



# TRINITY TALK

December 2020

2400 N. Canal Street Orange, California 714-637-1390  
The Very Rev. Jeannie Martz, Rector The Rev. Annie Calhoun, Associate Rector  
email:churchinfo@trinityorange.org website: www.trinityorange.org

## CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00PM	CANDLELIGHT SERVICE WITH MUSIC AND HARP "Gift of Music" 7:30 PM (Service details will follow closer to the date)
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## CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00AM	HOLY EUCHARIST—ZOOM SERVICE
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## SUNDAY DECEMBER 29, 2019

10:00AM	DIOCESAN WIDE SERVICE ON FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE
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**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** The holidays can be challenging, exhausting, and just plain sad for folks who are dealing with the pain of loss. To honor our loss, on **Wednesday, Dec. 16th** we will **ZOOM** at 7 p.m. for a service of Scripture, prayer, and reflection. If this time of year is almost more than you can bear, please plan on joining us.

### CHRISTMAS PURCHASES

If you make any Amazon purchases through the icon on the Trinity Website, the church receives 4% of your purchase. If seven items are purchased in a month the donation increases to 7%. But you must access Amazon through the church website: [www.trinityorange.org](http://www.trinityorange.org). (On the home page, scroll to the bottom and click on the Amazon logo)

### WORSHIP AND GIVING SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

11/01	\$ 3,430	30 in person, 47 on-line, 32 communions
11/08	\$ 9,014	34 in person, 52 on-line, 30 communions
11/15	\$ 5,430	On-line Convention Worship, 32 communions
11/22	\$ 7,935	77 on-line, 9 views, 56 communions
11/29	\$ 8,240	98 on-line, 43 communions

## From our Rector

.....*The Very Rev. Jeannie Martz*

Episcopal author Madeleine L' Engle writes, "God, through the angel Gabriel, called on Mary to do what, in the world's eyes, is impossible, and instead of saying, 'I can't,' she replied immediately, 'Be it unto me according to thy Word.'

"God is always calling on us to do the impossible. It helps me to remember that anything Jesus did during his life here on earth is something we should be able to do, too.

"When spring-fed Dog Pond warms up enough for swimming . . . I often go there in the late afternoon. Sometimes I will sit on a sun-warmed rock to dry, and think of Peter walking across the water to meet Jesus. As long as he didn't remember that we human beings have forgotten how to walk on water, he was able to do it.

"If Jesus of Nazareth was God become truly man for us, as I believe he was, then we should be able to walk on water, to heal the sick, even to accept the Father's answer to our prayers when it is not the answer that we hope for, when it is *No*. Jesus begged in anguish that he be spared the bitter cup, and then humbly added, 'but not as I will. Father, as you will.'

"In art, either as creators or participants, we are helped to remember some of the glorious things we have forgotten, and some of the terrible things we are asked to endure, we who are children of God by adoption and grace.

". . . The chief job of the teacher is to help us to remember all that we have forgotten. . . . One of the great sorrows which came to human beings when Adam and Eve left the Garden was the loss of memory, memory of all that God's children are meant to be. Perhaps one day I will remember how to walk across Dog Pond." (*Walking on Water*, pp. 18-19)

Advent is a time for remembering all that we have forgotten, remembering the fullness of who we are called to be. In the early darkness of the evening, in the silence of the stars, in the "once in twenty years" close passage of Jupiter and Saturn, we are called to remember all that we have forgotten.

Advent is waiting. Advent is anticipating. Advent is reflecting. Advent is remembering.

Advent is hope and expectation, acceptance and courage. Advent is our past, our present, and our already-but-not-yet future. Advent is both cosmic and personal, both love and challenge.

Advent is a time to savor time, and this is why we have Advent calendars. Whether we find holiday pictures, Bible verses, small chocolates, or pet treats behind each door, Advent calendars help us mark time, notice time – savor time, time that all too often rushes past us in a blur.

Most of us prefer to frame our Advent waiting around the Holy Child, around the anticipated birth of Jesus in Bethlehem – but the Scriptural reality is that Advent begins on the cosmic level, with all of Creation involved. The ultimate victory has been won on the Cross, but the temporal skirmishes in our lifetime and in the cosmos continue.

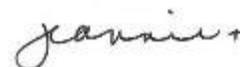
This is why, with our Gospel readings in Advent beginning with talk of the end times that are more frightening than not, this is why on this very same first Sunday, the first candle we light on the Advent wreath is designated the candle of HOPE.

As I mentioned in a recent sermon, I love the Rev. Dr. Will Willimon's observation that Christians are those peculiar people who "speak a word of hope, and then break bread in the midst of the storm."

Advent is hope. Advent is storm. Advent is the inbreaking of the cosmos, as well as the breaking of the bread in the midst of the storm.

