

# THE TRINITARIAN

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## Remembrance

### Rosa Parks

Reflections and Observations

Rosa Parks was such a quiet force for change in America that her death created a remarkable outpouring of homage and reflections on what her simple act of defiance meant 50 years ago and where we, particularly as African Americans, are today. The Trinitarian takes this opportunity to reprint her obituary from the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church (Washington, D.C.) service and highlight some of the comments and feelings expressed by our own Trinitarians.

#### ROSA LOUISE PARKS

February 4, 1913 -October 24, 2005

Rosa Louise Parks, a prime mover in changing the course of American history, sparked the modern civil rights movement in 1955 when she courageously refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus to a white man

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## Rector's Reflection

### St. James of Jerusalem

24 October 2005

United Nations Day

*Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required; and of him to whom men commit much they will demand the more. (Luke 12: 48)*

Beloved:

**T**his year exposed people living with advantage and abundance, especially in the Developed World, to increased and incredible depth of human suffering that none of us could even imagine or ever wish to experience. Beginning with the tsunami in Southeast Asia in January to Hurricane Katrina's tremendous overpowering devastation of the Gulf Coast in September, followed by Hurricane Rita, and now a massive and deadly earthquake in Pakistan, the world has been presented another challenge, especially since humanitarian efforts are threatened by insufficient funding. This fact, coupled with what is now described as "giving fatigue," makes the needy even more vulnerable. Stories of human vulnerability and strength, human insensitivity and hospitality continue to emerge and amplify the difference between those who are in desperate need and those who are able to help. Hopefully we will not know again what we discovered a few years ago, when we were all shamed by the indescribable long and ignored sufferings of many in parts of Africa.

However, in the wake of any suffering, it is hoped that we have learned not only that the poor are still with us, but that each of us is in some degree poor with sincere needs. Hopefully, we will all perceive that the manifestation of poverty anywhere is actually an expression of our own poverty, and that this phenomenon is a sickness that is alive in each of us. It is the realization, exposed by these crises, that each of us is poor and is in need of the other that

must continue to give rise to our moral obligation with the best intentions and actions that help those who are less fortunate and more deprived. The poor as we know them also provide us with the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of others, and to discover something about ourselves, something we may have forgotten or lost within — our humanity.

It is becoming far too easy for some of us to forget that we are human, and share a common humanity with others. Our increased lost or disregard for humility, and our callous indifference toward some of our brothers and sisters have led to the creation of a world that is becoming progressively more violent, intolerant and insensitive. Even more perilous is the fact that such violent and intolerant behavior really knows no boundaries and respects no borders. In our communities and our churches, in our streets and boardrooms, the perpetrators of this kind of social sickness persist because we allow their obsessive selfishness to force gross insensitivity upon the most vulnerable of our community, nation and world.

I am also aware that the aforementioned sufferings caused by natural disasters may not point to any human perpetrator, but they have revealed something significant about our world and our true selves. We continue to judge some lives to be more important and valuable than others.

Based on social standings, economic status or educational achievement, we believe some are more worthy of life’s advantages than others. But the fortunate should not have more rights to life than the poor. The strong should have no more privileges and access to life’s resources than the weak. All people deserve to enjoy the blessings of God’s creation. Yes, God has a special commitment and interest in the poor, the deprived and the less fortunate. Moreover, it is the calling and humanitarian responsibility of those who have the most to provide for those who have the least, especially in times of pressing need and great urgency. As our faith maintains, “Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required.” (Luke 12: 48)

All poverty is our poverty. And any poverty recognized among others reflects the beginning of the discovery of our own humanity. We are all called to be instruments of compassion, healing and hope.

Until next time, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

John T. W. Harmon+



The Trinitarian Calendar for Fall 2005			
Meeting Dates	Issue	Article Deadline	Distribution Date (est.)
September 11	October	September 17	October 16
October 9	November	October 10	November 20
November 13	December	November 10	December 11

Submit articles to: [bdhoward@alum.syracuse.edu](mailto:bdhoward@alum.syracuse.edu) and [m2moore@comcast.net](mailto:m2moore@comcast.net)

## HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

### “Club Trinity” Kicks Off Homecoming 2005

*By Barbara Howard and Mary Myers-Nelson*

Homecoming took on a new meaning when Trinity kicked off its three-day celebration on Friday, October 7 with a jazz concert. Cheryl Coleridge, the logistics coordinator, transformed the parish hall into an intimate, first-class, “Club Trinity” as the site for a primary Homecoming event, Jazz Night Out. The parish hall was aglow with soft candlelights atop crisp white linen table clothes. Soft dimmed lights adorned the windows and doorway entrances. Nearly 150 people braved the blustery wind and rain on a chilly night to groove to the music performed by the local contemporary jazz quartet, Jonathan Davis Projekt. Members of the quartet were Jonathan Davis on the keyboards, Steven Bundick on the saxophone, Rodney Lewis on bass, and Jay Nichols on drums.

