

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



Icon of the Holy Trinity — Jean-Marc Vingerhoets

Trinity Sunday - Feast of Title

Rite I Holy Eucharist

May 31, 2026 at 8 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider

Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music

Casey Woodruff, Senior Warden & Kathleen M. Murray, Junior Warden

*The Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Barbara & Alfred, Debbie and Carol Fricke by Arlene Fricke*

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

The bell is rung and the People stand.

Acclamation

BCP 323

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Presider Let us pray.

People **Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Great Commandment

BCP 324

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie

BCP 324

Presider Kyrie eleison.

People **Christe eleison.**

Presider Kyrie eleison.

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
who hast given unto us thy servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity,
and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity:
We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast
in this faith and worship,
and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory,
O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

First Reading

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so.

God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 8

Domine, Dominus noster

BCP 592

1. O LORD our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!
2. Out of the mouths of infants and children *
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
3. You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
4. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

5. What is man that you should be mindful of him? *
the son of man that you should seek him out?
6. You have made him but little lower than the angels; *
you adorn him with glory and honor;
7. You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *
you put all things under his feet:
8. All sheep and oxen, *
even the wild beasts of the field,
9. The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
10. O LORD our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Reader A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Homily

Andrew Kruger

Nicene Creed

BCP 326

The People stand.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Sally our Bishop, and Andrew our Rector, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald, our President, Rebecca Michelle, our governor, and Kathleen, the mayor of this town, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [*especially...*], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The People kneel.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name.
Amen.**

Absolution

BCP 332

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of his great mercy hath promised
forgiveness of sins to all those
who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and bring you to everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Comfortable Words

BCP 332

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that
believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

Peace

BCP 332

The People stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Announcements

Andrew Kruger

Offertory Sentence

BCP 344

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness,
and the power, and the glory,
and the victory, and the majesty.
For all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine.
Thine is the kingdom, O Lord,
and thou art exalted as head above all.

1 Chronicles 29:11



*The Ushers pass the collection plates among the People.
Alternatively, you may give to Trinity online:
scan the QR code and go directly to our Breeze link.*

The Presentation of Gifts

1 Chronicles 29:14b

Presider All things come of thee, O Lord:

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 340

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. For with thy co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, thou art one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Substance; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of thee, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People remain standing.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.

He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins.
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

BCP 337

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed, then the Presider says

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs
under thy Table.
But thou art the same Lord
whose property is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.**

Invitation

BCP 338

Presider The Gifts of God:
People **For the People of God.**

Holy Communion

The ushers guide the people to receive Holy Communion. All who hunger for God, including children, are cordially invited to share the Gifts of God offered at this table. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here.

All persons may, but no person must, receive communion in both kinds to receive the full spiritual benefits of communion. Wine is offered by way of a sip from the common cup. You may choose to receive only the host.

Gluten-free wafers are available by simple request to the priest.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

Presider Let us pray.

The People stand, and all pray together

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Blessing

BCP 339

And now may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The ministers recess.

Dismissal

BCP 340

Presider Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**



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For Friends, Visitors and Newcomers

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church in Cranford, New Jersey. Thank you for joining us in worship. The bulletin is designed to make you feel at home and includes everything you need for the service (liturgy, hymns, rubrics, etc.). Please connect with us; introduce yourself to the ushers so they can make you feel more comfortable. All are invited to Fellowship Hour in Sherlock Hall immediately after the service.

An email blast is sent every Thursday by 2 PM with hyperlinks to sign-up sheets, methods to contribute to the parish or other charitable organizations, ways to contact individuals or receive information. Please contact the parish office to receive it or alternative methods of communication.

What you need to know today...

Financial Snapshot As of April 30, we have received \$60,000 versus \$78,000 pledged year to date. Thank you for the continued support; if the financial situation has changed or to adjust your pledge, please inform the financial secretary, Carol Beier.

Annual Trinity Sunday Barbeque Today after the 10 AM Eucharist.

