

# TRINITY BELLS JUNE 2019



## FROM THE WARDENS...

The weeks leading up to Mother Margo's last service on May 5<sup>th</sup> were an emotional roller-coaster culminating in her wonderful farewell party – but now it's time to move forward. While thinking about what to write for the Wardens' Letter, I decided to look online with the search words "warden's letter" and "transition" and quickly found this article from 2016 written by the Senior Warden with the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Dallas, Texas. Following is a shortened version from the following link: <https://www.ecfvp.org/vestry-papers/article/552/clergy-transition-tips-for-senior-wardens> of her article:

Clergy Transition: Tips for Senior Wardens  
May, 2016  
Anne Rudacille Schmidt

*"In January 2013 I was installed as senior warden at the same annual meeting where our rector announced he was called to another parish. I had known for a few days this was going to happen, but I still experienced a few minutes of terror when the announcement made it official. Suddenly, what I thought would be a year of collaboration with our long-time rector became a year where much of the responsibility would lay with the vestry and me. Not only would we have to keep things running but also hire an interim rector, launch a search, and prepare the congregation for a new rector. Though it was a challenging year it was also an inspiring one. It deepened my faith and gave me a new appreciation for the giftedness of my congregation. Here are 7 tips from my experience that helped make it a successful year of senior warden ministry. Perhaps these will be helpful to you.*

*1. Take a breath. There will be moments when things seem overwhelming. Take a breath and remember that God will give you what you need. I had an amazing junior warden and vestry team to help me work through situations as they arose. Find people you trust and let them help you.*

*2. Communicate and involve. Most of the anxiety that arises in transition can be calmed with good communication. Much of this needs to happen at the very beginning. Our junior warden and I sent a letter to the congregation the day after our rector announced his leaving. The letter explained how the vestry became the "ecclesiastical authority" in the absence of a rector. We gave an approximate timeline of the search process and how important the interim period was for getting ready for what we were going to be called to do next as a congregation. The Sunday after our rector left, we held a town-hall-style meeting where we again detailed how things would unfold and allowed for a questions and answers period. We also asked for the congregation's help. We let them know they were now all on the prayer committee and that we needed them to keep ministries thriving, attendance high, and pledging strong so that we would look great to potential rector candidates. This gave them some work and buy in and they rose to the occasion.*

*3. Hire a qualified interim rector. There are actually professional interim rectors who are trained in this important ministry. The interim's job is broader than serving as a placeholder; they help prepare the way for the next rector. The interim may have to do some "clean up" duty so that the new rector can come into the congregation and focus on the future. The interim may need to address human resource (HR) issues. A congregation may have ministries that are no longer effective and need to be "sun-setted" or policies that need to be rewritten or enforced. The interim rector can also help prepare the congregation mentally for change. Our interim gave some excellent sermons talking about being prepared for God to do something new.*

*4. Pick an excellent search committee. Our vestry hired a search consultant who helped us with this process, as it is the vestry's responsibility to pick the search team. The first reaction may be to pick based on demographics, but we learned that the ideal is to pick on personal skill set. You need good writers, talented IT persons, and some folks with HR experience if possible. Team members need to come to the process without an agenda and with the ability to work toward consensus. Most importantly you need people who can commit many hours over an 18-24-month period as it is an extremely time-consuming endeavor.*

*5. Mind the staff. During a transition most of the anxiety lies with the staff. They not only have to take on more responsibility, but they are also faced with all of the fears that come with the prospect of getting a new boss. I met frequently with staff members to answer questions and keep them informed. The interim rector took them on retreat where they could discuss issues and dream about the future. Some staff will use this time to evaluate their own careers. In one week, we announced the resignation of two associate clergy and our business manager. All of them left for fabulous opportunities but it was stressful for the vestry and the congregation. This brings me to the 6th tip:*