The quartet blew out the parish hall with a dynamic and engaging performance playing a pleasing range of musical genres from R&B to smooth jazz to Caribbean music, often bringing the crowd to their feet with claps and chants of “play more!” There was so much energy and enthusiasm in the room that two of Trinity’s host committee members—Leo Williams and Mary Myers-Nelson—couldn’t hold back and began dancing and bumping to the beat of the music.

Hours before the concert, the food committee, lead by Lillian Taylor Wilkerson, prepared and later served delicious hors d’oeuvres of seasoned, baked wings, raw vegetables with different dips and various petit quiche that complemented the joyful event. A drawing was held during intermission and winners took home a bottle of great wine, a crystal glass picture frame and other door prizes, including a beautiful gift basket designed by Marcia Mullings filled with an array of gourmet treats and sports paraphernalia. Throughout the evening, photographer Michael Torrance of Creative Touch Photography snapped pictures, capturing the excitement and enthusiasm of the crowd, while Ken Broughton of Things, Graphics and Fine Arts sold contemporary African and African-American art, calendars, prints and note cards in the Trinity Room.

Trinity’s Homecoming Jazz Night Out with Jonathan Davis Projekt was indeed an enjoyable musical adventure that lifted the heart and raised the soul through the authentic and unique musical traditions of Black heritage.

*Jonathan Davis Projekt's Christmas CD*

*For You, For Christmas*

*will be on sale at Kemp Mill stores  
during the holiday season.*

### Family Day at Trinity

*Submitted by Carol Crecy*

The second day of Trinity’s second Homecoming Weekend focused on the family with a Health Fair, children’s activities and an indoor cookout. Although the heavy rain may have kept our turnout low, more than fifty (50) parishioners, friends and Howard University medical and dental faculty and students took advantage of health screenings and information.

We had the opportunity to have our eyes, ears and teeth checked, our blood pressure taken, testing for depression, diabetes, cholesterol and prostate cancer. Tables encircled the room with information about diet and nutrition, eldercare, identity theft, immunizations, Medicare prescription drugs, HIV/AIDS, and medication management.

The Tai Chi demonstrations included the Wednesday class regulars as well as those who were first-timers. The children enjoyed face painting and other indoor games and the adventurous from 8 to 80 learned how to make jewelry with beads.

A special thanks to TECW for lunch for the workers and the Men of Trinity for hot dogs and Turkey Burgers, chips and sodas for anyone who wanted them. On a rainy Saturday a good time was had by all.

## HOME COMING HIGHLIGHTS

### Bishop Preaches Homecoming Celebration

*By Raymond Blanks*

“Praise, my soul, the king of heaven,” the packed congregation bellowed out robustly the century old hymn as the crucifer, torch bearers, thurifer, the choir, the rector, two assisting priests and the guest preacher processed to the simple English style chancel and altar. A joyful noise unto the Lord was sung with vigor as Trinity parish began the final element of its three-day celebration. Incense wafted transformed the air and merged with the sounds of melodious voices in worship. Ushers presented parishioners and visitors with a colorful 24-page souvenir booklet that highlighted the church’s history, a biography of the guest preacher, letters from the bishop and rector, the District’s delegate in the Congress, the Mayor and the City Council’s chair. A proclamation marking the 112<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish from the City Council was provided by Councilman Adrian Fenty to highlight more than a century of worship, witness and works.

Trinity’s second Homecoming Celebration of its 112<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the splendor of worship was punctuated by the powerful preaching of the Right Reverend Richard B. Martin, the retired suffragan of the Diocese of Long Island. “I thank God for the privilege of being with you today,” the 92-year-old native of South Carolina remarked. Dressed in a black tippet and a bishop’s red rochet and a white chimere, he was helped to enter the pulpit supported by alcolyte Fitzroy Mills. Once positioned, he preached without notes or a manuscript as enthralled listeners hung on his stirring words.

The bishop observed in his moving sermon, “Here we are in shocking times and we are worshipping the Lord!” He added that praising the Lord in such challenging and changing times is “the only bridge between life and death.” He further declared that worship reaches all the way from earth to heaven, sustains all in both their ups and downs even when there are rocks on every side in our journey. “Everything is passing, nothing lasts and only God is eternal,” the bishop declared. Then he added with a pregnant pause, “Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me,” the theme biblical verse of the homecoming celebration.

“The main thing,” the bishop reminded, “is to keep the main thing the main thing.” He suggested that “We don’t live in a time when people tell or like the truth, and we wear masks.” He recalled several cardinal epochs in history that shaped the current culture such as the scientific advances, the throwing off of the bondage of oppression and colonialism, the unceasing cry for freedom and major Supreme Court decisions related to equality. A soulful synergy connected the preacher and the people.

