

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter

March 2019

104 West Main Street, Stafford Springs, Connecticut  
06076



**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

Saint Patrick's Day is one of the highlights of March every year for many people. Yet despite that, few people perhaps know much about who Patrick was, and what makes him such an important figure.

Patrick was just 16 years old when in about the year 405 pirates captured him, took him from his native Britain, and sold him into slavery in Ireland. Although his grandfather had been a priest and his father was a deacon, he writes that he had ignored the faith for much of his own youth. However, for the 6 years that he was a slave, tending sheep in the cold, he spent most of his time in prayer. For him, his captivity meant his spiritual conversion. Despite the difficulty he endured as a slave in Ireland, he was determined to return to Ireland and try and convert the Irish people to Christianity. This was his great desire. In a dream he saw 'all the children of Ireland from their mothers' wombs stretching out their hands' to him. He studied in France and became a priest, and at age 43, a bishop. Despite opposition from those who thought his education was lacking, he was sent to Ireland as a missionary bishop.

Patrick suffered much opposition from not only the pagan druids, but also criticism from his fellow Christians in both England and Ireland about his missionary work. Nevertheless, this did not deter him. He sought the protection of local chieftains and converted them. He founded

many monasteries and churches, and encouraged the people to live in holiness. Because of him many people abandoned paganism and fell in love with Christ.

Patrick's autobiography, '*Confessio*,' gives thanks to God for allowing him to be God's tool in bringing faith to many despite his own unworthiness. The book begins, 'My name is Patrick. I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers. I am looked down on by many.' Patrick's humility made him all the more thankful to God for his love and care. He wrote:

*'God guarded me before I knew him, and before I came to wisdom and could distinguish between good and evil. He protected me and consoled me as a father does for his son. That is why I cannot be silent – nor would it be good to do so – about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity. This is how we can repay such blessings, when our lives change and we come to know God, to praise and bear witness to his great wonders before every nation under heaven.'*

Patrick's greatness was in his love for God and his desire to share that knowledge of God with those who did not yet know Him. Even though he had spent his youth in slavery, he considered himself blessed to know God, and thankful that God was with him and loved him even before Patrick knew to acknowledge him. Patrick made his whole life about letting people know God already loved them and that there is joy in repaying God for his goodness to us. 'I cannot be silent,' he said, and the fruit of that determination to share the Gospel resulted in the conversion of an entire nation. May our brother Patrick's humility and determination be an example to us of what God can do through his people. May we with thankful hearts, like Patrick, not be silent about what God has done for us.

Peace and joy,

Church of The Transfiguration  
on Mt. Tabor

Pastor Tom



## **Pastoral Care**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
7 Green St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1334  
Office Phone-860-684-7571

Church – [htlc-church@att.net](mailto:htlc-church@att.net)

Website – [htlcstafford.org](http://htlcstafford.org)

Pastor Tom will return March 6th for Ash Wednesday. He will return messages left to his phone (860-806-2440) and email as quickly as possible.

**In the event of an immediate need or emergency,** you may contact Pastor Ryan or Pastor Kathleen Mills (Holy Trinity Trumbull) at (203) 903-8352, or the synod office at (860) 482-6100.

It you'd like to write Pastor Tom via snail mail,

his address during this time is:

Revd. Thomas S. Drobená  
Selwyn College, Cambridge University  
Grange Rd  
Cambridge CB3 9DQ  
United Kingdom

## **Members of the Council are:**

Rev. Thomas S. Drobená  
President – Andrew Fisher  
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny  
Treasurer – Catherine Lichanec  
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe  
Melissa Fisher  
Leonard Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek  
Patricia Marvonek  
Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa

## **Service Teams**

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Maxa  
† Property Team: Andrew Fisher,  
Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and  
Michael Welch  
† Learning & Youth Group Team:  
Rev. Thomas Drobená, Melissa Fisher, Cathy  
& Leonard Lichanec

## **Shut-in Members of Holy Trinity**

Attn: Barbara Bulick  
The Ivy at Ellington  
123 West Road Apt 115  
Ellington. CT 06029-5730

Ms. Shirley Kaba  
7 High St.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1215

Attn: Ms. Barbara Kovaciny  
Evergreen Health Care Center  
205 Chestnut Hill Rd., Room # 1101  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

Ms. Anna Mandak  
21 Old Monson Rd.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3343

Mrs. Tonia Marvonek  
Evergreen Health Care Center  
201 Chestnut Hill Rd., Rm. # 2107  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

## **The Slovak Zion Synod**

The Slovak Zion Synod is one of 65 synods that together form the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Our Synod is non-geographic: We are rooted in God's mission and sent out into the world in the name of Christ. Our ministries are spread across many areas, including New England, New York City, New Jersey, Upstate New York, the coal regions of Pennsylvania, the Great Lakes, the greater Chicago area, as well as in Ontario, Canada. Over the decades, we've transitioned into a Synod that defines itself not by location, but by what Christ has done for us and now calls us to do in God's name for others.



