

PRIEST IN CHARGE SEARCH

Position Title: Priest in Charge
Receiving Names until (09-30-2023)

Full Time

Church Address: 229 Highland St. Marshfield, MA 02050

Phone Number: 781 834-8575

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PARISH STORY– History

- 1. Tell us about when your church was founded and how have your parish and community changed over the years?** Trinity Church was first established in 1745 as the *Episcopal Protestant Society in Marshfield*. Today nothing but the burying ground remains of this edifice. Between 1783 and 1826, there is little evidence that this group still existed. Then sometime in 1826, Trinity parishioners disassembled the first church building and used those timbers to serve as the backbone for a new church in Marshfield Hills. Sadly, this rebirth did not last longer than 30 years. With dwindling attendance and competition from other Protestant churches, the church vestry decided to close Trinity and sell the structure to the Town in 1853. In the early 1900s, The *Trinity Episcopal Mission* began with occasional services in the homes of a few families in the North Marshfield area and Scituate. Services were conducted by visiting priests from the Diocese perhaps once or twice a month. Soon the women of the Mission purchased a decommissioned Town of Marshfield elementary school, and services were then held there in the converted schoolhouse by visiting Mission priests. In 1915, Elders of the Second Baptist Church offered the healthy Trinity Episcopal Mission their abandoned church building and several acres of land on Highland Street for a dollar. The growing congregation supported this investment, and before long, a need for a parish hall was evident. The abandoned mission schoolhouse/chapel was moved to Highland Street to serve this purpose in 1948.

The thriving Trinity Church of Marshfield became quite popular and grew in congregants. During the second half of the 20th century, the parish hall was expanded, a kitchen and a church office were added, a rectory was built, and a church school building was constructed. It is clear from our history that the Episcopalians in Marshfield won't give up when times get tough. In recent years since Covid and going to a quarter-time Interim Priest, we have gone from an 8 am and 9:30 am Sunday service to just one 9:30 Sunday service. We now have no young families with children attending regularly. Therefore, there is no Sunday School at present.

2. Tell about one significant event that stands out in your history.

The most significant development was the creation of Steeple School of Trinity Church in 1963. Originally run by parishioner volunteers, it is now professionally run, has a certified outdoor playground, and over 100 preschool students. We are very proud of this amazing asset to our community.

PARISH STORY – Present life

1. Tell about a time in your church's life which you recognize as success and a time of failure.

In 2016 Trinity celebrated its 100th anniversary, which encompassed a year of special events, tours, lectures, and barbecues culminating with a dinner/gala event. That same year we held several fundraising events to sponsor a group of Trinity church and Steeple School members to travel on a mission trip to South Africa. After the trip was completed, gatherings were held to share with the congregation and the town what the travelers' learned and experienced on their trip.

2. Share your worship style and special worship moments you like.

Our worship style leans towards low church. We most frequently use the BCP Rite II with Eucharist celebrated each Sunday. Music is an important part of our 9:30 am service. Many of our hymns are taken from both the 1982 Hymnal and Wonder Love and Praise. Our church organist introduces other material from her collection, most specifically for anthems. Currently, we are holding one service per Sunday and a Tuesday Morning Prayer service combined with bible study. Pre-COVID, we also held an 8:00 am service which could be described as a more "contemplative service" with no music, and those in attendance were invited to recite the Eucharistic Prayers at the altar. In the past, we have used a number of other sources to enrich our services, most recently "The Way of Love" by Bishop Curry. Celtic Prayer Services and Enriching Our Worship.

3. What brings people back week after week?

This is a difficult question to answer as it may differ for each of us. Perhaps for some, it is the traditional liturgy, the music, or leaving the church with a feeling that one cannot find anywhere else. Maybe it is the loving community that we see only on Sunday yet with whom we feel deeply connected. Or perhaps it is a quiet time to reflect on our faith.

4. How do you care for each other?

Our Sunday service is also streamed via Zoom. Those who are home-bound or away from Trinity may join in the service, maintaining a connection with their fellow parishioners. Emotional and physical well-being is addressed by offering Lay Eucharistic Visitations to those parishioners who are unable to attend church. We pray for those individuals who need additional prayers. Those battling illness or having emotional needs are given a prayer shawl, knit with loving hands by parishioners. The shawls are blessed with the thought that the shawl will envelop them in love and healing. Several parishioners are part of a card ministry that

sends out cards to those individuals who may not be in church, yet we want them to know their church family remembers them. There are a number of church members who make a point of checking in on parishioners, calling and visiting those not in church. At Christmas and Easter, we had appropriate gift bags that we delivered to families we had not seen during the year. Our connections are strengthened through fellowship, coffee hour after Sunday service, monthly gatherings of the “Women of Trinity Church,” the “Men’s Group,” and the “Trinity Lunch Bunch.” Our participation in various ministries brings us together, working towards a common purpose.

5. Tell us about outreach in your community? During our regular worship service, we pray for those in need of prayers and healing, regardless of their affiliation with our faith community. Through our engagement with the non-profit organizations in our community, we are providing emotional and financial support by contributing to children’s and families’ personal well-being. Through the knitting of prayer shawls, we are making a tangible gesture of hope, prayer, and healing. When the need arises to give aid to those outside our community, we have answered the call. Most recently, Grace Church in Brockton asked churches in nearby communities to set up a shelter for displaced individuals and families. Trinity was asked to supply new pillows and blankets. We responded to their call by sending both to support this effort. Through our outreach program three years ago, we became aware of the McKinney-Vento Foundation of Marshfield. This foundation is affiliated with the Marshfield School System, and it provides direct aid to children and families who are homeless within our community. Trinity members have responded generously to the program. Through the coordinator’s office, we have donated money for summer camperships, gift cards to purchase clothing, and gifts to fulfill the children’s Christmas wish list. The contact for this program through the church is Donna Frugoli, and the McKinney-Vento school coordinator is Robynne Ryan-Lambert.

6. What gifts and skills would you like your new leader to bring, and what gifts and skills can you offer?

- **We would like our new leader...**

- To keep the Love of God at the heart of all things, with a deep faith as he works in our world.
- To join with us in our spiritual journey; to facilitate the continued development of our personal relationship with God together.
- Share sermons that are meaningful, inspiring, and engaging.
- To have open communication with the parish, be willing to learn and grow, and ask for help.
- To help promote, support, and stimulate Christian Education for adults and youth.

- To help in planting the seed to develop the tools within the congregation for growth with the desire to revive our parish.
- To have compassion, be energetic, approachable, and empathetic, and be visible in the community.
- To join us in being motivated, encouraging, and demonstrating commitment by translating words into action.
- **Our parish....**
- Will support our new PIC both practically and spiritually.
- Every member of our congregation is involved in various committees that keep our church alive, including Altar Guild, Worship, Music, Ushers, and Vestry.
- Will keep an open mind about expectations between themselves and the new PIC.
- Has dedicated individuals who spearhead and participate in our community outreach.

Warden's Name: Bernie Heine
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COMPENSATION & HOUSING

Compensation available for new position: \$66,000
 Negotiable? Yes
 Housing Allowance or Rectory: Rectory / Negotiable
 SECA reimbursement options negotiable
 SECA reimbursement details:
 Pension plan (in compliance?):
 Healthcare options in compliance with Diocese
 Dental: No
 Housing Equity Allowance in Budget: No
 Annual Equity amount: None
 Vacation weeks: 4
 Continuing education weeks: 1
 Continuing education funding in budget: \$1,000

To apply, please send resume, OTM profile and cover letter to:
 The Rev. Canon Kelly O'Connell
koconnell@diomass.org