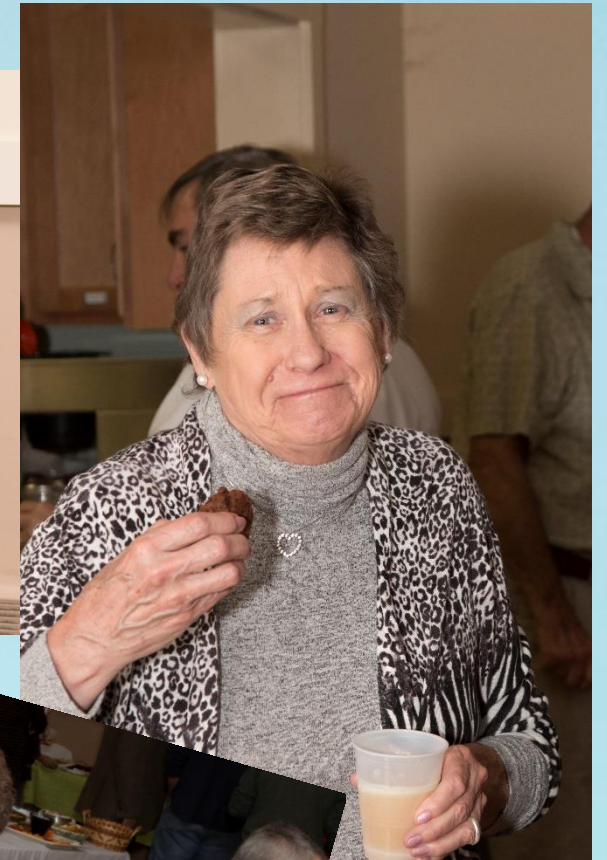
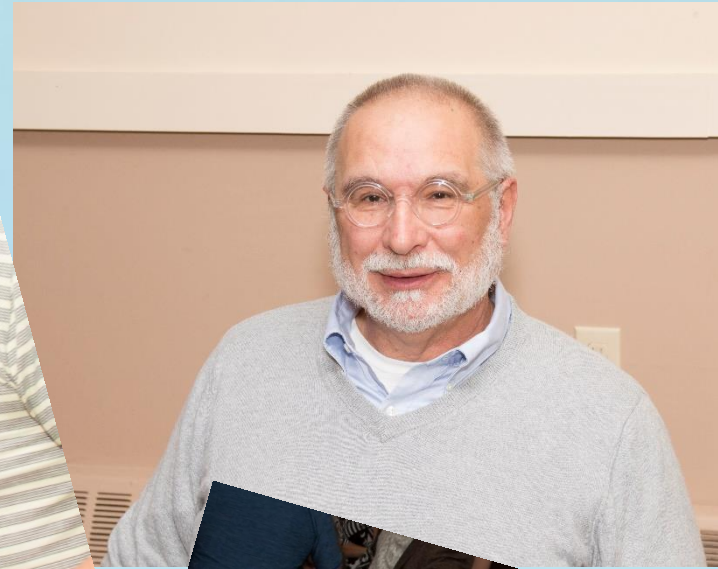


The Region

- [Wrentham, MA](#) is midway between [Boston](#) and [Providence](#) and offers small-town New England Charm. It has a population of approximately 11,000.
- The rectory is located next to the church. It is a well-cared for 3-bedroom house. It has 1 ½ bathrooms, an attached garage and a screened porch. The rector is expected to live on the church's property.
- The school system is well regarded, with the middle and high schools within the [King Philip Regional School District](#) (including the towns of [Wrentham](#), [Norfolk](#), and [Plainville](#)) and the elementary school self-contained for Wrentham only.
- Trinity is close to both the [Wrentham Outlets](#) and [Patriot Place](#) in Foxboro. It is also close to [Gillette Stadium](#) (where the New England Patriots and the New England Revolution soccer teams play) and [Plainridge Casino](#).
- The community has many lakes and considerable conservation land. The region boasts many natural attractions and maintains greenspace for biking, hiking, and horseback riding.
- Wrentham is 35 miles from Boston and 25 miles from Providence. It has easy access to highways and there are several commuter rail stations in nearby communities.