Cranford High School Madrigal Choir Today at 1:30 PM in the church. The choir presents its annual spring concert; the performance is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Cranford High School choral program. The 2026 James Lenney Memorial Choral Scholarship will be awarded to two Cranford High School students this year. Sofia Monroy will attend Ithaca College and Christopher Ugliodoro, Valedictorian of the Class of 2026, will attend Princeton University. Both are members of the Cranford High School Concert Choir and Madrigal Choir. Established in 2013 by friends and loved ones of Jim Lenney, longtime Music Director at Trinity Church and Choral Director at Cranford High School, the scholarship honors his legacy by supporting graduating choral students. The scholarship continues through the generosity of parishioners and Trinity's stewardship of the fund. Those interested in contributing may speak with Anthony Rafaniello.

"Care for Moms & Newborns" Today is the last day that the Outreach Committee is collecting donations for this project, through Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD), which connects expectant mothers with local health care providers and critical education programming about food and nutrition to keep both mother and baby healthy.

What you need to know this week...

The Daily Offices Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are offered online from Monday-Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM.

Parish Office Hours Office Manager Marion Nechuta is available Tuesday through Thursday from 12 noon to 3:30 PM.

Handbells and Choir Rehearsals This Wednesday, June 3, there are no rehearsals; normally for Handbells is 7 to 7:50 PM; Adult Choir is 8-9 PM.

Trinity Men's Group This Saturday, June 6 at 8 AM in Witherington Hall.

What you need to know in the future...

Trinity Forum Next Sunday, June 7 in Witherington Hall after both services. An informational forum, including intercultural communication awareness, will be held in preparation for the Taizé service and Potluck dinner with our brothers and sisters from St. John's in Elizabeth.

Outreach Meeting Next Sunday, June 7 at 11:30 AM in Witherington Hall.

Confirmation Class Next Sunday, June 7 from 5 to 7 PM in Witherington Hall.

Trinity Women's Group Monday, June 8 from 7 to 8 PM online. This is the last meeting before the summer break.

Taizé Service and Potluck Dinner Thursday, June 11 starting at 7 PM hosted at Trinity. Connect with our neighbors from St John's in Elizabeth. Contact Fr. Andy if you are willing to champion the Taizé set up, or hall set up, or potluck planning and organization.

Juneteenth Friday, June 19 at 12 noon, the church bell will be rung to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.

Summer Schedule Sunday, July 5 to Sunday, August 30, there is only one Sunday service at 9 AM.

Episcopal Church Women Book Scholarship High School Seniors can now apply for a book scholarship from Trinity's ECW. Scholarship applications with reference letters must be received by the parish office by Sunday, June 21. Application is on email blast.

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle Both are individually available for personal attribution, to remember loved ones, to honor others, to celebrate lives. Anyone can make a request; there is no fee. Email the office by 4 PM Wednesday each week; multiple attributions are allowed. Altar flowers cost the parish \$75 per week, and are a line item in the church budget. Donations towards that are gratefully appreciated and may be made anonymously via the collection plate or through the office.

Trinity Sunday

The First Sunday after Pentecost is a celebration of the Holy Trinity. This is not, however, a celebration of a doctrine, but the celebration of the God whose self-revelation is as an interaction of love between Persons. The doctrine came about as the Christian attempt in human language to express our experience of God: an experience that we are God's children, we are the brothers and sisters of God incarnate, and we are people who find the Spirit of God living in us. Thus, the names given to God's action toward us and God's own being are Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The first account of creation is our reading from the Hebrew Scriptures. While the original writers had no idea of God as the Holy Trinity, Christians have noted that in the act of creating, God, God's Word, and the Spirit or Wind of God are used as terms for God's action. In the New Testament reading, we hear in its concluding Grace the earliest Christian formulary of the Trinity, a passage familiar from the closing of Morning and Evening Prayer.