Shocking times, the bishop added, requires that believers should “remember Jesus.” He explained, “When all is falling down all around us, remember Jesus. In life’s ups and downs, remember Jesus.” He went on and instructed, “You can fly twice as fast when you don’t fly alone”. He told a story of a goose that forgot that he was made to fly, forgot his destination and even forgot to go all the way on his journey to his destiny. In times of tumult, denial and deceit that surround our personal and public lives, the bishop declared, “Everything is coming loose, the Lord needs to come down in a hurry as we bless the Lord, O my soul.” He was helped to his seat after his sermon set the church on fire like the spirit that descended on the day of Pentecost. It appeared apparent that the congregation’s reaction was one of fullest satisfaction and amazement for the aged cleric as it exploded in applause. One member commented, “I can imagine what his preaching must have been like when he was younger.”

The service concluded with a final blessing by the bishop as the congregation sung, “Lead Me, Guide Me,” before deserting the sanctuary for a delicious repast and the culinary phase of the homecoming celebration.

The Homecoming Planning Committee included Dr. Dionne Jones, the chair, Ms. Mary Myers-Nelson, the co-chair and other members included Doris Brown, Lee-Folia Brunt, Cheryl Coleridge, Carol Crecy, Joan Curry, Barbara Howard, Kendell Matthews, Sai MacCormack, Michael Mullings, Herman Murray, Joe-Brenda Musgrave, Veronica Roberts, Charles Tolbert, Nnenna Uguri, Adrienne Vyfhuis, Lillian Wilkerson and Victor Phillips, Jr., who provided the graphic design for the souvenir booklet.

## Parish News

### Raymond Reher in the Community

It seems as though “everybody” does love Raymond, and that includes the Sligo Branview community and Melwood. Over the summer, Raymond has been recognized as an alumni of Melwood and for his contributions with the Sligo-Branview community volunteers in the fund-raising tour and plant sale. Most Trinity parishioners know Raymond Reher by name or by sight because he is the “go-to” person at all times. His volunteer contributions, it seems, go far beyond Trinity walls. Congratulations, Raymond. (See the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for photos.)

### Sunday Morning Humor!

*Submitted by Barbara Howard  
via e-mail*

Squirrels had overrun three small churches in a town. After much prayer, the pastor of the first church determined that the animals were predestined to be there. Who was he to interfere with God’s will he reasoned. Soon the squirrels multiplied. The pastor of the second church decided that they could not harm the squirrels, so they humanely trapped them and set them free outside of town.

Three days later, they were back. The third church succeeded in keeping the pests away. The pastor baptized the squirrels and registered them as members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

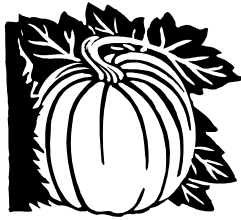
### Instructions for Life

*Submitted via e-mail by Barbara Mills*

1. Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risks.
2. When you lose, don’t lose the lesson.
3. Follow the three R’s:  
Respect for self  
Respect for others, and  
Responsibility for all your actions.
4. Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.
5. Learn the rules so you know how to break them properly.
6. Don’t let a little dispute injure a great relationship.
7. When you realize that you’ve made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
8. Spend some time alone every day.
9. Open arms to change, but don’t let go of your values.
10. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
11. Live a good honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you’ll be able to enjoy it a second time
12. A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life.
13. In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation. Don’t bring up the past.
14. Share your knowledge. It is a way to achieve immortality.
15. Be gentle with the earth.
16. Once a year, go somewhere you’ve never been before.
17. Remember that the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.
18. Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.
19. Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

*The Dalai Lama*

## Senior Ministry



### Autumn Activities

Our fall schedule has begun. Please plan to join us.

Scrapbooking    Mondays 11:00 am – 2:00 pm  
 Tai Chi            Wednesdays 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Our first Guest Speaker's Program , "Medicare Part D – Prescription Program, What You Need to Know," took place on Thursday, October 13, in the Parish Hall. The speakers--Mr. Brian Bullock, Manager, and Ms. Joyce Gray, Coordinator, AARP's Senior Medicare Error Patrol Project--were well received.

For Your Information:

Fall issues of the Senior Beacon have a section on Medicare Part D. The September 2005 issue offers these resources:

Medicare website        [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) phone numbers:

District of Columbia	202-739-0668
Alexandria	703-838-0920
Arlington	703-228-1732
Fairfax County	703-324-5851
Montgomery County	301-590-2819
Prince George's County	301-699-2893

Medicare Rights Center  
 212-869-3850

Medicare Rx Education Network  
[www.medicarerxeducation.org](http://www.medicarerxeducation.org)

Medicare Today  
[www.medicaretoday.org](http://www.medicaretoday.org)

## Scrapbooking

Trinity Senior Ministry's senior scrapbooking classes are back!

It's a guy thing, too!

