

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



“The Raising of Lazarus” — Caravaggio

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rite I Holy Eucharist

March 22, 2026 at 8 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider

Anthony Joel Rafaniello, Director of Music

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

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

The bell is rung and the People kneel.

Acclamation

BCP 323

Presider Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People **God's mercy endureth for ever.**

The Decalogue

BCP 317

Presider God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor thy father and thy mother.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 320

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our
own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to
have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to
have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto all people
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Absolution

BCP 320

Silence is kept then the Presider and People say

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission
of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life,
and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

BCP 167

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

O Almighty God,
who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men:
Grant unto thy people
that they may love the thing which thou commandest,
and desire that which thou dost promise; that so,
among the sundry and manifold changes of the world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The People sit.

First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader A reading from the Book of of the Prophet Ezekiel.

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

De profundis

BCP 784

1. Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
2. If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O LORD, who could stand?
3. For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
4. I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
5. My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
6. O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
7. With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Reading

Romans 8:6-11

Reader A reading from St Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law — indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Gospel

John 11:1-45

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

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."

The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth.

Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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.

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.**

Peace

BCP 332

The People stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Offertory Sentence

BCP 344

If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. *Matthew 5:23,24*



*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 I

BCP 333

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; who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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.**

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament,
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, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with 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 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

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 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**



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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. Father Andy is in the narthex (entrance) at the end of the service; it is an opportunity to connect on a more personal level. All are invited to Fellowship Hour in Sherlock Hall, immediately after the service.

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

Cover art

"Raising of Lazarus" is a canvas painting by Italian artist Caravaggio from c. 1609. It is held in the Regional Museum of Messina, in Messina. The old story that Caravaggio had a freshly buried body exhumed for this painting is "probably apocryphal, but not beyond the bounds of possibility" -[John Gash].

What you need to know today...

Vestry Meeting Today at 10:30 AM in Witherington Hall, please pray for the leadership of our parish:

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in Trinity's Vestry for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fellowship Hour Today, in Sherlock Hall, immediately after this service; coffee, tea and snacks are provided.

Children's Choir The choir rehearses at 11:30 AM in the church.

"Wells & Water Systems" Outreach is collecting for the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) project until April 12. The goal is to raise \$750 for a share of a well. More information on this program is in the email blast. Please donate online or make out checks to Trinity Church with "Wells" in memo line.

Easter Flowers As part of the preparation for celebrating Pascha/Easter, please contribute towards the flowers this year. Envelopes marked for this purpose are in the narthex of the church. Alternatively, give to Trinity online and record 'Easter Flowers' in the memo line. All remembrances must be logged online via the QR code (below) or via the link in the email blast before March 22. Loved one's names will be remembered in the Pascha/Easter Bulletins, and at Morning Prayer during Paschal/Easter week each person shall be prayed for by name.



What you need to know this week...

Parish Office Hours Office Manager Marion Nechuta is available Tuesday through Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 PM. Please call before arriving; at other times she may still be contacted via parish email.

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer Monday to Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM, respectively, online.

Cranford's 15th Annual Community Holocaust Day of Remembrance Wednesday, March 25 at 7 PM at Hillside Avenue School.

Handbell Choir There is rehearsal this Wednesday, March 25 from 7 to 7:50 PM in the church.

Adult Choir Rehearsal is this Wednesday, March 25 from 8 to 9 PM in Witherington Hall.

Compline There is no Compline for the next five weeks due to the Lenten Course (see details below).

Evensong This Thursday at 7:30 PM as part of the Lenten Course (see details below).

What you need to know in the future...

Trinity's Spring Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner Friday, April 17 from 5 PM to 8 PM. (gluten-free available). Come for a delicious meal and fun evening. 50/50 and basket raffles available. Tickets for adults are \$20; children under 12 are \$5. To purchase tickets, see Cynthia Kolbe after the 8 AM service, see Kathy Murray or Susan Nelson after the 10 AM service.

Trinity Senior Youth Mission Trip Saturday, June 20 through Friday, June 26 for high schoolers and includes whitewater rafting and serving impoverished communities in West Virginia. Check this week's email blast for more information.

Cranford's Annual Community Holocaust Day of Remembrance

Cranford's 15th Annual Community Holocaust Day of Remembrance will be held this Wednesday, March 25 at 7 PM at Hillside Avenue School. It is organized by the Cranford Clergy Council, the Cranford Interfaith Human Relations Committee, Cranford Public Schools, and St. Michael School. This annual event aims to honor the memory of the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust while educating about the horrors of genocide. This year's theme is "Enduring Lives: What We Protect, We Must Remember." We honor the individuals who risked their lives to hide and rescue children and adults of the Holocaust and to preserve the truth for future generations. It challenges us to reflect on our responsibility to engage with their accounts and ensure their stories are never forgotten.

This event is free and open to the public. It will also be recorded and aired on Cranford's TV35. Our keynote speaker will be Lydia Fogelman, daughter of survivor Phyllis Fogelman. Lydia will recount her mother's experience in the Lvov Ghetto in Poland, where she witnessed countless atrocities before her family escaped and spent two years in hiding.

Fr. Andrew Kruger of Cranford's Trinity Episcopal Church and chair of the Cranford Clergy Council will introduce the performances and speakers, which include Cranford Township Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty and Cranford Public Schools Superintendent Mark Cantagallo. Performers include the Dance Ensemble and the Madrigals from Cranford High School, as well as the orchestra from Hillside Avenue School, the chorus from Orange Avenue School, and original reflective poetry from St. Michael School students.

