



TRINITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 5, 2026

TRINITY CHURCH A Warm – Thriving – Christian Community

We are on Facebook! We invite you to “like” us!

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityChurchUptownSJ>

Our Parish Events Calendar is available on our Webpage! <http://trinitysj.com>

You are receiving this weekly Trinity Newsletter as you are a member of the Trinity family. Should you not wish to receive this, please indicate by return e mail.

Photo Credit – Uptown Saint John

You Tube Trinity Services: You can view Trinity’s recorded services by going onto YouTube and typing in Trinity Anglican Church SJ. That will bring you to our channel and all of the previously recorded services.



Happy Birthday – Your Trinity family extends birthday greetings to Lorraine Hamm. Happy Birthday from your Trinity family.

E-Offering Stewardship Option Trinity has presently 20 signed up using the E Offering Stewardship method. Thank you to all who are supporting Trinity through their regular stewardship, as this helps the Treasurer meet the ongoing financial needs of Trinity’s ministry. **If you are not currently a subscriber your**



Vestry members encourage you to check it out. By doing so no matter what happens during your week, month or year, once signed up you can rest assured your Trinity is being supported. Should you wish to join the E offering program, you can do so from your home by contacting the Parish Office at 506-693-8558 or trinsj@nb.aibn.com. Thank you for your continued support.

Income Tax
Receipts

Your 2025 Income Tax receipts will be available at Church on Sunday, February 8th and for those not attending regularly they will be mailed out the following week.

Prayers

We offer special prayers for:



Prayers for Ukraine Most Holy God and Father. Hear our prayers for all who strive for peace and all who fight for justice. Help us, who today remember the cost of war, to work for a better tomorrow and as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict, bring us all, in the end, to the peace of Your presence through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers for Russia We pray for all those in Russia who have been affected by this ongoing war of Ukraine. For the lives lost, the families torn apart and for those Ukrainians who reside in Russia along

with Viktoriia and Alex and their boys. We ask for their continued safety, a speedy resolve to this unjust attack and for a lasting peace between these two countries. Amen

Anglican Cycle of Prayer The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, Archbishop Andrew Chan. Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Shane Parker. Diocese of Québec, Bishop Bruce Myers. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Meduadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Teslin: St. Philip's. Archbishop David, retired bishop William and their families.

Prayer for Israel and Palestine we pray for the current peace actions. We hold both communities in our prayers as they commence rebuilding their lives and that the peace presently experiencing will live on. Amen

Prayers for the people of Venezuela that they will return to a democratic lead government and oppression and unjust treatment of their people will come to an end.

Parish Prayer Requests Judith Miller, Katie Kassner, Shirley Shaw, and William Teed. We also pray for those who suffer from any form of addiction that they may have the strength to overcome their desires and return to a healthier state of life.



This past week, the crew of the F/V Lily Jean were lost. The groundfish vessel went down off Cape Ann in brutal winter conditions. The community of Gloucester is a tight fishing community and have experienced this tragedy in their past with the most recent being six years ago with the loss of the crew of F/V Hayley Ann. We offer our prayers for the six crew members and the one observer on board; Gus Sanfilippo, John Paul Rousanidis, Sean Therrien Freeman Short, Paul Beal Sr., Paul Beal Jr., and Jada Samitt. We also hold up the community of Gloucester as they come together in support of one another in this loss.

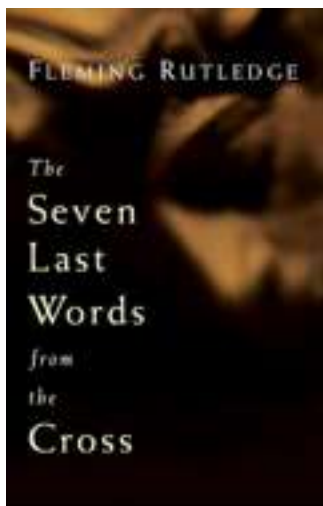
TRINITY's SERVICE CALENDAR

Date	Sunday	Service	Readings	Presider
Feb 8	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	BCP HC	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 112:1-9 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 Matthew 5:13-20	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 15	Last Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration Sunday	BCP HC	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 18	Ash Wednesday	BCP HC	James 4:6-11 Matthew 6: 16-21	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 22	First Sunday in Lent	BAS Eucharist	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	Rev. Steven Scribner

			Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11	
Mar 1	Second Sunday in Lent	BCP HC	Genesis 12:1-4 Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	Rev. Steven Scribner

Upcoming Services and Events

Shrove Tuesday	February 17th	Pancake Supper at 5:pm	
Ash Wednesday	February 18th	Service at 7pm	
Heritage Day	February 21st	Bennett Room 10:00am thru to 2:00pm	
Lenten Book Study / lunch	week #1	Thursday February 26	12 noon – 1pm
	week #2	Thursday March 5	12 noon – 1pm
	week #3	Thursday March 12	12 noon – 1pm
	week #4	Thursday March 19	12 noon – 1pm
	week #5	Thursday March 26	12 noon – 1pm
Greater Chapter Meeting	March 12th	Place and time to be announced	
Palm Sunday	March 29th		
Maundy Thursday	April 2nd	Pot Luck Super 5:30pm	Service at 7pm
Good Friday	April 3rd	12 noon – 3pm	
Easter Sunday	April 5th		
140th Diocesan Synod	April 18th	Fredericton – Topic- Future of Christ Church Cathedral	



The 2026 Lenten Book Study Resource will be 'The Seven Last Words from the Cross' by Fleming Rutledge [ISBN-10 9780802827869](#) or [ISBN-13 978-0802827869](#). Available wherever you buy your books.

Presently I have one book available that has not been reserved. Bring your lunch and join in the less formal discussions as we discuss the author's point of view. Discounted price is \$14.00 each.

Sunday's Message: Matthew gives us the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 As we begin to look at these Beatitudes let us reflect on the following; 1) Every one of the beatitudes has precisely the same form – they stand on their words alone. 2) The use of 'blessed' is a very special word. In Greek it would have been *Makarios* – which specially describes the gods – for us in Christianity it means godlike joy – triumphant shouts of bliss for permanent joy that nothing in this world can ever take away.

1) “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” Matthew 5:3

The Beatitudes - KJV

Matthew 5:3-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn:
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek:
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger &
thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted
for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This would mean in lay terms, ‘Blessed are those who realized their own utter helplessness, and who have put their whole trust in God’. This interpretation comes from looking at the word ‘poor’ from the original Aramaic and the Greek language – combining someone who is absolutely destitute – has nothing at all and someone who is humble and helpless and by being thus, puts their whole trust in God. By this they have become detached from material things realizing that these will not bring happiness or security – fully aware God alone can bring them help, hope and strength.

2) “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted” Matthew 5:4

The use of the word ‘mourn’ is deliberate as it speaks to one of the greatest of human feelings of heart ache and unrestrainable grief. One can look at this teaching in one of two ways; First, taking it literally as to one who has endured the bitterness sorrow can bring. By it, sorrow can show us the essential kindness of others and it can show us the comfort that God can and will provide. A second take on this could be the sorrow and suffering of this world – ‘Blessed are those who are desperately sorry for the sorrow and the suffering of this world’ - detaching it from specific people. Christianity is caring - and those who care for others suffering, sorrows and needs are truly blessed.

3) “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth” Matthew 5:5

Meek in today's language would refer to someone less forceful and possibly a little ineffective however in Greek, Aristotle would describe meek as being angry – angry at the right times and never angry at the wrong times. The wrong times would be when there is insult to ourselves, selfish anger, rather be angry in the right times when injuries are done to other people. So blessed to those who have self-control, show humility, know their own weakness and need.

4) “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled” Matthew 5:6

In today's world most do not know what it is to experience hunger or thirst, however back in the day – this would have carried very graphic images of basic human needs as Jesus sets up the focus on righteousness. This hunger is nothing a mid-morning snack will satisfy or a drive-through at Tim's will quench. Rather it is a hunger and a thirst for goodness. We never deserve however we are forever blessed by God's grace. We will go through this life still hungering and thirsting for this sense of

goodness fully knowing we are not ever shut out from God's blessedness. If we hunger and thirst, we will keep on seeking and searching!

