

TRINITY WEEKLY NEWS

From Canon Rob...

The Toasted Cheese Sandwich



Sometimes life is more simple than we think!

There is a marvellous sequence in one of C. S. Lewis's books. An old tramp and a younger man named Mark are held captive in a situation fraught with danger. Mark points out that they are in considerable danger. The tramp offers his solution. "Ah," said the man approvingly, "I got a plan." "What is it?"

"Ah," said the man, winking at Mark with infinite knowingness and rubbing his belly. "Go on. What is it?" said Mark. "How'd it be," said the man. . . . "How'd it be if you and I made ourselves a nice bit of toasted cheese?"ⁱ

The situation is not one that either the tramp or Mark could do anything about. Mark is a well-educated young man concerned with the potential danger. The tramp, a simple man, was more concerned with the immediate present and making the best of a difficult situation.

I would not counsel passivity in the face of things that we can do something about, and our Christian faith is not a faith of passivity, nor is it a faith that ignores the reality of the present. On the other hand, the tramp has a point. His main thing is to enjoy the present and make of it what he can. While we can learn from the past if we will, there is no point in trying to relive the past; that never works. The future is not something within our grasp. What the tramp does is live in the present. There are times when planning to make a toasted cheese sandwich is just the right thing.

There is a Zen story about a man who is being chased by a tiger and leaps over the edge of a cliff to escape. As he falls he grasps the branch of a tree and hangs dangling over a precipice. Then he spies a strawberry growing out of the craggy side of the cliff. "My, how sweet that strawberry tasted."

If we try to live in the griefs of the past or live in fear of the future, we will miss the simple joys of the present. The philosopher Pascal would remind us that we have pain in the present. And so? Should that prevent us from accepting those moments of love, of joy, of beauty that flow to us in the present moment; the purr of a cat, the happy wagging friendship of the family dog, the love of a child, or a parent, or a friend, the beauty of a sunset, the wonder of a balmy day in the middle of winter or the wonder of cold crisp winter day. St. Paul counsels us, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."ⁱⁱ Sometimes a toasted cheese sandwich is really just the right thing.

ⁱ C. S. Lewis, *That Hideous Strength*, (New York: Scribner, 1974) p. 309

ⁱⁱ *Philippians* 4:8

Welcome Visitors!!!!

We are so happy to have you worship with us today. Be sure to sign our guest register and pick up a newcomer gift bag. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Sunday Bible Study

Adults and older children are encouraged to come to the Sunday Bible Study beginning at 9:15 am. A new Lenten Bible study, *Sharing the Faith*, will begin on February 26.



Evening Prayer

There will be no Evening Prayer service on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Join us again at 6:15 pm on February 29.

Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday Bible Study will not meet on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Class will resume on February 29 with a catered meal beginning at 6:45 pm, followed by Bible study at 7:15.



Sunday School

Sunday school is available for younger children at 9:15 every Sunday morning.



Child Care

Child care is provided during the 10:30 service each week in classroom 6.

Benedictines Meet

Trinity's Benedictine chapter meets in the parish hall on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 12:45 pm for lunch, followed by a 1:45 service in the chapel.



News and Notes

Sharing the Faith

A new Sunday morning Bible Study will begin at 9:15 on February 26. As the title suggests, our outstanding staff of teachers will provide practical tips on how to share Christianity with others. This class will continue through March 25.

M4 (Men, Movies, Meat, and Malt)

All men are invited to come to the parish hall for M4 (Men, Movies, Meat, and Malt) tonight (Sunday, February 19) from 6 to 9 pm. We will watch a "guy" movie (bring your DVDs and we will pick one). Join us as we grill meat (bring whatever you would like to eat and/or share) and drink malted beverages (or not).

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

A Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is planned for February 21 at 6:30 pm. A variety of pancakes, of course, and sausage will be prepared by chefs Canon Rob and Deacon Phil. Bring some fruit or anything you think would taste good with this meal and join us in the parish hall. There is no charge, but donations are always gratefully accepted. We will also need some help setting up and cleaning up. A sign-up sheet is located on the information board.

Wednesday Night Bible Study on Nehemiah

This Bible study will open a fascinating door into the dynamics of Church growth and give us insights for the future. There will be no class on Ash Wednesday, February 22, but join us on February 29 at 6:15 pm for Evening Prayer, followed by a catered meal at 6:45 and Bible study at 7:15.

New Altar Linen

Thanks to JoCile Bayh for taking one of our old altar linens and turning it into a lovely new one for the small altar in the chapel.

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 22, in observance of President's Day.

2012 Vestry, Clergy, and Officers: (bottom row) Christy West, Rusty Baby, and Canon Rob. (back row) Macky Sellers, Deacon Phil, Bob Bowling, Hugh Lewis, Russ Crawford, and Tom Benson. Fr. Michael is not pictured.



Serving Today, Sunday, February 19

Sermon	Chalice	Altar Guild	Lector	Tellers	Ushers	Clean Up
Fr. Michael	R. Crawford	Team 3	D. Smith	R. Crawford & J. Page	H. Lewis & T. Smith	T. Benson & R. Crawford

Serving Next Sunday, February 26

Deacon Phil	R. Bayh	Team 1	T. Benson	T. Benson & J. Page	B. Bowling & H. Lewis	T. Benson & R. Bayh
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Ash Wednesday Services February 22

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
12 noon and 6:30 pm

Trinity Episcopal Church

12727 Hillcrest Road
Dallas, TX 75230

972.991.3601 tecdallas.org

Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Canon Dr. Robin (Rob) P. Smith
Email: rsmith@tecdallas.org
Telephone: 214.906.5656

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Michael Mills
Email: michael.mills@law.ua.edu
Telephone: 214.793.0542

Deacon, The Rev. Phil Snyder

Email: Philip_L_Snyder@yahoo.com
Telephone: 972.423.2384

Parish Administrator, Luan Hardy

Email: lhardy@tecdallas.org
Telephone: 972.991.3601 ext. 102

Parish Secretary, Nanci Parkhurst

Email: nparkhurst@tecdallas.org
Telephone: 972.991.3601 ext. 101

Prayer Requests

Please pray for: Al; Cindi; Joyce; Johnny; Maegan and Anthony; Betty; Patricia; Paula and Jake; Kathye; Brenda; Daniel, Christina, and their children; Gene; Monica; Shirley; Micayla; Elizabeth and Tim; Bishop Stanton; Ben; Aimee; Edward; Jenny; Joe; Brandon; John; Marlene; Sondra; Estelle; Debbie; Gerry; Amy; Marsha; Debbie; Rachel and her family; all who are struggling financially; and all those in areas of conflict around the world.

If you or someone you know would like to be on our prayer list, please contact the church office.