*6. Communicate (some more). The vestry knew the congregation would be concerned about three staff members leaving. The next Sunday I spoke at each service, repeating our message that God was with us and that we had good leadership and a good plan. Things will pop up during the interim and the quicker you are out front with answers the better.*

*7. Prepare your congregation and leadership for the reality that transition doesn't end when the new rector arrives. There is at least a year more of transition as the new rector arrives, takes stock, and begins to try new things. This adjustment period takes patience and more prayer, but your congregation will be prepared for this because of the groundwork you have laid during your term."*

This article certainly rings true! We likewise took immediate steps starting with a letter to the Parish explaining the transition process and hopefully calming some fears, and the Vestry met with Claire Woodley, Canon for Ministry Support who provided us with valuable guidance. Thankfully, Father Tom Pellaton, (see his impressive bio) will be our celebrant for most of the summer bringing us to September when our Interim Rector, Father Charles Colwell starts. We anticipate that Father Colwell will be with us for up to 24 months which will give the Vestry time to develop a profile and the Search Committee time to search for a new Rector.

Planning for the future of Trinity and a new Rector will require deeper reflection and a fresh vision as compared to the last search over fifteen years ago - we now have a growing Childcare Center which requires support and commitment in addition to the continuing challenge of covering higher costs to care for the buildings with a smaller church population and endowment to support the operations. It is for these reasons that the Vestry voted to hire a Consultant from the Diocese who is trained to support parishes during times of transition.

The next steps will be to gather data thru a parish-wide survey, hold "coffee-hour style" meetings and focus groups – this process will begin in the fall. We will keep you updated throughout the transition; please let the church office know if you are not receiving our weekly email communications. Thank you to the staff - Mike, Ronit, Karann, Jaine, Leslie, (our new Childcare Center Consultant) Leslie, Ariann, Andrew, and the Choir, who have all assumed additional responsibilities to keep the day to day operations running efficiently. This is a good time to re-commit to Trinity with your time, your pledges and attendance at church as we move forward.

Respectfully,  
Liz Kaye & Alexis Alexander,  
Wardens

## WELCOME FR. TOM PELLATON!



Rev. Tom Pellaton will be our new Summer Supply Priest. Here, in his own words, is his "bio":

"Grew up in Port Washington.

Graduated from Oberlin College -Double degree in Voice Performance and European History.

Graduate School at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa in voice and theater.

Drafted into the Army served in Vietnam and Germany in Army Intelligence.

Member of the Zurich, Switzerland, City Opera

Maitre D' at the Carlyle Hotel in NY (ran the Power Breakfasts)

Assistant to the President, Head of the Vocal Roster and European Manager of Shaw Concerts, Inc. - artists included among others, Jessye Norman, Janet Baker, Jon Vickers, Nathan Milstein, Vladimir Horowitz and Julian Bream.

Worked in homeless and hunger ministries at St. Thomas and St. Michael's Churches in NYC

Entered Yale Divinity School and the Institute of Sacred Music in 1988 - President of the Class of 1991

Curate and Associate Rector, St. Michael's Church working in AIDS Ministry, Community Organizing and Adult Christian Formation

Rector (for 11 years)- Church of the Ascension in Munich, Germany (part of the Convocation of American Churches in Europe)

Secretary of Convention and President of the Council of Advice

Rector of the Church of the Ascension - Rockville Center, NY

Retired in 2010. Have worked as a credentialed Interim in the Diocese of New York and presently doing only supply work as I approach my 75th birthday. In retirement, work with recently incarcerated men in a reentry program.

As President of the Board of the Harlem Chamber Players, work to bring high quality classical music to underserved parts of the city and maintain a singing performance schedule with a chamber ensemble Von Paradis (the pianist is 92, the cellist is 77 and me!!!!)

I think that is enough, or rather too much."

Blessings, Fr. Tom+

## MARGO'S FAREWELL



We all knew it was coming, but it was an emotion-filled day when Margo celebrated her last Eucharist with us at Trinity on May 5. From the joyous singing of "Lift High the Cross" to the enveloping and blessing of Margo and Harry with our laying on of hands, parishioners gathered to shower them with love and affection as they continue on to their next journey.