5) "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy" Matthew 5:7

This is a New Testament statement of principal. To be forgiven we must forgive. As we find in James 2:13, ***"For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy"***. Jesus in His story of the unforgiving debtor Matt 18:35 says, ***"So my heavenly Father will also do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."*** The Lord's Prayer speaks directly to this, ***"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors"***. ***"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses"***. Matt 6:12, 14-15. So, it makes reference to – only those who show mercy will receive it.

6) "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God" Matthew 5:8

This is one of those 'mirror' moments! This is where we are called to stop and take time to examine ourselves – to the core. Of all the beatitudes this one can be considered to be the most demanding of ourselves. What motivates us – work for the service of work for compensation? Do we give for the sake of giving or are we focused on recognition for our generosity? Do we work within God's church for His church or for our own prestige? Jesus tells us 'only the pure in heart will see God' – this should give us a sense of pause. It is by God's grace that we can attempt to keep our hearts clean thus positioning ourselves for that greatest of all moments – seeing God.

7) "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God Matthew 5:9

To be referenced as the 'peacemaker' what does this instill in ones' mind? In Hebrew the word for peace is *'shalom'* and this means the absence of trouble while embracing everything which makes for a person's highest good. What this teaching is focusing on is those who face situations in life or the world, take action and resolve them for greater peace. Jewish Rabbis would go further and task all to establish right relationships with other people. In society and in the church, we often find those who are focused on division – and those who are focused on uniting people, the latter are doing God's work.

8) "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" Matthew 5:10

This teaching is a build upon what would soon play out for those who stood tall and were voiceful of their following of Jesus. A premonition if you will, looking back from our present perspective of what would and in some places in our world today still continues – we find the persecution for ones' belief. Jesus was being totally honest at this early stage of His ministry speaking of the cost of following Him. Think about the pressures on a follower of Jesus; being a mason – asked to build a temple for a pagan god or a tailor asked to make robes for a pagan priest. Not indifferent from where we might find ourselves today. For myself – I worked for a firm that I had to continue to stay true to my beliefs which were at odds with my employer and ultimately cost me my employment just over ten years ago. Christianity came at a cost and still does at times – even at the cost of family harmony at times.

As we go forward, let us take some time and put ourselves into the narrative of these teachings and see if there are some tweaks we might make to align more closely to God's will.

Neighbour Missional Outreach Opportunities

12 Neighbours:

The following items are being asked for in order to make their residents feel at home and cared for;

- Coffee Creamers (shelf-stable or refrigerated), coffee, sugar or sugar packets, coffee cups.
- Feminine hygiene products (pads, tampons, liners)
- Shampoo and conditioner (full size or travel size)
- Personal care items, Irish Spring, razors, shaving cream, towels, face cloths, skin care products
- Non-perishable food items: instant oatmeal, different types of snacks, KD microwaveable, Ramen bowls, bread or bagels, peanut butter, cheese whiz, juice boxes, pop, ensure
- Plastic or wooden cutlery, good winter socks, men and women underwear, flip flops for our showers, Tim cards, paper plates

Let us focus on being a contributor to 12 Neighbours throughout 2026.

The Great East Window Campaign 2025 - 2026

The project is estimated at \$350,000 and at present the revenue on hand and committed totals \$196,009 which represents 56% of the goal achieved to date.

This project involves the East Window maintenance, renewing the exterior safety glass, masonry repointing of the East Wall along with refacing the East Window sandstone tracery coupled with a total refinishing of the Sanctuary. It is the goal to commence this project by June 2026.

New signage posted:



Trinity Parking: There has been an ongoing misuse of the rented parking spaces on the Trinity property. Trinity rents out on a monthly basis twenty-two spaces at \$115 per space / \$2,530 monthly or \$30,360 annually. In effort to protect these parking spaces Trinity has posted No Parking Signage with the message Non-Permit Holders will be towed at the vehicle owners' expense and risk. Suffice to say, the subtle approaches over the years have failed to work. Signs have been posted on both entrances off Charlotte Street and on the light columns on either side of the steps leading to Germain Street. We do not wish to have to call the Tow Truck!