Our 30 ministry sites are greatly diverse, from rural country churches to inner-city churches, and many community ministries, with multiple sites. We worship in many languages, and join together with one common mission:

**Proclaiming the Love of Christ to Everyone.**

### **St. Patrick's Day Feast**

Open Seating from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Vespers, (Evening Prayer) will be at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Menu**

Corned Beef and Cabbage  
Boiled Potatoes and Carrots  
Irish Soda Bread  
Flourless Chocolate Cake with Irish Cream filling fill and Mint Whipped Cream

Cost:

\$12 for Adults  
\$7 for kids age 6 to 12  
Kids 5 and under are free

### **March Birthdays**

01 – Amelia Hinchliffe  
06 – Michael Welch  
11 – James Schraffenberger  
13 – Betty Mottes  
18 – Toni Marvonek  
28 – Aidan Cooley  
28 – Ian Cooley

### **Signup Sheet for Holy Week Services**

There is a signup sheet posted on the white board in the narthex for Maundy Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, and The Great Vigil of Easter, April 20<sup>th</sup> services.

There are spaces for Ushers, Lay Assistants and Readers. Please indicate what positions you wish to volunteer for. When the spaces are filled in, writing the Service Schedule will be easy for these services.

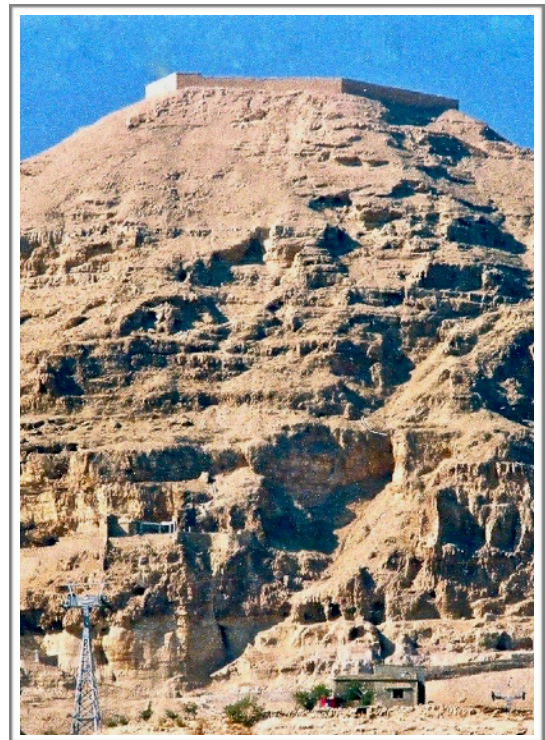
### **The Annual Congregational Meeting**

The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 10, 2019. Everyone's attendance will be appreciated for input and being able to have a quorum.

#### **Attention all Lay Assistants and Volunteers that help with services**

This includes Council Members, (Tellers), Ushers, Worship Assistants and Readers. Please let me know dates and days of when you aren't available to serve in your position. It's much easier to find a replacement (when available) prior to typing the Monthly Service Schedule rather than finding a replacement after the schedule is typed or you just don't show up. You can hand me a piece of paper when we see each other at church; or send me an email at [walterkovaciny@cox.net](mailto:walterkovaciny@cox.net) or send me the information via snail mail. Just don't tell me verbally. Thanks to everyone for their assistance for this. Walter Kovaciny, Part of the newspaper team.

Mount Of Temptation



## March – April Service Schedule

These readings are from Series C and can be found in the front of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

### Tellers

### Ushers

### Worship Assistants

### Reader

#### **March 3, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. The Transfiguration of Our Lord – White**

Exodus 34: 29 – 35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3: 12 to 4: 2; Luke 9: 28 – 36 [37 – 43]

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

Pat Marvonek

#### **March 6, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday – Purple**

Isaiah 58: 1-12; Psalm 51: 1-17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20b to 6:10; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Walter Kovaciny

Walter Kovaciny

A Volunteer

Daniel Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

#### **March 10, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The First Sunday Lent – Purple**

Deuteronomy 26: 1 – 11; Psalm 91: 1 – 2, 9 – 16; Romans 10: 8b – 13; Luke 4: 1 – 13