Then came the party! There were approximately 90 people in attendance, and a delicious buffet was served. Sheila Platt was our wonderful Emcee, and speeches were given by John Platt, Jeff Price, Mike Callahan, Commander Kempner, Michael Rodriguez, Rob Alexander, Bob deBruin, and Beverly Zamore thanking Margo for all she has done for our little church and community. Harry also spoke and expressed his love and gratitude for all the parishioners he had grown up with.

Monetary and other gifts were presented to both Margo and Harry, including a beautiful picture of Trinity Church, with a frame made out of the wood of a Trinity pew (crafted by Bill Holzkamp).

As most of you know, Margo has accepted a position with the Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, NJ, where she will be the Canon for Congregational Life and working with nearly 100 churches. We wish her well and will miss her dearly. Harry will be attending Trinity-Pawling School in the Fall, and we wish him well, too!

Newark is not that far away, so we hope Margo will visit Long Island from time to time...

SEE PHOTOS NEXT PAGE...



Trinity's Choir, May 5



Margo receiving blessing, surrounded by parishioners



Sheila Platt, Emcee, making a toast



Margo saying a few words



Andrew Frame, Jim & Aleta Crawford



Kathy Mendall & Mark Baburka



Jaime Verma & Tom Cammisa



Bill Holzkamp, Bob Seaman & Sheila Platt





Dottie Seyfried, Jean Henning & Doreen Banks



Maryellen Hansen, Alexis & Tess Alexander



John Platt giving speech



Doreen Banks & Sarane Ross



Margo in the middle of the crowd



Harry giving speech



Jeff Price, with Trinity's kids, giving speech



Robert Chapman, Beverly Zamore, Ann & Fred Ringia





The food line...



Jeff & Jordan Price with Grandma Ann Mingorance



Mike Callahan giving speech



Marielle, Michael & Adrienne Rodriguez



View from the fireplace end of the room



Commander William Kempner giving speech



Jay & Wini Luty



Bob deBruin giving speech





The Very Rev. Hickman Alexandre & Family



Harry & Ian Frame



Beverly Zamore giving speech



Michael Rodriguez giving speech



Harry with his Godbrother William Foster



Marielle & Mateo Rodriguez



Bill Holzkamp, Margo & Harry with picture of Trinity

## UPCOMING CONCERT AT TRINITY

On June 23 at 7 pm Leonard Lehrman, Trinity's Artist-in-Residence, will present the third in his series of 4 concerts at Trinity. The first one featured the Alba Consort last October.

The second, this past May 5, featured the Metropolitan Philharmonic Chorus.



The third program, on June 23, features the **Dakule Trio** in works by Beethoven, Schumann and 3 students of Nadia Boulanger: Marc Blitzstein, Leonard Lehrman, and Hugh Robertson. Lehrman will introduce each of these works, with inside stories on their creation.



The concert is free, with a goodwill offering solicited. (The fourth program will be on August 18 at 7 pm)

## BURNING BOOKS

Our final Burning Books selection before the summer is *The Pledge* by Friedrich Durrenmatt on Wednesday, June 12 at the home of Jean Henning (105 Harbor Lane, Roslyn Harbor).

Subtitled "Requiem for the Detective Novel," Amazon calls it, "One of Dürrenmatt's most diabolically imagined and constructed novels". *The Pledge* was adapted for the screen in 2000 in a film directed by Sean Penn and starring Jack Nicholson.

John Platt

## GIRL SCOUTS

An intergenerational girl scout meeting was held in April & the troop loved Barbara Holzkamp, who brought pictures of when she was a scout, girl scout pins from her family, and a handbook from 1953. The girls all brought in treats and made decorative pins.