### Top 10 Reasons why men should scrapbook:

10. It beats doing the dishes.
9. It's a sure way to document all of your "fish stories".
8. Women find it very attractive when their husbands scrapbook.
7. It's easy to do in front of the TV.
6. Your kids will see that at one time you did have hair.
5. It's a fun and inexpensive way to spend time with your wife.
4. It provides great bargaining power for the next time you ask your wife for permission to play golf with your buddies.
3. Scrapbooking scissors can double as goatee or nose-hair clippers.
2. You don't have to read any directions (although that helps!).
1. Scrapbooking involves lots of tools with sharp blades.

*Todd Hill, Creative Memories™ Consultant  
 Scraps September 2001*

Join other seniors for fun and fellowship, and our monthly gourmet excursions.

Instructor: Diane Robinson 202-291-0696

**SENIOR INTEREST SURVEY**

Our parish is interested in knowing what information and resources would help you understand more about issues for senior adults. It may be for yourself, your spouse, friend, relative or neighbor. We would like to bring resources to you that are helpful. Please take a few moments to give your opinion about topics that are of interest to you.

**Check all that apply:**

- General Information
- Care Giving (local/long distance)
  
- Legal Wills & Trusts
- Living Wills
- Power of Attorney, Conservatorships
- Financial Plans and Investments
  
- Long Term Care
  
- Exercise
  
- Volunteer and Employment Opportunities
  
- Plan for Retirement
- Housing Needs
  
- Health Issues
- Medicare/Medicaid
  
- Guardianships
- Mental Wellness
  
- Discussion Groups
- Recreation & Staying Active
  
- Family Relations
- Home Care Help
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your interest. We will let you know about resources that fit your area (s) of interest and how you may participate.

*For more information contact Diane Robinson at  
(202) 291-0696, Parish Contact for senior issues.*

# DECEMBER 2005

SUN		MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>4</b> 9 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Annual Mtg 12:15 pm Evang. Mtg. 12:30 pm Confirm. Class	<b>5</b> 11 am Scrapbooking 7 pm Advent Circle	<b>6</b> 10:30 am Tower Mass 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>7</b> 11 am Tai Chi Class 12:15 pm Eucharist 7 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm Al Anon	<b>8</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>10</b> 9 am Parish Life Mtg 9 am Layreaders' Mtg 11 am Children's Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 11 am Children's Choir Rehearsal
<b>11</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am DOK Mtg 9:15 am Church School 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Youth Chapel 12:30 pm DOK Jr. Mtg 12:30 pm Confirm. Class	<b>12</b> 11 am Scrapbooking 7 pm Advent Circle	<b>13</b> 10:30 am Tower Mass 7 pm Finance Com. Mtg 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>14</b> 11 am Tai Chi Class 12:15 pm Eucharist 7 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm Al Anon	<b>15</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>17</b> 10 am TECW Mtg 4 pm Christmas Pageant	
<b>18</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Men's/Boys' Bkfst 9:15 am Church School 9:30 am Adult Forum 9:30 am MOT Mtg 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Youth Chapel 12:30 pm Confirm. Class	<b>19</b> 11 am Scrapbooking	<b>20</b> 10:30 am Tower Mass 6 pm Vestry Mtg 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>21</b> 11 am Tai Chi Class 12:15 pm Eucharist 7:30 pm Al Anon	<b>22</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b> 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>24</b> 10:30 pm Christmas Eve Service	
<b>25 CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Youth Chapel  <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>26</b> <b>HOLIDAY</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b> 10:30 am Tower Mass 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>28</b> 11 am Feast of Holy Innocents Service 11 am Tai Chi Class 7:30 pm Al Anon	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8 pm AA Mtg	<b>31</b> 7 pm New Years Eve Service	

### December Calendar Highlights

#### Adult Forum - Advent Series, "Practicing Christian Faith and Hospitality"

Sunday, December 11      9:00 AM      "Faith and Hospitality in the Community and the Society,"

Sterling Tucker, Presenter

Sunday, December 18      9:00 AM      "Faith and Hospitality in the Work Place,"

Ronald Byrd, Presenter

#### Advent Circle

Monday, December 5      7:00 PM      Carol Crecy, Host

Monday, December 12      7:00 PM      Mary and Raymond Reher, Hosts

#### Men of Trinity

Sunday, December 18      9:00 AM      Men's and Boys' Breakfast

#### Christmas at Trinity

Saturday, December 17      4:00 PM      Christmas Pageant with Trinity Chancel Choir, Children's Choir,  
Bell Ringers, the Sunday School, and much more

Saturday, December 24      10:30 PM      Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25      8:00 AM      Christmas Day Services (Nativity of our Lord)

10:30 AM

Wednesday, December 28      11:00 AM      Feast of the Holy Innocents

Saturday, December 31      10:30 PM      New Years Eve Service (Eve of the Holy Name)

Sunday, January 1      8:00 AM      New Years Day Services (Holy Name)