Trinity Goals

- We are currently looking for a 3/4 time rector with the hope of that position transitioning to full-time.
- We are looking for a leader who:
 - Will guide us spiritually while allowing us to continue to strengthen our lay leadership and community as outlined in our job description.
 - Provide pastoral support for our parish and community and to get to know our parishioners.
 - Be comfortable relating to and supporting a multigenerational parish.
 - Be supportive and encouraging for all families to become active members of the parish community.
 - We are looking for a rector who is comfortable building supportive spiritual relationships with all members of our community.



Outreach Committee

Outreach has been an important part of Trinity's mission for several decades. Some of the projects we support now are:

Wrentham Food Pantry

Trinity collects food regularly for the pantry, which is located behind the Original Congregational Church just down the street.

One Family: A Mission of Unity

Trinity participates in and supports this monthly program of breakfast and fellowship for low-income families based at All Saints Episcopal Church in Attleboro. One Family happens the third Saturday of each month.

#2069

A Campaign to End the Shame and Silence around Opioid Addiction. Trinity began this now Nationally recognized opioid awareness campaign in August 2017, beginning with distributing signs with #2069 printed on the signs – the number of opioid deaths in Massachusetts in 2016. Trinity has hosted a Meet & Greet for people of the community to talk about their personal experiences with the Opioid Crisis, a rally, and a prayer service of Remembrance & Hope.

Wrentham District Court Busy Bag Ministry

Trinity provides busy bags for children who accompany adults to court – these bags contain materials for drawing, games, and a small stuffed toy.

Medway Family Shelter

This is a twelve-family congregate shelter for homeless women and children. Trinity provides Christmas presents for the children.

Trinity Episcopal Church Scholarship

Trinity Church has provided scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

Outreach continued...

Trinity's Stepping Out Project

Trinity parishioners supplied local low-income individuals and families, who participate in a program (SNAP) that supplies a nutrition program for families and individuals that meet certain income and resource guidelines, with many commonly used items which are not included in the SNAP program, such as soap, paper towels, toilet paper, household supplies, shampoo, feminine hygiene products and other items.

Recently, we supported:

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic provides free, specialized medical care to children living in Mexico who cannot get the care they need in their home country. The clinic is held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Nogales, Arizona.

The Inn Project

The Inn Project assists with temporary housing and transportation for immigrant families. The families are in the United States as legal refugees or asylum immigrants.

Cultivate Care Farms, Inc.

Cultivate Care Farms is a mission to operate, maintain, and expand Care Farming for humans and animals to heal and grow therapeutically through mental health, wellness, and community outreach programming.

Outreach continued

The Inn Project Donation

The Inn Project assists with temporary housing and transportation for immigrant families. The families were mostly from Central America and are in the United States as legal Refugee or Asylum immigrants. They have cleared background checks and customs. The families usually spend one night at the Inn Project before then getting a bus, paid for by family or friends in the U.S., to a new city. Within a week they must show up for an initial hearing with the U.S. government.



Prayer Chain

A group of parishioners who meet weekly to pray for the needs of the parish family in the following ways...