Dear Trinitarians,

Thank you so much for the wonderful party and all the generous gifts. The special lunch meant more to us than we can say (and people in my new office have been oooing and ahing over the "pew-framed" artistry of Bill Holzkamp). We used the many gifts towards our new home. Everyone is invited to visit and have Portuguese or Spanish food in the neighborhood. We miss you so much already!

Love always in Christ,

Margo (and Harry)



**TRINITY TRANSITIONS**

*Rest Eternal Grant Unto Them. . .*

Joann DeGraffenried

There will be a Memorial Service for **Joann DeGraffenried** at Trinity Church on Sat., July 13 at 12:00 with a reception following in the fireplace room.



## OTHER PARISH HAPPENINGS



John Platt, Ruth Fick & Ariann Forella on St. Patrick's Day



Ann Mingorance's B'day in April



Palm Sunday at Trinity



Maundy Thursday Soup Crew



Day of Baptism for Sarane's Godson, Sean Joseph Sorise  
(the big guy!)



Margo's last vestry meeting at Trinity

## EASTER AT TRINITY







The good news is that after several years of running a deficit, the Childcare Center has not had a deficit month since November 2018. Every month from last December to the present, the Childcare Center has had sufficient tuition receipts to cover its salary, utilities, marketing, insurance and other costs. This is due in part to better management of the teacher scheduling and to an increase in our tuition.

Our new infant room is ready, and we have a number of infants who will start later this summer and in the fall. We still have two places available, so please spread the word!

After several years of constant use, our toddler playground needed an update. Both the grass surface and the play equipment had deteriorated from the constant wear-and tear. I am pleased to report that playground surface has been leveled and covered with a solid rubber mat flooring that provides a safe and

smooth surface for our children. Our new climbing/play structure has two slides and room for many children, and the space around it is perfect for our Wiggly Bikes and other ride-on toys. Now our children are enjoying a beautiful new playground.



Jaine Verma, Director



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>**

**TRINITY SUNDAY**

Please join us as we celebrate the many volunteers  
& unsung heroes of Trinity Church

A light lunch will be served

Welcome!



## MUSIC NOTES

The choir is winding down the "singing" season with a number of interesting contemporary sacred pieces including "The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee" by Jean Berger and "The Ground" by Ola Gjeilo. Looking back on the numerous spring celebrations Easter Sunday heard the adult choir singing an anthem that was new to them, "Surrexit Christus" by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi. The jubilant Baroque style anthem did justice to their beautiful rich voices. Soloists Andrew Cordero singing the "Exultet" and Ariann Forella singing "I know that my Redeemer Liveth" from Handel's Messiah were highlights from that service as was Ken Bongort's expert trumpet accompaniment on the Easter hymns. In addition the children's choir sang Natalie Sleeth's "Everywhere I Go" with Annabel's clarinet accompaniment! And Holy Week was made special by Sheila Platt's beautiful rendition of the traditional spiritual "Were You There?". Mother Margo's farewell service featured some of her favorite music including John Rutter's "The Lord Bless You and Keep You". In addition, the choir is looking forward to the dedication of the grave of Civil War soldier John Codman Pollitz and will sing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "There is a Balm in Gilead" in tribute on Sunday, June 2nd.

There is so much interesting history written about the Civil War and the role music played in that era. Here is an interesting (modified) summary from the Library of Congress site which demonstrates that music was a "near-constant companion" to the civilians and soldiers.