10:30 AM

## Vestry Notes

### Vestry Actions

*Extracted from minutes submitted by Barbara Jarvis*

The Trinitarian *staff has extracted only the action items from the minutes of the Vestry meetings held on May 17, June 21, and September 20, 2005.*

#### May Actions

- ◆ Vestry Retreat. It was agreed that the Vestry Retreat take place on Saturday, June 25, 2005.
- ◆ Mid-Year Meeting. It was approved that the parish mid-year meeting take place on Sunday, June 26, 2005 and that there be only one service on the day of the meeting.
- ◆ Funding Request—St. Mary's Church. St. Mary's Church in Washington is planning a re-entry celebration. The church sanctuary was affected by construction in the area of George Washington University and it will be available once more. They are requesting that we purchase a \$150 ad in their souvenir journal. It was agreed that Trinity purchase a full-page ad at a cost of \$250. Mr. Brown also suggested that vestry members make contributions.
- ◆ Funding Requests— Regarding the Homecoming celebration, it was suggested that the Finance Committee recommendation concerning self-funding, be followed. Discussion of seed money and how it would be replaced was discussed. Carol Crecy stated that she would investigate the amount of seed money the Homecoming planners would require, and would report this to the Treasurer. Regarding the Evangelism Committee, requesting for funds to pay outstanding bills, it was agreed that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee for resolution.
- ◆ Afro-Anglican Conference (Toronto). Fr. Harmon will be attending the conference in Toronto from July 20-27. It was approved that the Rector be authorized to attend the conference.
- ◆ Rectory—Securing and Completing Renovation. The Property Report provided status update.

#### June Actions

- ◆ Vestry Retreat at St. Albans. Cora Dixon reported that a retreat for vestry members would take place on June 25, 2005. She stated that there would be no cost for the retreat at St. Albans.
- ◆ Mid-Year Parochial Meeting. Fr. Harmon stated that the parish mid-year meeting would take place on June 26, 2005. On that day, there would be a combined service of 8:00 and 10:30 that would take place at 9:00am.
- ◆ Appointment of Nominating Committee. Fr. Harmon asked to have Carol Crecy serve as chairman of the Nominating Committee. It was agreed by common consent that Carol Crecy would serve as chairman of the Nominating Committee.
- ◆ Appointment of Program and Budget Taskforce for 2006. Fr. Harmon asked that the vestry approve a Program and Budget Taskforce to assist in the budget process, and to have discussions with the various committees. He is requesting also that Herman Murray be considered to head this taskforce. The motion that Trinity have a workshop date set aside for the various ministries to come together to have their individual meetings to do their proposed budget and bring it to the Finance Committee passed with two objections. The taskforce will not be established, rather the vestry will convene a workshop. It was clarified that the fact that the various ministries would be coming together to discuss things at the workshop, would enable them to better understand the process and not to in any way impact the decision making of 'who gets what'. Groups would still have to make their submissions and decisions would be based upon the funds available within the budget.
- ◆ Resolution-Accountable Reimbursement Plan. Fr. Harmon presented a resolution for vestry action, concerning his change to an accountable travel reimbursement plan. After much discussion, the vestry voted with three objections to have an accountable reimbursement policy, the details of which are to be worked out by the Finance Committee and brought back to the vestry for approval.

- ◆ Amend and Renew Covenant with PC&CC. Fr. Harmon recommended that we renew and amend the covenant with PC&CC for use of the rectory. He recommends the following amendments:
- ◆ Increase reimbursement (payment to Trinity) by \$100 beginning in September 2005, until \$800 is achieved (currently they reimburse \$500).
- ◆ Grant permission for PC&CC to use three rooms on the second floor, excluding the closet that Trinity uses (currently they use two rooms).
- ◆ After discussion, a motion passed by common consent, stating in essence that, effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, PC&CC will reimburse Trinity at the rate of \$800 and may utilize the third room.
- ◆ Office copies of Documents for Diocesan Review. The Vestry agreed that the documents requested by Fr. Harmon be forwarded to the diocese. Barbara Jarvis will provide a copy of the 2004 Vestry minutes to the office as soon as possible.
- ◆ Dahlia House. It was discussed that the phone has already been placed in “vacation” status and no further action is required. Fr. Harmon stated that Dahlia house requires a security door so that the alarm can be turned off, thereby saving the cost of monitoring. The vestry approved placing a door on the Dahlia house.