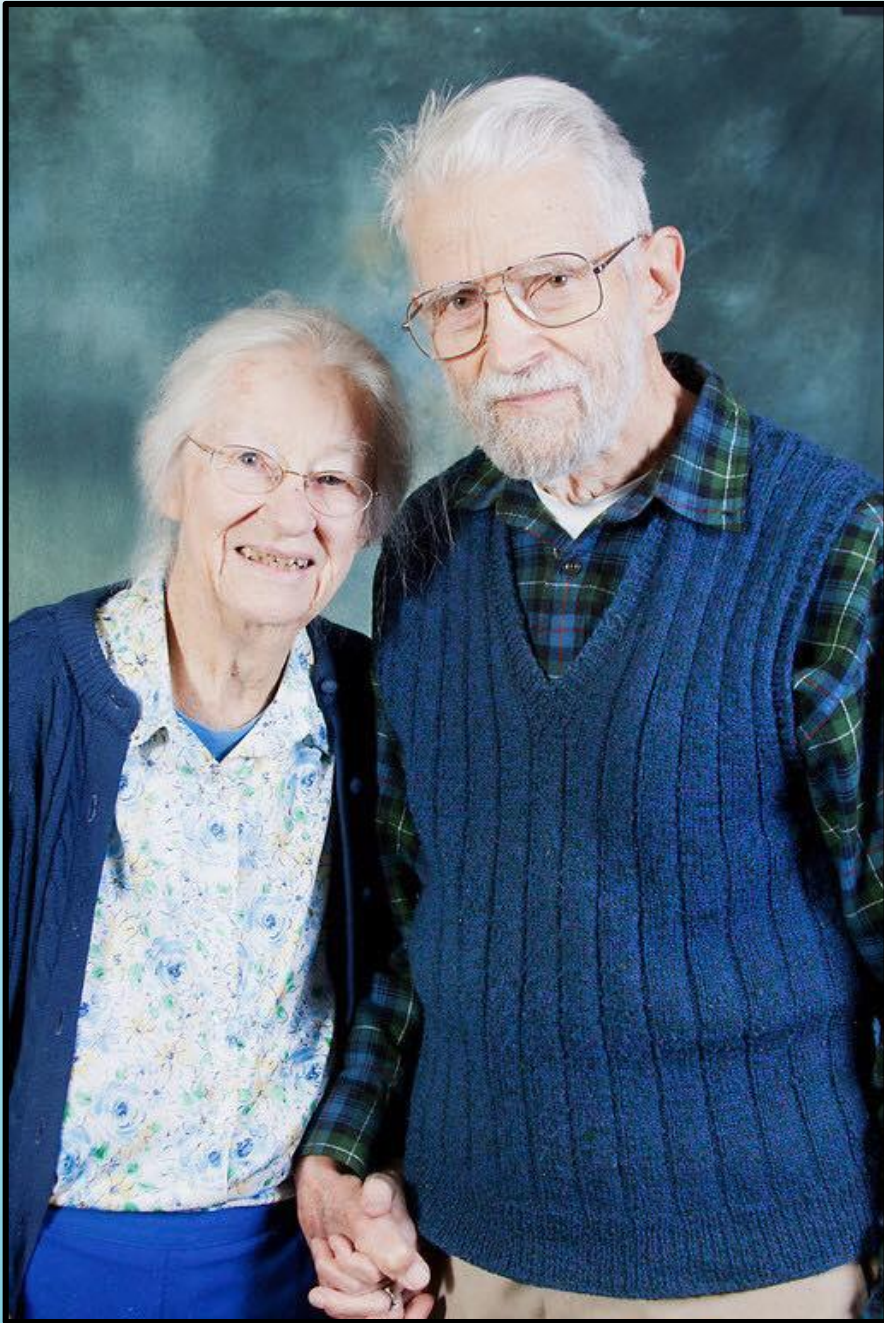
Specific categories for requesting prayers:

- People with illness
- People in rehab and/or need of healing
- Health Maintenance
- People living in long term care and nursing facilities
- People with other issues, special challenges, unemployment
- People expecting a child
- Prayers are said in thanksgiving for prayers answered.

General Prayers are also said for:

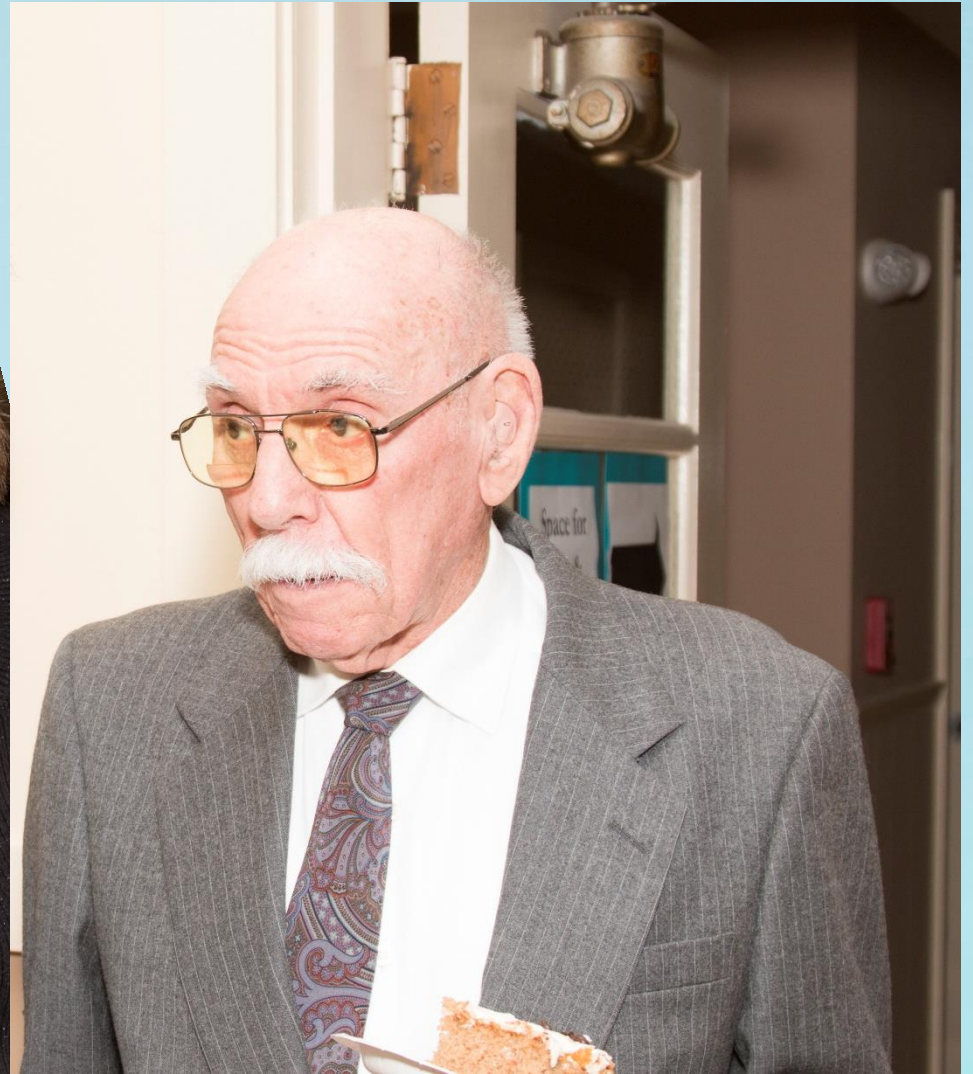
- Those in various ministries at Trinity
- Bishops and other spiritual leaders of the Episcopal Church
- Victims of national and world disasters
- The hungry, homeless, and people with physical and mental illness
- Officials in our nation, state, and local governments
- Taunton River Watershed Deanery
- Transition period at Trinity

An updated list is created each month and distributed to members of the Prayer Chain List.



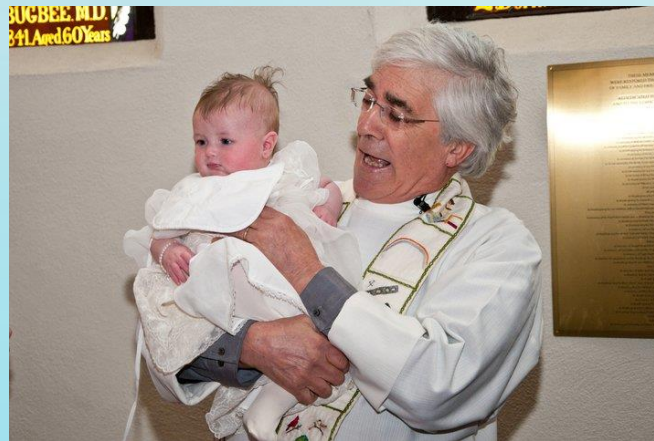
Senior Luncheon

The Senior Luncheon is a chance for our seniors to come together for fellowship. It occurs the second Tuesday of the month at noon and is usually preceded by a communion service at 11:30 am for those who wish to go. For some it is the only service they are able to make for health or physical reasons. There is a sign-up but we are loose about that as all are welcome and some bring friends. There is a \$3 - \$5 voluntary donation to cover the cost of food. All enjoy spending time together and we usually have some activity like trivia from the 40's - 60's. This Luncheon runs September - June as July and Aug. are too hot and many are away.



