

TRINITY BELLS

SEPTEMBER 2026



From the Wardens (Tom Cammisa and Jim Crawford):

As you know, the "Transition" for Trinity involves both Pulpit Supply, and the actual Search. In the first instance, our thanks to the many people who have stepped up over the summer months for an extended period of Morning Prayer. Canon Landon Moore (our diocese support for the Transition) made clear that Pulpit Supply over the summer was not in the offing, so we have been carrying on. The strength of our church family is clearly in evidence, as attendance over the course of the summer has remained strong.

But "MP" (as it is lovingly referred to) cannot go on indefinitely. We are fortunate to have Father Bob Russo (recently ordained as Priest) provide the following services for Trinity:

Wednesday evenings Mass (Sept 2 & Sept 9) @ 6:30 pm in the fireplace room; and
Sunday mornings Holy Eucharist (Sept 13, Sept 27 & Oct 4) @ 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

Mother Joanne Izzo will be celebrant for our Sunday service on September 20 (10:00 am in the sanctuary), a special remembrance service for Ariann Heuther's mother, Bernice Miller. Pulpit Supply moving further into October is not yet arranged.

For the Rector search, the Vestry is acting as the Search Committee. We extend our deep thanks to all members of the Vestry for what has been an energetic 8 months (so far). We are at a critical phase of the search, with high hopes of being able to see the search process through to a successful outcome. But this phase is when we also have to be most careful, since "Calling a Rector" is a process for both parties: the church; and the candidate. Please keep Trinity in your prayers through this time.

Lastly, the Rectory project has been awaiting final approval from the Village of Roslyn. The process of revisions has been ongoing; hopefully the Village will be accepting of the plans that are now in front of them. Thanks to Don Kavanagh and Bob de Bruin for their outstanding professional skills in shepherding this project along.

Through the length of our Transition process, Trinity has been praised from many quarters for being a strong and wonderfully welcoming church family. Thank you all for the strength of your faith, and your warm spirit in giving welcome to those who enter into our midst.

Sincerely,

Tom and Jim

WEDDING BELLS

Tess Alexander and Ricky Zein were married on June 27, 2026 at Shell's Loft in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Ricky is a software engineer at Figma; Tess is a Senior Attorney with the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene Legal Services. They will honeymoon in Bhutan in September. They reside in Fort Greene.



Bill Holzkamp recently visited St Mary's Episcopal Church, Lake Ronkonkoma for the first time since 1980. He had made and installed the altar rail there (a copy of one in Westminster Abbey). He also made the altar in the background in 1966, and the pulpit was stained by him to match the church woodwork. These were the first of many church jobs.



Kudos to **Lillie DiStefano**, granddaughter of Bill and Barbara Holzkamp, who just graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Criminal Justice.



OUTREACH

Outreach has ended the summer months strong. Sixteen backpacks, each full of school supplies, were donated to Rural Migrant Ministries for the youth who attended Summer Overnight Leadership Camp. Ages ranged from elementary school through high school. The backpacks were distributed on the last day of camp on August 22. We also donated a backpack to a daughter of one of the staff at the EAC Senior Center, who is a single mom.



Blessing bags has been strong throughout the summer. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. **Just a reminder, we meet the fourth Saturday of each month at 11:00 am at Trinity.** Blessing bags are assembled, then we make our way to the Transit Hub in Hempstead. We ended the summer with an added treat, cheeseburgers, and hot dogs, along with the Blessing Bags. They were enjoyed by so many.



Blessing Bags crew on 8/22/26

Top to bottom: Kathy Mendall, Samantha Gray, Mary LaSala, JoAnn Gentile, John & Sheila Platt, Barbara Holzkamp & Alexis Alexander

As Fall approaches, it's time to think about Adopt A Family, Toy drive for Rural Migrant Ministries, and the Christmas Boutique (11/21 and 11/22). Cooler weather is a good time to clean out some of your treasures and donate them for the Christmas Boutique.

Outreach thrives because of everyone's wonderful input and support.

Any questions? Please contact Alexis Alexander:
516 567 9531
Alexis@robaudio.com



CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

Sat, Nov 21, 9-2

Sun, Nov 22, 12-2

We will be collecting clothing, jewelry, pocketbooks, seasonal items, housewares & other new or gently-used articles. Please leave your donations by the small pews on right side of sanctuary (by garden doors).

Volunteers needed for set up and sale days!