Sheila Welch

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Welch

#### **March 17, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday of Lent - Purple**

Genesis 15: 1 – 12, 17 – 18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3: 17 to 4: 1; Luke 13: 31 – 35

Cathy Lichanec

Daniel Lichanec

Daniel Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

#### **March 24, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Third Sunday in Lent - Purple**

Isaiah 55: 1 – 9; Psalm 63: 1 – 8; 1 Corinthians 10: 1 – 13; Luke 13: 1 – 9

Melissa Fisher

Walter Kovaciny

Daniel Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

#### **March 31, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fourth Sunday in Lent – Purple**

Joshua 5: 9 – 12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5: 16 – 21; Luke 15: 1 – 3, 11b – 32

Walter Kovaciny

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

#### **April 7, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifth Sunday in Lent - Purple**

Isaiah 43: 16 – 21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3: 4b – 14; John 12: 1 – 8

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

Pat Marvonek

Volunteers needed for readings indicated by blank.

# March *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3 The Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  11:20 a.m. Social Hour	4	5 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	6 <b>7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday</b>  <b>Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion</b>	7	8	9 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>10 The First Sunday in Lent</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  11:15 a.m. Annual Congregational meeting  Daylight Savings Time begins.	11 Deadline for submitting articles / information for the April newsletter	12 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	13	14	15	16
<b>17 The Second Sunday in Lent</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  5-7 p.m. Saint Patrick's Day Dinner  7 p.m. Vespers	18	19 <b>Joseph, Guardian of our Lord</b>  6:30 p.m. Soup & Bible Class	20	21 <b>Thomas Cranmer, Bishop</b>	22	23 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>24 The Third Sunday of Lent</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	<b>25 Annunciation</b> Soup & Vespers 6:30 p.m.	26 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	27	28 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. WIC	29	30
<b>31 The Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  <b>Deadline for Ordering Easter Lilies</b>						

# ***Holy Trinity Lutheran Church***

## ***Saint Patrick's Day Feast***

**Sunday, March 17, 2019**

***Open Seating from 5pm to 7pm***

### **Corned Beef and Cabbage**

*With Boiled Potatoes and Carrots*

### **Irish Soda Bread**

### **Flourless Chocolate Cake**

*With Irish Cream filling and  
Mint Whipped Cream*

***\$12 for Adults***

***\$7 for kids 12 and Under***

***Kids 5 and Under Eat Free***

***\*\*\*Vegetarian Meal Option  
with Advance Notice***

***104 Main St., Stafford Springs***

***For Ticket Information***

***Call or Text 860-458-9397***





The Pinnacle Mount



The Wilderness





The members and friends of Holy Trinity are encouraged to donate Lilies each Easter to give Glory to God and beautify our sanctuary during the Easter liturgies. Those who donate the Lilies may take them after the 10:00 a.m. liturgy on Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost of each Lily is \$7.25

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of (for the living) \_\_\_\_\_

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**OR**

Given in memory of (for the dead) \_\_\_\_\_

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Return this form to Walter Kovaciny, (don't put in the offering plate), with the exact amount, by Sunday, March 31st If paying by check, make the check payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please write Flowers on the "For" line on the check. All the flowers will be White Lilies, no colors. Please indicate the amount of Lilies ordered \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Easter Lilies**

The members and friends of Holy Trinity are encouraged to donate Lilies each Easter to give Glory to God and beautify our sanctuary during the Easter liturgies. Those who donate the Lilies may take them after the 10:00 a.m. liturgy on Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost of each Lily is \$7.25

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of (for the living) \_\_\_\_\_

---

**OR**

Given in memory of (for the dead) \_\_\_\_\_

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Return this form to Walter Kovaciny, (don't put in the offering plate), with the exact amount, by Sunday, March 31st If paying by check, make the check payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please write Flowers on the "For" line on the check. All the flowers will be White Lilies, no colors. Please indicate the amount of Lilies ordered \_\_\_\_\_.

### \*\*\* Coming Events \*\*\*

#### March

3 – Social Hour – 11:20 a.m.

6 – Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion – 7:30 p.m.

9 & 23 – Safe Net Distribution – 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

10 – **Annual Congregational Meeting – 11:15 a.m.**

17 – Saint Patrick's Day Dinner – 5 – 7 p.m.

17 – Vespers – 7:00 p.m.

19 – Joseph, Guardian of our Lord; Soup & Bible Study – 6:30 p.m.

25 – Annunciation; Soup & Vespers – 6:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
104 West Main St.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076

Web site address

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

Slovak Zion Synod – ELCA

Address Correction Requested