Stewardship Short Term Goals

- Run a successful stewardship campaign to help, encourage, and educate our parish members the value of supporting financially Trinity's existence.
- Run, plan, and organize this annual campaign with intent to help our family members understand that this commitment truly is in our own interest.



- Use tools such as witness statements, brief frank discussions with the laity, and informally discuss with laity experiences involving stewardship.
- Written materials (letters from Stewardship Committee and Pastor) and requests formally pledge cards to make an annual financial commitment to our family.

Stewardship Long Term Goals

- Develop a more multilayered approach to stewardship.
- Create stewardship programs tailored to generous givers, another program for new or less committed givers and a third program for those in our family not yet understanding the value and benefits to pledging their time talent and treasure.
- Get the leadership and most importantly our pastor or priest in charge to take responsibility for and believe in the importance of leading in fundraising.
- Concrete ideas;
 - ✓ All Vestry people must pledge.
 - ✓ Priest must be involved and lead fundraising.
 - ✓ Educate our members to think of stewardship from a position of wealth not poverty. Discuss, inform, live, and share the self-interest.
 - ✓ Encourage growth and greater understanding of God's grace that can come from giving of ourselves generously.
 - ✓ Develop programs to explain stewardship to young adults and children.
 - ✓ Integrate Stewardship discussions, concepts into Sermons, church school, coffee hour, committees, and everyday living.

Sunday School

Trinity's Sunday School program is offered for children and youth in Preschool/Kindergarten through Middle School. Classes meet during the 10:00 AM service for about 45 minutes; then they join their families for Eucharist and the remainder of the service. The Godly Play curriculum is used to acquaint children with the church calendar and worship service. Emphasis is placed on making children feel connected and welcomed with the church family and community.

We strive to be informative, supportive, and engaging while providing a comfortable place for children and youth. At Trinity Sunday School, students are encouraged to show God's kindness to one another, show respect to teachers, adults, and other students, respect themselves, conduct themselves in a positive manner, always be trustworthy, care about others, take responsibility for their actions, do the right thing, and lend a helping hand. Along with the adult members of Trinity, we encourage our youth to know, embrace, and share Christ in a loving community.

A Brief History of Trinity Episcopal Church Lindsey Steward, Parish Historian

Trinity Episcopal Church has opened its doors to all for many years in Wrentham, Massachusetts. Our church has a rich history of communion services and serving the community by helping those in need. What started as a small community continues to grow and become more involved in Wrentham and surrounding communities.

According to the historical documents and narratives, the first episcopal service was held in Cook's Hall in July of 1863 which was conducted by Reverend Dr. Babcock of Dedham. When the first episcopal service took place, there were only two communicants who participated in the service. In December of the same year, the Christmas Fair was created to raise funds to benefit the Church. This annual tradition continues to this day.

On June 6, 1864, our church name, Trinity, was received. A few months later on December 7, 1864 Reverend Allen became the first rector of Trinity. In addition to services, Trinity also established its Sunday School first organized on December 11, 1864.

The Trinity community was eventually able to purchase land to build the church. In June of 1872, Trinity was completed. The first church service was held in the new church on June 30, 1872.

When the church was completed, the congregation and Vestry added to the church. For instance, a bell was put into place in Trinity Church's tower and it was rung for the first time on Easter Sunday, April 16, 1876. Also, years later, the Parish Hall was started in 1947 and completed in 1954. The rectory was started in 1955 and completed in 1956.

Trinity was officially consecrated on January 2, 1879 by Right Reverend B.H. Paddock, Bishop of Massachusetts.

Trinity parishioners were, and continue to be, dedicated to preserving Trinity's history. In 1955, the interior of the Church was restored. In 1999, Trinity went through a number of changes on the outside including the steeple, bridal entrance, and front steps. This project was known as *Trinity Beautification*. Also, the stained glass windows were later restored and put back in place.

For over 150 years, Trinity Episcopal Church and its parishioners strive to know, embrace, and share Christ in a loving community.

Email searchcommittee@trinitywrentham.org
for complete Job Description