Please contact Alexis at alexis@robaudio.com
(All proceeds to benefit local charities)

BURNING BOOKS

For the record, *The Custom of the Country* by Edith Wharton is our gracious, last-minute selection for Burning Books. Of the protagonist Undine Spragg, Amazon writes, "She is dazzling, unstoppable, and dangerously charming. From NY to Paris, Undine Spragg's rise through high society is as breathtaking as it is scandalous." This choice is short enough that people interested in making other selections have time for that. Please email those to Jean Henning at jdshenning@gmail.com. The September Burning Books is set for **Monday, September 14 at 7:30**. Be there or be square.

John Platt



EAC Network's Roslyn Senior Center is proud to serve local older adults by providing nutritious hot and cold meals, exercise programs, wellness and educational opportunities and meaningful socialization. Throughout the year, members enjoy monthly birthday celebrations, holiday parties, tea parties and a variety of activities designed to promote physical, mental and social well-being.

This year, our members have enjoyed trips to museums, arboretums, movies, Fun Day Mondays at Bar Beach and other local destinations. We have also celebrated many special milestones with our members at Trinity Episcopal Church, strengthening our connections within the community.

We are pleased to have welcomed members from the congregation to participate in our exercise programs; thank you for supporting our center. We recently hosted a three-part sponsored Cardio Drumming series, which was well received by everyone who attended.

We are currently enrolling new members from Roslyn and the surrounding communities and welcome your ideas and suggestions on additional programs and services that would benefit our local senior population.

Our goal is to create a welcoming, active and inclusive environment where older adults can build friendships, stay active and remain connected to their community. We look forward to growing and strengthening the Roslyn Senior Center in the year ahead.

Liz McDermott



HOPE, JUSTICE, &
EMPOWERMENT
IN RURAL NEW
YORK

SAVE THE DATE: TOYS DRIVE

HOSTED BY THE VOICES OF LONG ISLAND YOUTH
(VOLIIY)



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2026



4:00 PM – 6:00 PM



ST JOHN'S OF LATTINGTOWN,



✨ MORE DETAILS COMING SOON ✨



FROM OUR MINISTER OF MUSIC

Ariann Huether spent the summer accompanying her husband Ed, as he screened his independent feature film, *The Proctor*, at several film festivals. Ed is the writer and director of the film, which has received numerous awards and accolades. The support from our Trinity community has been incredibly enthusiastic, from attending multiple festivals, to our own Larry Arnold as an Executive Producer of the film. If you are interested in seeing *The Proctor*, visit Ariann in the choir room any Sunday to find out where it will be screening next!



Ed & Ariann at the LI International Film Expo



Ariann & Ed, Mark Baburka & Kathy Mendall, Larry Arnold & Antonio Velasquez at the invited screening in Bellmore

RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who provided backpacks and school supplies for the RMM Youth to give them a great start to the new school year! And a big thank you to Alexis for bringing the backpacks and supplies to Riverhead!

OCTOBER 3 OPEN HOUSE & RE-OPENING OF THE AMANDLA WORKER CENTER

RMM is ecstatic about the re-opening of our new center Amandla in Riverhead. After months upon months of herculean renovation by the Diocese we are able to return to our home. We invite you to

witness our beautiful home and more importantly to connect with the people of RMM.

Please save the date for RMM's Cultivating Justice: Amandla Open House on Saturday, October 3rd from 2pm to 6pm. Here is a chance to meet the amazing and diverse array of the people of RMM, taste a variety of different foods, listen to great music, interact with the leaders of Voices of Long Island Youth as well as learn about, and connect to the other programs of RMM.

Your presence is a must, because RMM can't have an impact, let alone be a beacon of transformational justice, without you! This is your Center!!! Below is a link to let us know if you can join and/or support us. (More information to follow)

<https://ruralmigrantministry.givebacks.gives/amandlaopenhouse/Campaign/Details>

Kathy Mendall

(You may need to copy & paste the link in your browser)

TRINITY WOMEN

On the third Tuesday of each month the women of Trinity Church gather together for coffee & camaraderie. It's a fun way to get to know each other better & all are welcome! Please join us for some friendly conversation and a mid-morning break at our next meetup – tentatively scheduled for **Tues, Sept 15, 10:30 at Diane's in Roslyn**. Contact info: ruthafick@hotmail.com.



JoJo Gencorelli recently entertained us with a lovely mix of popular tunes on the piano in her home at the Atria, Roslyn

Dear Readers,

The next 7 pages are from an article that Mike Callahan forwarded to me concerning **John C. Pollitz**, a faithful member of Trinity Church who bought a bell as a gift to the church from his army pay back in the 1800s. That bell was first rung at his own funeral. In 2018 his gravestone was found under Trinity's sanctuary floor! Most of you know the story, but it's still an engrossing tale, no matter how many times you hear it.