The New Brunswick Museum – Concept to Reality 2028:



On Saturday, January 31st, Dr. Laura Oland PhD presented a discussion on Alice Lusk Webster who had a formative presence in the New Brunswick Museum in which we all grew up with and love. Laura was the Kingston Peninsula Heritage's first presenter at the winter Saturday Speaker Series 2026.

Alice Lusk Webster was born in New York City the only child of her father's second family. She being much younger than her siblings was fortunate to have travelled extensively with her parents abroad which helped shape her love for art.

She married John Clarence Webster 1899, he having been born in Shediac NB, raised three children while living in Montreal, Chicago and then retiring in Shediac NB in their later years. Alice and John had their share of grief; their eldest son lost his life while in a training flight and their daughter died in a concentration camp during WWII. It was upon their move to NB in their retirement when her husband and she got involved in the development of the New Brunswick Museum which we know on Douglas Avenue.

The history of what we know as the New Brunswick Museum had its' origin in the Gesner's Museum of Natural History 1842 with a collection that grew from 2,173 items to over 300,000 specimens making it the first museum of its kind in British North America occupying a space in a building uptown. Admission was by membership only and only males could be members. In 1846 the Mechanic's

Institute took control of the Gesner collection. The Natural History Society of New Brunswick was established on January 29, 1862 driven by local interest in geology formed the Steinhammer Club to study local rock formations succeeding this Museum's presence in Saint John.

On March 27, 1929 saw the establishment of the Act Incorporating a Province Museum with the opening of the New Brunswick Museum on Douglas Ave. Saint John on August 16, 1934 and holding the distinction of being Canada's oldest museum. The site on Douglas Ave was chosen in part due to its' proximity to Vocational School. The date of the opening chosen to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the separation from Nova Scotia 1784. Interesting to note that society was still driven to be gender specific – in that only a male could be a curator.

With Alice's husband being a dominant player of the Museum development, she approached the Museum with a proposal of incorporating an Art Gallery in this new building. This was initially turned down to later being accepted as she was going to provide all the funding for the initiative and providing support funding for the Museum. She increased the Museum's focus for the local schools, a children's museum and providing educational loan kits. The Children's Museum opened in 1939 on the 1st floor for easy access being the first of its' kind in Canada. The Museum ran a Museum Club on Saturday mornings with upwards of ninety children / youth attending week over week.

Alice's passion provided financial support and display for uprising New Brunswick artists in the day, with a program titled 'Meet your own artist' and she on behalf of the Museum purchased early paintings from Miller Brittain and Julia Crawford to mention just a couple. Julia would go on teaching art in the local community and schools I believe.

The Webster's living in Shediac, would stay at the Admiral Beatty on a regular basis during their support of the New Brunswick Museum as many notes in the historic files were written on the Hotel's stationary.

John Clarence Webster died 1950 and Alice Lusk Webster died 1953 and are both buried at Shediac Cape NB.

Following the formal presentation a number of attendees shared connections with the Museum and artists named. I shared a comment that the late Natalie Noseworthy had shared with me a few years back. Natalie, as a young girl, received an unofficial tour on a Sunday afternoon of the soon to open, (the next day – Monday) New Brunswick Museum as her grandfather was the chair of the NB Museum board and had all the keys necessary. The New Brunswick Museum was opened to the public the very next day. Another comment, having just been introduced to the influence Alice Lusk Weston had on the Museum as we know it, it is hoped that there would be an Art Gallery incorporated in the new design in her honor. It is noted there is much presented around the province, plaques, written acknowledgements in papers and books of the efforts of John Clarence Weston and an absence of recognition for the work equally contributed by his wife Alice.

Dr Laura Oland mentioned that the scheduled opening of the enhanced New Brunswick Museum is set for the summer of 2028.



Brrr . . .

M/F Vargsund, an all-electric passenger/car ferry which links the two islands of Kvaløya and Seiland in northern Norway, has certainly proven its metal.

January 1 saw its maiden voyage with passengers set off in -25°C weather, and it has sailed regularly in similar temperatures since. At 50 metres in length, *M/F Vargsund* can hold 28 cars and 100 passengers.

While other car ferries operate as far north as *M/F Vargsund*, no others are powered by electricity. “This is not just about new ferries. It’s about the future. About showing that green technology works – even in the far north, even in tough conditions,” says the operator, Torghatten.