Support Holy Land ministries through Good Friday Offering

For more than a century, Episcopalians have given generously to the Good Friday Offering, which supports the vital work and ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. Today, the need of the church in the Holy Land is greater than ever, particularly given the recent escalation of war in the Middle East, and I hope you will join me in making a generous gift today by scanning the QR code.

I am in frequent touch with Archbishop Hosam Naoum, who leads the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, and I know how urgently he and his people need our support as they alleviate suffering and provide hope to God's people of all faiths. The Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey recently gave the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem \$1 million to support medical and trauma care for children, youth, and families in Gaza and the Palestinian territories, and I am hoping that we can build on that extraordinary gift with this year's Good Friday Offering. Your gift will support:



- al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, which has continued serving patients during the Israel-Hamas War amid bombardment, devastating shortages of food, water, and medicine, and extended power outages.
- St. George's Church in Baghdad, Iraq, and its medical center.
- An eye clinic at Christ Church in Yemen.
- All Saints' Episcopal Church in Damascus, Syria.
- All Saints' Episcopal Church in Beirut, Lebanon.

The Episcopal Church supports just and sustainable peace in the Holy Land and around the world. While we pray and work for peace, our siblings in the Holy Land will continue to serve God's people with hospitals, schools, orphanages, and humanitarian aid programs. These ministries serve people of all faiths without distinction, bearing witness to the power of hope and healing across divides. Together, we can support the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East as it turns despair into hope for God's people in the land where our faith was born.

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church

Lectionary & Liturgy

Welcome to our parish on the Sunday of Lazarus. The story of the raising of Lazarus is the final one of the Lenten gospels that opens the minds of the baptismal candidates to the meaning of baptism (and it reminds us of the resurrection life we have already received by water and the Holy Spirit). We hear in this story the growing awareness of the disciples of Jesus as the Christ and as the source of resurrection and life.

The Hebrew reading looks forward to resurrection as the final conclusion of God's plan of salvation. In the prophet's vision of the valley of dry bones, note that it is God's Word who raises them up, and God's Spirit who gives them flesh and life. So it is with us who are baptized. Christ, the Word of God, and God's Spirit have given us a share in the resurrection life of God's Kingdom.

The second reading contrasts those who live in the flesh, that is, the unredeemed world, with those who live in the Spirit of Christ. All baptized persons live in that Spirit and, says Paul, God gives life to our mortal bodies through the Spirit. The resurrection of Christ becomes our resurrection as we engage in the Eucharistic feast and meet the one who is the Resurrection and the Life.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.

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Installation of the new Archbishop of Canterbury

Anglicans and Episcopalians around the world are preparing to celebrate Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally on March 25 at her formal installation at Canterbury Cathedral, which will be attended by Anglican leaders and [livestreamed](#) to the Anglican Communion's 42 provinces.

Mullally took office in January as the 106th archbishop of Canterbury and the first female bishop to hold that office. Her upcoming installation, also known as an enthronement, marks the start of her public ministry as the head of the Church of England and as a "focus of unity" for all Anglican provinces, including The Episcopal Church, that have historical roots in England.

And to start that ministry, Mullally has chosen to hit the ground walking, literally. On March 17, she was to begin a [six-day walking pilgrimage](#) from London to Canterbury about 140 kilometers away (about 87 miles), accompanied by her husband, Eamonn, and others. They are following the Becket Camino route, from St. Paul's Cathedral to Canterbury Cathedral.

"As I prepare for my installation at Canterbury Cathedral, it feels deeply humbling to be following in the footsteps of those who have walked this ancient route," Mullally said in a news release. "I'm looking forward to visiting local churches, cathedrals and holy sites along the route – and to meeting people, praying with them and hearing their stories. As I walk this path I will be praying for our Church and our world, and asking God to bless those we meet."

Her installation service starts at 10:30 a.m. Eastern March 25 and will be livestreamed on the [Church of England's YouTube page](#) and on [BBC One](#).

Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe will lead a delegation from The Episcopal Church attending the service, including House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris.

"Bishop Sarah is known in the Church of England as a wise and steady leader, a faithful advocate for the leadership of women in the church, and a bishop who will be committed to safeguarding vulnerable people and victims of abuse," Rowe [said in a statement released](#) after Mullally was named archbishop of Canterbury in October 2025.

"I look forward to working with her at the primates meeting and across the Anglican Communion," Rowe said.

David Paulsen; senior reporter and editor for Episcopal News Service

Holy Week & Pascha/Easter at a Glance

Palm/Passion Sunday March 29; Rite I Holy Eucharist at 8 AM and Rite II Holy Eucharist at 10 AM.

Passions of the Soul Evensong Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week (March, 30, 31, & April 1) at 7:30 PM in the Church; services with a simple soup dinner.

Maundy Thursday April 2, the liturgy, including the washing of the feet is at 7:30 PM in the Church. This year we welcome the Calvary Lutheran congregation who will join us for the service, and their pastor, the Reverend Kathryn S. Irwin will preach.

Maundy Thursday Vigil Immediately after the Maundy Thursday service; it's an opportunity to keep vigil in the church, just as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane. Please sign up (via the email blast) for one of the hours of watching and praying.

Stations of the Cross Friday, April 3 at 8:30 AM in the Church.

Clergy Council Good Friday Service April 3 at 12 noon, hosted this year by Calvary Lutheran Church.

Good Friday April 3 at 3 PM, the liturgy, including the veneration of the cross, in the Church.

Paschal Vigil Holy Saturday, April 4 at 7:30 PM. This year we are invited to join Calvary Lutheran (108 Eastman St, Cranford) at 7:30 PM. Come and support Fr Andy who will be preaching at this service.

Easter Sunday April 5, Rite I Holy Eucharist at 8 AM and Rite II Holy Eucharist at 10 AM.



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