The author of this article, **Philip Gast**, has given his permission to reprint this article in Trinity's newsletter. He asks that you check out his other articles, if so desired, on his blog, The Civil War Picket:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcivil-war-picket.blogspot.com%2F2026%2F07%2Ffor-whom-bell-tolls-pvt-john-c-pollitz.html&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cbb5c495e155d4cd61aa508df0496a18c%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C639234717125094220%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOIjoITWFpbCIsIlIdUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Fod51nDFFZH36IIIUbRHERJCARYtyDf%2BeqkkMV3Lg6Y%3D&reserved=0>

(You may have to copy and paste this link into your browser)

Philip says you can also email him with any questions or comments:

philipgast@gmail.com

Happy reading!

Ruth Fick

***For whom the bell tolls:
Pvt. John C. Pollitz lies beneath the Long Island church he dearly loved.
His headstone and a bell he bought are reminders of sacrifice***

By Philip Gast



Gravestone in crawlspace in 2018 (Trinity Episcopal Church); Pvt. John C. Pollitz after enlistment

The memory of **John Codman Pollitz** -- a young private who died of disease in 1863 while serving with the 44th Massachusetts in North Carolina -- lives on at a Long Island, N.Y., church where his remains lie beneath the floor and his gravestone rests above.

For several years, the soldier's headstone and a bell he purchased for **Trinity Episcopal Church in Roslyn** have greeted visitors entering the building.

Officials had hoped to place the stone in a cabinet or display on the wall, but its weight proved problematic.

“The headstone and bell are still in the same place and there are no plans to change this,” church property manager and Mike Callahan said this week when asked by the Picket for plans for a permanent location for the items.



I have been a bit fascinated with the story of Pollitz, the son of a German immigrant, since the first of three articles I wrote following the 2018 discovery of his headstone in the rear section of the elegant sanctuary.

New to me this week was discovery of a document indicating he applied to attend West Point before the war broke out and an 1862 photo of Pollitz, taken shortly after his enlistment. I credit ancestry.com and the American Civil War Research Database for the latter.

The church had long known Pollitz's grave was incorporated within the current building during construction in 1906. There was no recorded specific location for the grave. That changed in summer 2018, when rotting wooden floor joists were removed and Pollitz' headstone was exposed; it was lying flat in a crawlspace.

“My assumption was that the headstone was too high standing up for the crawlspace. I believe they simply laid it down on that same spot” during construction, Callahan said a few years ago.

While Pollitz -- who was a member of the church -- remains buried beneath the floor, the congregation had wanted his headstone to be displayed inside. The stone is propped in front of a bell, which likewise has a good story.

According to a **1914 New York Times article**, a dying Pollitz asked comrades to ensure his body was sent to Roslyn, where it was to lie in the shadow of the belfry. "With his army pay he had bought a bell as a gift to the parish, and its arrival and his death were so close together that it was tolled for the first time at his funeral," the article said.



The bell rests on a stand inside the church, an affixed plaque indicating the soldier's grave lies beneath the church (*Photo courtesy Trinity Episcopal Church*). Another plaque on the floor calls Pollitz a "son and hero of this parish."

Fever stalked Federal troops in North Carolina

It's believed that the young Pollitz was living in Boston and 18 when he joined up with the 44th Massachusetts, ostensibly in the summer or fall of 1862.

The regiment, which took part in skirmishes and sieges across North Carolina before it was mustered out in June 1863, was in New Bern for several months before transfer to Plymouth, N.C.

A history of the regiment detailed disease and illness that stalked the troops during campaigning and at their quarters. Pollitz, who served in Company F, died on Jan. 7, 1863, in New Bern.

According to the "Record of the Service of the Fourth-Fourth Massachusetts Volunteer Militia in North Carolina, August 1862 to May 1863," [Pollitz and 13 other soldiers](#) in the regiment died from cerebrospinal meningitis. A pension record I found online this week (*below*) mentions malarial typhoid fever.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
Surgeon General's Office,
RECORD AND PENSION DIVISION.
Washington, D. C. *Jan. 30th*, 187*4*.