### September Actions

- ◆ Item A: Ratify—Use of Dahlia House for Katrina Victims. Fr. Harmon requested ratification of the vestry decision that allows the Dahlia House to be used by flood victims displaced because of Hurricane Katrina. The following report was given:
  - \*Trinity has been working with the Red Cross and a family has been identified.
  - \*There are 8 people in the family (4 women, 1 man, 1 high school senior who is 18 years old, 1 girl 8 years old, 1 teenager who is 18 years old who has limited abilities).
  - \*Regarding skills of each (a bank clerk, one is disabled, a phlebotomist, a health assistant, a nursery school aide).
- \*The family is currently at the Days Inn on New York Avenue (paid for by the Red Cross)
- \*The family should not be housed long-term, perhaps 90 days.
- \*Cora is working with social services departments to provide food, assistance in locating mental health services, jobs, etc.
- \*The family will look at the house.
- \*Strong Families Social Services will also look at the house. This group will also assist with utilities at Dahlia House.

The following motions were approved by the Vestry:

1. The Dahlia House would be offered to the family
2. Cora Dixon and Ulonda Shamwell will chair the committee.
3. Trinity will pay the utilities at the Dahlia house should that become necessary.

There was a question as to whether Trinity could utilize some of the funds earmarked for “Katrina Relief” as donated by parishioners. Fr. Harmon stressed that since the funds were donated for this purpose, they could be used, if it becomes necessary. It was also stressed that Trinity needs to clearly state to the parishioners exactly where their contributions will be used and that vestry decisions should appear in the bulletin.

- ◆ Ratify—Bereavement Gift to sexton. Fr. Harmon asked that we ratify the vestry decision to provide a monetary gift to the sexton on the death of his son. The vestry agreed that any funds collected in excess of the agreed-upon amount would be given to Mr. Belt.
- ◆ Approve Date Change for November Vestry Meeting. At Fr. Harmon’s request, the Vestry concurred in changing the date of the November vestry meeting to November 29, 2005.
- ◆ Approve Date for Annual Parochial Meeting. At Fr. Harmon’s request, the date for the Annual Parochial Meeting was approved for December 4, 2005.

- ◆ Approve Funding to Virginia Seminary for Seminar-ians. Fr. Harmon noted that we have two seminar-ians and our obligation to the Virginia Seminary is \$800 per seminarian. The Vestry approved provid- ing funds to VTS for seminarian Burke. Donyelle McCray is applying for ordination and has become a member of Trinity parish. She will become an applicant for ordination through our parish. The relationship between the seminary and Trinity will change during this academic year, as it relates to Donyelle McCray. She is now Trinity's seminarian at the Virginia Seminary. The vestry approved providing the one-time scholarship of \$500 to VTS. Donyelle McCray will engage in a new ministry here, working with J2A. The relationship has changed from a supervision relationship to a pastoral relationship.
- ◆ Approve Reimbursement for Continuing Education. The Vestry concurred in having the treasurer release the funds for continuing education reimbursement.
- ◆ Approve Honorarium, Travel and Lodging for Bishop Martin. The Vestry approved reserving funds for Honorarium, lodging and travel for Bishop Martin and his wife.
- ◆ Covenant between Trinity, TEAMM and Davis Center. The Rector's Update Report provides a proposed covenant agreement. The Vestry agreed to postpone decision on this item until the October meeting.
- ◆ Resolution of Accountable Reimbursement Travel Plan. It was agreed that the Finance Committee should bring a policy on an accountable plan and present it at the next vestry meeting.



The members of Trinity's Parish Commission on Ministry (PCOM) for this year. Standing L to R: Melvin Ransom, Juanita Ransom, Veronica Roberts, Leo Williams, P. Ray Hall, Kendell Matthews, Bob Ellison, Rod Lewis. Seated: Donyelle McCray, Seminarian, Father Harmon, Lorena Thompson-Thompson.

*Not shown: Wendy Sherman*

**Rosa Parks...***continued from page 1*  
when ordered to do so by the bus driver. Her act triggered a wave of protest that reverberated throughout the United States. A seamstress by profession, Mrs. Parks was born February 4, 1913 to Leona and James McCauley in Tuskegee, Alabama. Mrs. Parks passed on October 24, 2005 in Detroit, Michigan, her home since 1957.

She was active in the civil rights movement long before her brave act of defiance and was secretary of the Montgomery Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). She is often referred to as “the Mother of the Modern Day Civil Rights Movement.”

She was one of the first women to join the Montgomery NAACP Branch in 1943. In addition to being the branch secretary, she was a youth advisor. She holds two life memberships in the NAACP.

Mrs. Parks’s activism started after she married Raymond Parks in 1932. The couple volunteered on voter registration and raised money in defense of the Scottsboro Boys, nine young African American men pulled off a train, falsely accused and found guilty of raping two white women in 1931.

Her action nearly 50 years ago captivated the nation and helped propel a young preacher, Martin Luther King, Jr., into the spotlight after he was drafted to head the Montgomery Improvement Association that led the boycott. Her act of defiance on December 1, 1955 reflected strength and bravery that belied her calm, dignified demeanor. For refusing to give up her seat, Mrs. Parks was arrested, convicted of violating the segregation laws and fined \$10, plus \$4 in court fees. Her action occurred at a time when African Americans who refused to give up their seat on a bus to a white man could be not only arrested, but even killed.

