

# **Extra! Extra! Read All About Us.**

**January 2015**

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

**3 Goddard Avenue**

**Rockland, MA. 02370**

## *Clergy*

**The Rev. Sarah Brockmann**

**The Rev. Donald Isaac, Vicar Emeritus**

## *Ministers*

**All of Us**

## *Worship Schedule*

**Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Rite I**

**10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Rite II with ASL Interpretation**

## **From the Rector:**

### **Onward into the New Year!**

**2014 was a challenging year for many of us. We lost several dearly loved friends and parishioners. The news has been a barrage of violence, political brinksmanship, and too frequent reminders that racism is still a very present problem in our nation. For my part, I've watched my parents' health decline and seen my own schedule shift to accommodate their new needs.**

**2015 is a mystery – an un-opened present that we get to unwrap week by week, month by month. Guaranteed – we're not going to love all of it. Some of us will experience loss, hardship, difficulties in relationships, illness. But there will still be plenty of joy, happy times, and grace.**

**What won't change between last year and this is the presence of God in our lives. God is our constant – the undercurrent of love and mercy and strength that lies just beneath our surface – or sometimes right on the surface – which we can access in both good times and challenging times. God always is.**

**In this Epiphany season, I hope that you will come to church seeking that undercurrent of God, so that you can strengthen and nurture it for the year ahead. Your full participation in the life and liturgy of Trinity Church is a gift – both to yourself as well as to the parish – and all that you do is greatly**

appreciated. Thank you for a fulfilling 2014 – now on to 2015!

*Sarah+*

***This month, the rector is thankful for:***

- The very generous gift of a restaurant gift certificate from the parish (which I strongly suspect was orchestrated by the Women's Group?). Thank you!
- The response of this parish, as well as a parish in Hingham, to the very difficult situation of Grayson, our 14 year old friend who was orphaned a week before Christmas. Check the bulletin board for pictures of her receiving her mobile phone – your donations made that possible (and will continue to do so, as we've got a two year contract to be sure that she's always connected to the wider world). Way to show God's love and abundance, church!
- Charlie and Deb Morse, for their very generous hospitality on Christmas Eve.
- My two biggest events of 2014 – turning 50 and publishing a book! So *that's* something!
- George Hoyt, because gosh, you do so much for me and for the church and for the kids!
- Irene Bonn, for making the church look so gorgeous for Christmas, and to Dan Crockett, who brought by a very special and specific tree to help make that happen.
- Trudy Sevier and Jim Harney, for joining John and me at that South Shore Interfaith party in East Bridgewater. That was really fun!
- Charlie Morse (the tall one) for giving so generously of your time and talent on Christmas Eve – and to the choir, who together sang a really beautiful anthem! Wait 'til you hear what I've got picked out for next year...
- Don Isaac, for bringing so many family members to church on Christmas Day. That service is really becoming something wonderful, thanks to the growing numbers who attend.

**Feast of the Epiphany**

As the sign outside says, it's not over 'til the Magi arrive! Trinity Church will celebrate the Feast of the Manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, with an interactive "Stations of the Magi" service at 7PM, followed by a festive reception in the Cherub Room, as AA will be using the parish hall. Everyone is strongly encouraged to finish out the

**Christmas season properly by celebrating the Epiphany – it's always an engaging service of worship!**

**Let it Snow! Let it Snow!**

**Sarah may be the only one who feels that way, but the season of snow and ice is, at least in theory, upon us. If the weather is bad on a Sunday morning, please call the church phone before going out – Sarah will update the message by 7AM if there is a change to our service schedule due to the weather. And of course, if you don't feel safe or comfortable going out when it's cold and slippery, for heaven's sake *don't!* Sarah is more than happy to bring communion to you – just call and let us know! We do want everyone to stay injury free this winter!**

**Looking Ahead – Feast of the Presentation**

**The Feast of the Presentation, which is also Groundhog Day AND the anniversary of Sarah's ordination to the priesthood, celebrates the occasion on which Joseph and Mary travelled to the Temple to fulfill their sacrificial obligation upon the birth of a son. It is also known as Candlemas, and at the service it is customary to bless the candles to be used for the next church year.**

**The Feast of the Presentation is a major feast day of Our Lord, and predictably enough, we will be celebrating it here at Trinity! Please come for a special candlelight service, which will include the Candlemas Procession, on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM. It will be followed by an elegant candlelight reception. Observing the Holy Days can be a wonderful experience – everyone should try it!**

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

**The people would not believe in God at all if they were not permitted to believe wrong in Him.**

**HALIFAX**