[CERTIFICATE FROM RECORDS]

It appears from the "List of Casualties" accompanying the "Monthly Report of Sick and Wounded," of the *4th* Reg't *Mass.* Vols., for the month of *Jan.*, 186*3*, that *John C. Pollitz* *Private* Co. *F*, of that Regiment, *Died Jan. 7th 1863. of Typhoid Malarial Fever.*

The station of the Regiment at the end of that month was *New Bern N.C.*, and the above report was furnished by *Regimental* Surgeon *R. New*.

Remarks: *Regimental Records of Sick and Wounded and not ow file in this Office.*

BY ORDER OF THE SURGEON GENERAL:

Vol. *35*
No. *602*

J. F. Woodward
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.
per J. F. Woodward

(NOTE—This transcript should not be detached from the accompanying papers. If additional information is desired relative to the case, this paper should accompany the application therefor.)

The volume provides the following information for late 1862 and the first days of 1863 in New Bern:

"December 25, the first case of a new and alarming disease occurred in our regiment, proving fatal in a few days. The epidemic, which followed and extended to other regiments, was entirely outside the experience of any of the surgeons in the department. The fever was at first regarded as a virulent type of malarial disease. The autopsy in the case of Henry G. Kimball, of Andover, Company G, who died Jan. 1, 1863, made by the assistant-surgeon, showed the presence of inflammation in the membranes of the brain and spinal cord. The disease was afterwards recognized as cerebro-spinal meningitis, which is identical with the disease once known as spotted fever, occurring as an epidemic in Massachusetts between the years 1807 and 1816. The next death was that of John C. Pollitz, Boston, Company F, on January 7. Having been previously well, he came in from guard in the morning, was sent to the hospital, and died the same afternoon. This sudden fatality naturally produced much consternation in the regiment. Quinine rations were issued as a prophylactic measure, and Surgeon Ware was untiring in his efforts to determine the cause of the epidemic."

Pollitz' remains were sent north to Long Island and to the church, where he had briefly been a Sunday school superintendent.

"It is my understanding that he requested to be buried in the shadow of the belfry of the original chapel. They built the new church alongside the original chapel so I assume that is why they built over it," said Callahan.



The bell was used during the 1863 Pollitz funeral (Trinity Episcopal Church)

Shortly after his burial, February 1, 1863, the bell was taken down and another put in its place. "John Pollitz's bell was inverted, filled with dirt and flowers, and stood by his grave for many years," a church newsletter states.

In 1914, the bell was moved and restored after church officials discovered the grave under that floor while investigating a break in the foundation walls, according to The Times.

Descendants group honors Civil War troops

Pollitz's father was a businessman; a history of Roslyn indicated he emigrated from Northern Ireland. But an online search of ancestry-related pages shows Otto W. Pollitz was from Hamburg, Germany, and John's mother was from Massachusetts. The young soldier is believed to have been born in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Church members are unaware of any living descendants, though Pollitz had siblings.



Members of the SUVCW lead 2019 ceremony near plaque (Trinity Episcopal Church)

A 2019 ceremony at the church rededicated the gravesite. Eight members of Moses A. Baldwin Camp #544, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, participated

According to Dennis Duffy, secretary for the camp, the younger Pollitz attended Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute (now part of NYU) and had moved on to college in Massachusetts, where he enlisted with the 44th Massachusetts.

"John did not have to go to war. There was no draft at the time and when the draft would come six months after John's death, his family could have afforded to pay a substitute under the rules then in effect," Duffy wrote in 2019 to other members of the SUVCW camp.



Since 2019, the camp has obtained more than 100 headstones for veterans in previously unmarked graves, Duffy said this week. The post on Saturday will dedicate several VA headstones for Civil War soldier graves at Greenfield Cemetery in Uniondale, N.Y.

"I did mention his story in a presentation I made to the North Shore (Long Island) Civil War Roundtable, Huntington, N.Y., last week and must admit the telling brought a tear to my eye," Duffy added.

(Above, the Rev. Margaret Peckham Clark with the Pollitz gravestone in the church crawlspace in 2018)

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www.trinityroslyn.org

Larry Arnold, Organist
Ariann Huether, Minister of Music
Michael Callahan, Sexton
Ronit Meyers, Office Mgr.

Office Hours:

8:00 am- 2:00 pm (Mon-Thurs)

Vestry

Wardens: Tom Cammisa & Jim Crawford

Rob Alexander	Samantha Gray
Mike Callahan	James McGovern
Bob deBruin	Kathy Mendall

Outreach- Alexis Alexander (516-742-3215)

Finance- Ted Weill (516-671-5649)

Trinity Episcopal Church

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