In 1956, the Parks’ case led to the United States Supreme Court ruling that segregated public bus service was unconstitutional. Following the bus boycott, Mr. and Mrs. Parks moved to Detroit because of concern for Mrs. Parks’ well-being in the wake of death threats and the bombing of churches and houses, including the homes of Dr. King and E.D. Nixon, president of the Montgomery NAACP Branch and a close adviser to Mrs. Parks. She became a secretary and receptionist to U.S. Representative John Conyers (D-

Michigan), a position she continued in until her retirement in 1988.

Mrs. Parks received numerous awards, including the 1979 NAACP Spingarn Medal, which is given for outstanding achievement by an African American. Other awards include the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1996) and the Congressional Gold Medal (1999), and the Martin Luther King Sr. Award. She was inducted into the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame in 1983 for her achievements in civil rights. She received the Rosa Parks Peace Prize in 1994 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Mrs. Parks attended rural schools until she was 11 years old, then Miss White’s School for Girls in Montgomery. Later she attended high school at the Alabama State Teachers College.

Mrs. Parks’s husband died in 1977. She is survived by 13 nieces and nephews.

### Observations/Reflections

**Raymond Blanks:** “My daughter Kelly and I waited for six hours to pay respect to the mother of justice lying in state in the Capital’s rotunda. What a wonderful tribute to a lady whose dignity inspired a movement and enabled us to reap the benefits of her act of defiance. Kelly had to be able to see and feel the gravity of history that this simple woman represented. It was powerful that so many people came out. We all recognized that she was authentic as a leader rather than a diva who only made pronouncements.”

**Mike Moore:** “I was able to pay my respects to Ms. Parks Monday morning, and although the crowds were not so intense as on Sunday evening, there was a steady stream of folks. I met two women on my walk from Union Station. One, a Caucasian about my age from DC, and the other a young African American about my daughter Adrienne’s age who came on the train from New York. The lady from DC had a digital camera, and she took our pictures at locations where that was possible. We exchanged email addresses so she can forward the photos. These personal encounters are a reflection of the breadth of Ms. Parks’ effect on our nation. Before going to the Capitol, I visited my mother and told her that I would be doing this in her

honor. I feel privileged to be an African American female, living the legacy of one of many strong women from their generation. I felt I was carrying on a tradition initiated by my mother who in her own way was at the forefront of civil liberties in my hometown (Fairmont, West Virginia) when I was growing up. Brief as the viewing was, it was an extremely moving experience.”

**Barbara Howard:** Sunday evening I journeyed down to the U.S. Capitol. The crowds were excited and very friendly. The crowd was primarily African American but with very large numbers of other ethnic groups represented. What I liked most was seeing the number of families who brought their young children. There were many young adults - teens and college age - also in attendance. I met several people from New York and Philadelphia. At 6:45 p.m. the motorcade finally arrived. The lights flashed and the crowd applauded as the buses passed. The buses were symbolic of that Montgomery day when Mrs. Parks refused to move. Finally after five hours in line, I passed through security and entered the rotunda. The coffin was lying in state in the middle of the rotunda. At the front and at the back there were two separate wreaths from the Senate and the House of Representatives respectively. Everyone was hushed and somewhat awed as they walked around the coffin. Some people said prayers, many said “thank you”. I felt so privileged to be in the same room with someone who truly mattered in our lives. I read an article in the Washington Post that said that two decades after Rosa Parks’ defiance, people in wheelchairs staged sit-ins in many cities because the public buses were not retrofitted with lifts. They named their defiance after Rosa Parks. Today, the majority of urban buses are now able to serve disabled people in wheelchairs. Little did we know that 50 years later the world of minorities would have changed so much. There is still work to do to right wrongs. I don’t feel, however, that we have people who are willing to stand up for what they want regardless of the consequences. Mrs. Parks could have been killed for defying the law in Alabama at the time. She stepped up and launched a movement that for most of us has enabled us to live the life that we lead today. May God bless her soul.

## Stewardship

### Stewardship - A Way of Life

*Cora O. Dixon and Olive Franklin,  
Chairpersons, Stewardship Committee*

Stewardship is a commitment to Christ and the Church. Make it your way of life. Stewardship is a year round commitment even though we generally come before you to talk about Stewardship during the fall months in preparation for “Commitment Sunday,” a Sunday that marks the new beginning in each member’s life of the intentional stewardship of time, talent and treasure. It is the culmination of the process, with a commitment to a “mission, not maintenance” approach, fueled by each individual’s intentional stewardship attitude.

In assisting you to make stewardship your way of life this year, consider the following:

- \* God has given us all we have: God gave you your life, your health and your property, the earth and the Gospel. Everything is a gift from God.
- \* Jesus invites us to be disciples: You are invited to answer Jesus’ call to follow His example of Christian living.
- \* Disciples are stewards: Being a disciple means committing your heart and mind ... your whole life ... to God! Being a good steward is part of discipleship.