*"Soldiers awoke to the call of bugles and went to sleep to the beat of drum taps. On the home front, citizens sang ballads in their homes and songs at political rallies, joining their voices in chorus to reaffirm the purpose behind the terrible bloodshed. Music helped motivate people to continue fighting while also soothing the emotional wounds of loss. The many photographs of musicians that were taken during the conflict attest to the importance of music to those caught up in the Civil War. Union and Confederate leaders alike recognized the unique ability of music to create a sense of belonging and purpose. Both armies employed professional bands composed mainly of brass instruments such as the saxhorn and bugle. Before battle, Union soldiers might sing "John Brown's Body," in honor of the abolitionist who died fighting against slavery. Once the fighting ceased, soldiers in camp might hum hymns or songs of home. For people not directly engaged in conflict, music could bridge the distance between war and life on the home front. Citizens attended rallies where regimental bands played patriotic tunes, and songs of the battlefield became popular in civilian life as well. At the same time, gentle ballads aimed*

*to soothe the fears of families worried for the sons who'd taken their home songs away with them to a grim and distant war."*



Band of 114<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry, Petersburg, VA 1864

Leslie Waltzer, Organist & Choir Director



On May 2, as part of a Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration, Margo was invited by Temple Beth Sholom in Roslyn to discuss the recent surge in anti-semitic incidents around the world and the need for a united ecumenical force to combat this disturbing phenomenon. Below she is seen with Rabbis Michael White and Alan Lucas, as well as a Holocaust survivor who lit a candle during the program.



**RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRY (RMM)  
2019 INAUGURAL  
CULTIVATING JUSTICE DINNER**

On Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Rural & Migrant Ministry held an inaugural ***Cultivating Justice Dinner*** on Long Island honoring several supporters of the organization including the Rt. Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano. I was happy to serve as a member of the Planning Committee along with two Sisters from the Sisters of St. Joseph Campus in Brentwood, which was the host venue. The other honorees were Sister Rosalie Carven, a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Roger Clayman and John R. Durso from the Long Island Federation of Labor NYS ACL-CIO and a farmworker who has courageously used his voice to advocate for his fellow farmworkers, Juan Antonio Zuniga. There were about 120 people in attendance at the dinner which began with a sangria reception in the foyer and then a networking reception in the back hallway where we enjoyed appetizers provided by a local El Salvadorian restaurant (La Espiguita Bakery) and live music provided by the Gissel Garcia Band. Guests were invited to take their seats in the banquet room for the program and dinner (food provided by La Hacienda Real). There was a silent auction and numerous paintings of farmworkers on display.

As each honoree was introduced by the evening's Mistress of Ceremonies, Tracey Edwards (Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity, Suffolk and Regional Director of the NAACP) we heard of the commitment and passion each honoree has shown for the fight for farmworker justice. We were also encouraged and asked to provide our support in whichever way we felt called, through a monetary donation, volunteering and being a voice for the message to let others know about this important work. We were reminded of how close we are to the passage of the Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act (FFLPA)(S2837/A2750). Just last week the New York Supreme Court Appellate Division declared that it is unconstitutional under New York State law to deny farmworkers the right to bargain collectively.

While we are making strides, this has been a long journey and there is still much work to be done. I thank Ken Bongort and Helen Oehrlein for showing their support by attending the dinner!

If anyone would like additional information on RMM please ask me or visit [www.ruralmigrantministry.org](http://www.ruralmigrantministry.org)

Kathy Mendall



Rev. Richard Witt (Exec. Dir. RMM) and  
The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano





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*The Mission Statement of Trinity Episcopal Church*

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### **Sunday Services**

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Leslie Waltzer, Organist and Choir Director  
Ariann Forella, Minister of Music  
Michael Callahan, Sexton  
Ronit Meyers, Office Mgr.

Office Hours: 8:00- 10:00 (M-F); 9-1 (Sun)

### **Vestry**

Wardens: Liz Kaye & Alexis Alexander

Doreen Banks	James Luty
Thomas Cammisa	Kathy Mendall
Aleta Crawford	Sheila Platt

*Trinity Episcopal Church Roslyn Childcare Center*  
Jaine Verma, Director  
Leslie Weible, consultant  
(516) 626-0293

Hospitality- Maryellen Hansen (516-671-5661)

Outreach- Alexis Alexander (516-742-3215) & Nancy Hamilton (516-686-6830)

Finance- Ted Weill (516-671-5649)

### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

1579 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, NY 11576