God is most clearly revealed as the Trinity of Persons in Unity of Being in baptism. It is there that we are adopted as children, thus made brothers and sisters of God's Son, and filled with the Holy Spirit of God. As we celebrate the Eucharist, we find our lives as a community drawn into the community of love that we name the Holy Trinity.

The Trinity Tower Bell

The bell that hangs in Trinity Church's tower was cast in 1875 by Meneely & Kimberly, Founders, of Troy, New York, one of the most respected American bell foundries of the nineteenth century. The Meneely foundries produced thousands of bells for churches, fire departments, schools, and civic buildings throughout the United States, and were especially renowned for the beauty and resonance of their bronze bells. Trinity's bell originally hung in the old Cranford firehouse before being purchased by Trinity Church on June 7, 1926 and installed in the church tower, where it has called worshipers to prayer for the past century.

On Trinity Sunday, the parish gathers to rededicate this historic bell and to give thanks not only for a cherished part of Trinity's history, but also for the deeper spiritual meaning bells have carried throughout Christian tradition. For centuries, church bells have sounded across towns, villages, and cities as calls to prayer, worship, and holy remembrance. Long before watches and smartphones ordered daily life, bells marked sacred time, reminding the faithful that every hour belongs ultimately to God.

In the Christian tradition, bells have always been more than practical instruments. They are signs of the Church's presence in the world and symbols of God's invitation to the rhythms of prayer and worship. Their sound reaches beyond church walls into streets, homes, and neighborhoods, proclaiming that Christ continues to gather a people in hope, mercy, and love. Bells announce feasts and celebrations, accompany weddings and funerals, and summon communities together in moments of joy, sorrow, danger, and thanksgiving. In this way, bells participate in the mission of the Church itself: to proclaim good news and draw people toward the life of God. Their voice becomes woven into the spiritual memory of a parish community.

The history of Trinity's bell makes this celebration especially meaningful. Before calling worshipers to prayer at Trinity Church, the bell served the wider community through the Cranford Fire Department. Once used as a summons in moments of urgency and need, it now continues its vocation as a sacred summons – a call to gather, pray, serve, and love. Its story reminds the parish that the work of the Church is never separate from the life of the community around it. On this Trinity Sunday, the bell is rededicated to the glory of God and to the mission of Christ's Church. May its ringing continue to echo through the parish and town as a voice of welcome, hope, prayer, and joy for generations to come.

Thanksgiving for Our 150th Anniversary

"All things come from you, and of your own have we given you." ~ 1 Chronicles 29:14

In 2022, Trinity Church celebrated its 150th anniversary with a yearlong series of events and commemorations. As part of that celebration, beginning in 2019 people were given the opportunity to make a financial gift to several "societies," each designed to enhance a specific aspect of our communal life together. Those societies included Cornerstone, Worship, Outreach, Greening, and Legacy.

During the campaign, forty-seven individual or family units pledged gifts to one or more of those societies. Some donations were one-time gifts, and others were multiyear pledges. The total amount generously pledged was \$321,741.77.

Astoundingly, as of the end of 2025, we received 100% of those pledges! That is a remarkable achievement, and demonstrates the faithful generosity of the people of Trinity Church.

Your gifts supported a wide variety of amazing projects: the commissioning of a new baptismal font; the planting of 14 legacy trees around the campus; the installation of organ trumpets; a \$10,000 gift as a Founding Congregation of "Episcopal Community Services" of the Diocese of New Jersey; and the completion of several significant capital projects, including new windows in Sherlock and Witherington Halls, and an accessible bathroom in Sherlock Hall.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the 150th Anniversary Fund. Your generosity helped us to fulfill the commitments of the 150th Anniversary Preparatory Collect: to honor our past, live out our baptism today, and serve future generations.

With Gratitude,

The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry



Website: TrinityCranford.org

Instagram: [@trinity_cranford_1872](https://www.instagram.com/trinity_cranford_1872)

Facebook: Trinity Episcopal Church, Cranford

Connect to Online Services and Meetings: us04web.zoom.us/j/595488321

Meeting ID: *595 488 3214*

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