More will follow on “Stewardship - A Way of Life” and on how being a good steward means being generous. For the next few months, a representative from the Stewardship Committee will share thoughts for you to consider as you pray over how you can make stewardship your way of life.

## EPISCOPAL TRADITIONS

**The Clerical Structure***By Art Taylor*

At Trinity Adult Forum we often discuss the traditions that help characterize the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and our Holy Eucharist (thanksgiving communion service) and liturgy (form and ceremony). See how much of this information you already know, and see if any is new to you:

Clerical Capacities:

A Bishop is the chief priest and pastor of a diocese. The diocese is always a geographical area that includes many individual parishes (i.e., Anglican or Episcopal churches) overseen by the Bishop. The Bishop receives authority from the “Historic Episcopacy” (often called the “Apostolic Succession”) of ordination that stretches all the way back to the original Apostles of Christ. A parish includes the immediate area where parishioners (i.e., church members) live and also the place where they worship. Another example of the use of the word parish can be seen in the present day State of Louisiana, where it applies to the political subdivision known in other states as a “county” (a European term originally referring to the area under the jurisdiction of a member of the royalty known as a Count).

The Bishop is responsible for ordaining ministers. There are also several kinds of assistant bishops. A Bishop Coadjutor is elected by the diocese as an assistant to the Bishop, and will eventually succeed the Bishop. A Suffragan Bishop also assists the Bishop, but has no right to succeed the Bishop. An assistant-to-the-bishop is not elected, but is instead employed by the Bishop. A Dean is the priest-in-charge of a cathedral (the building where the Bishop’s “cathedra” or chair is located).

A Priest (or presbyter, a short form of the Greek word *preysbyteros*, signifying an elder) is an ordained minister who is often assigned to lead a parish church. Priests have the authority to preach the Gospel, administer Holy Sacraments & Rites, and bless and pardon in God’s name. A Rector is a priest in charge of a church. The rector’s assistants are called curates. A Vicar is a priest assigned as

a representative of the Bishop to a mission church (i.e., one sponsored by the diocese and not fully standing on its own). A Deacon is an ordained minister assisting either a bishop or a rector. A deacon serving in a parish church is normally advanced to the priesthood after a year. A deacon’s principal duty is to minister to people in need. A deacon can also be responsible for the oversight of missions in the diocese, or other important assignments; a diocesan deacon may be given the title Archdeacon. A Canon is a priest who serves the diocese in a special missionary capacity, but another meaning of the word “canon” is a law of the church.

Clerical Titles:

People are sometimes unsure of how to properly address Episcopal clergy. A Bishop is addressed directly simply as “Bishop.” For example, you could say, “Bishop Chane, may I introduce my wife, Teresa?” A priest can be addressed directly and affectionately as “Father” (or “Mother,” if a woman). The priest is the father of the whole family of the church. If you are talking to someone else about a priest and you want to be very formal you might call him, “The Reverend Father John J. Smith.” However, if you are writing a letter, you would want to address it to “The Reverend John J. Smith.” The word “The” is always very important to include because you would never refer an Episcopal cleric as just “Reverend.” It is always “The Reverend” in spoken or written reference to them. A written salutation should read, “Dear Father Smith.” If the priest has a doctorate degree you could then call them “Doctor Jones.” If you are writing, you would address your letter to “The Reverend Doctor Paul King.” If the priest is also a Canon, it would be proper to address your letter to “The Reverend Canon Gloria Martin.” When writing a bishop, the salutation is “The Right Reverend.”

Of course none of these formalities are nearly as important as the church’s teachings about our duty to love our neighbors, family, friends, and enemies, and especially giving thanks for the Grace we receive by way of God’s limitless bounty.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

*At this time of giving thanks and spending time with loved ones, let us share our cornucopia of love, compassion, and faithful witness to the glory of God.*



The Reverend Canon John T.W. Harmon, *Rector*  
 The Reverend Canon Earl Neil, *Assistant*  
 Donyelle McCray, *Seminarian*  
 Priscilla Gay, *Parish Secretary*  
 Robert Belt, *Sexton*  
 George Clinton, *Warden, Tower*  
 Lee-Folia Brunt, *Choir Director*  
 Victor Phillips, *Organist/Assistant Choir Director*  
 Isaac Marks, *Treasurer*  
 Cora Dixon, *Assistant Treasurer*  
 Marshall Ford, *Assistant Treasurer*

### Vestry

Vincent Adams, *Senior Warden*  
 Mary Johnson, *Junior Warden*  
 Orlando Anderson    Marshall Ford  
 Kevin Berthoud        Darryl Harrison  
 James Brown            Barbara Jarvis  
 Carol Crecy              Chiemeka Opaigbeogu  
 Cora Dixon                Ulonda Shamwell

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