In addition, 95.9% of all new cars registered in Norway in 2025 were fully electric. Go Norway!

Thank you, Susanne for contributing to the Trinity Newsletter weekly. Love the stories you share.

Gloucester, Massachusetts – a community who lost fishermen over the years:



Gloucester, Massachusetts, lost more men to the sea than almost any town in America. In 1918, after the fishing schooner *Esperanto* went down with all hands in a gale, 55-year-old Portuguese – American fisherman Manuel “Manny” Silva lost his youngest son, Joao. Manny’s wife had died giving birth to Joao 19 years earlier. The sea had taken everything. Manny didn’t retire – he kept going out alone in his small dory every dawn, not for fish, but for closure. He searched the same waters where *Esperanto* vanished, marking spots on a hand-drawn chart with small stones he dropped overboard – one for each lost man. He never spoke of it, but every year on the anniversary he rowed to the spot, lit a candle in a lantern, and let it float away while he whispered names.

Townpeople thought he was crazy; kids called him “Old Man Sea”. But when storms came, fishermen watched for Manny’s lantern – if it stayed lit, they knew the weather would hold.

In 1930, at age 67, Manny didn’t come back from his daily row. His dory washed ashore empty, the lantern still burning low. The town searched for days but found nothing. Months later, a fisherman pulled up one of Manny’s stones in his net – attached was a small waterproof tin with a note in faded

ink: "If you find this, tell my boy I never stopped looking. And tell the others – the sea keeps what it takes, but it can't take memory."

The men of Gloucester kept Manny's lantern burning on the dock every anniversary for decades. Today a small bronze plaque on the waterfront reads: "He didn't bring them home – he never let them be forgotten." The sea remembers because he refused to stop searching.

Time Speeds By – Some 50 Years!



Do you remember where you were 50 years ago when the 'Groundhog Day Gale' blew through Saint John February 2, 1976? The severe winter story that hit the Northeastern United States and southeastern Canada.

For myself it was to be my first class day for my Machinist Block Release for Block 2 of the 4 Block Apprenticeship classroom training. Suffice to say, class was cancelled. Heather and my sister, Karen were students at Millidgeville North High School so I went there and picked them up and drove them home. Heather recalls that they had to run in groups from the classroom side of the school past the entrance glassed hallway, which were seriously deflecting under the pressures of the wind, to gather in the cafeteria area waiting drives home.

Living on Millidge Avenue, we were without power for a couple of days for certain. To put heat in our home, my father and I went out to my grandparents in the wee hours of the morning and picked up an oil space heater which used to be in our home prior to the furnace being installed in 1970. We had heat, flashlights and candles.

Remembering that age-old proverb, quoted by John Heywood's 1546 collection, 'ill wind that nobody blows good' – meaning – a loss or misfortune usually benefits someone. Well, I would clearly say the Groundhog Day Gale was that ill wind in style and I would classify myself as benefiting. You see, I fancied Heather well back in the day, and during those days of no power, Heather and family were over at our home for a portion of the power outage and here we are some 50 years later, approaching 45 yrs married, all worked out for me from that Groundhog Day Gale.

Myrtle Beach in February 1, 2026:

If Heather and I ever need a reason not to winter in Myrtle Beach SC this past weekend would surely be it!

Pictured below, the centre picture is the main office of Pirate Land where we go annually. Sub-zero temperatures in seasonal recreational trailers does not bode for a relaxing holiday on the beach not to speak of the frozen water lines that would round out this experience. Some might say that the climate is not changing, however last winter, a friend of ours that winters there from up north US had to purchase a snow shovel from Amazon due to a surprised snow storm.



Humour:



If you are into the age-old weather predictor – the groundhog – take your pick. Punxsutawney in PA says there will be 6 more weeks of winter while Shubenacadie Sam NS would predict there will be an early spring. So, if you do what I do, change the channel or groundhog till you get the prediction you want – take your pick – in a few weeks we will see which one was correct. Until then, it is still winter although these last two days at -1 deg seems Punxsutawney might have the edge.



New Years' Blessings 2026 – Reverend Steven