And Advent is God's assurance that if we pay attention, we just might be able to remember how to walk across Dog Pond.

I wish us all a blessed Advent season.





- 12/11 Martin Miguel and Cheryl Sosa
- 12/18 Bill and Lynda Miller
- 12/18 Robert and Amy Morales
- 12/21 Jim and Betsy Little
- 12/28 Fred and Anne Warburton

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|-------|-----------------|-------|------------------|
| 12/01 | Patty Carlton   | 12/23 | Jim Little       |
| 12/07 | Roy Wojahn      |       | Tobechi Elendu   |
| 12/08 | Barbara Jensen  | 12/24 | Pete Weidner     |
| 12/10 | Charlie Wood    | 12/25 | Priscilla Selman |
| 12/12 | Doug Omer       |       | Arianna Jaime    |
| 12/15 | Robert Bilodeau | 12/28 | Salina Amaro     |
|       | Ian Hicks       | 12/30 | Chris Candela    |
| 12/18 | Betty Johnson   | 12/31 | Jeannie Martz+   |
| 12/19 | John McCulloch  |       | Victoria Knight  |
| 12/21 | Micki Ireland   |       |                  |



Dear Parents and Grandparents,

We miss gathering in-person with you and your families. Since we most likely won't be together for some of our traditional Advent and Christmas activities, we have selected a book to help you to celebrate.

You should have received from Amazon a book titled *"Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas: 100 ways to make the season sacred"*. It holds an abundance of ideas for making the Christmas season sparkle with faith, spirit and fun.

The book includes holiday prayers, practices, and stories grouped by the themes of the Advent and Christmas season. These include ideas for decorating, family time, giving, telling the story of Jesus and more. Here a just a few: making an Advent wreath, Christmas card prayers, Hot Chocolate gratitude party, Silent Night star walk, birthday party for Jesus, leaving hay for camels, and many more. There is also a chapter titled "Difficult Moments" with prayers for when the holidays are stressful or disappointing.

Advent begins on Thanksgiving weekend! Yesterday, Sunday November 29 was the first of our Advent worship services including our traditional lighting of the Advent wreath. This year we will be worshipping over Zoom and would like a family to light an Advent wreath at home for all to see. *If your family would like to volunteer please contact Annie.* There candles are lit over the four Sundays leading up to Christmas - 11/29, 12/6, 13 and 20.

With this in mind we encourage you to make an Advent wreath. It's a fun activity and instructions are in the book! This can be as simple with four candles in a circle or creative with greens.

As you move through the activities and crafts *please take some photos and send them to me.* We would love to share these and include them in our January 2021 newsletter "Trinity Talk".

We hope this book is an opportunity to add something new into your family traditions. We hope it brings you all joy!

Love,

Annie, Suzanne & Heather



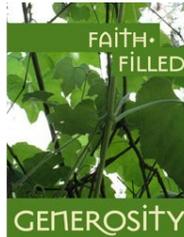
December 24	Closed
December 25	Closed
December 28	10am -1pm
December 29	10am -1pm
December 30	10am -1pm
December 31	Closed
January 1	Closed

We are gathering via Zoom each week to build our faith and our friendship. Sixth and Seventh grade students are getting together from 6:30 to 7pm and 8<sup>th</sup> grade and High School students from 7:30 to 8pm. We will continue to have youth group every Wednesday through the end of this year.

During our meetings we catch up with each other, study a Bible quote, pray and share our thoughts and opinions. There's also lots of silliness and fun. If your child hasn't joined in yet, please encourage them to give it a try!

Zoom invitations come from Rev. Annie each week, so just let her know: [annie@trinityorange.org](mailto:annie@trinityorange.org)

Due to the restrictions preventing us from gathering due to Covid, we will not have our annual progressive dinner this year. Look for more silly games and quizzes during our youth group meeting on December 23.



### Stewardship Update

A big thank you to all who have submitted their pledge to support the mission and ministries of Trinity in 2021! If you haven't yet, please send your pledge in through the mail, drop it off at drive up communion on any Sunday afternoon between 12 and 1, bring it to the office and slide it through the mail slot, or give on-line with PayPal at our website [www.trinityorange.org](http://www.trinityorange.org)

Your continued generosity demonstrates your faith and your hope in who we are as a community. The buildings of Trinity may be closed, but the church – that's all of us – continue to worship and serve God with our whole selves. It may look different, yet proclaiming the good news of the risen Lord, sharing God's love in tangible ways, growing deeper in faith through prayer and Bible study, practicing forgiveness and reconciliation, and loving our neighbors continues.

Generosity, especially financial generosity, is always an act of faith and trust, acknowledging that all we are and all we have are gifts from God. These gifts of our skills, our time and our money are best when shared. Thank you once again for being so generous.

Trinity Stewardship Team