

Diocese of the Central States News

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Trinity Lecture Series (Mason, OH)

By Andrew Goetz

Trinity REC, Mason is hosting a lecture series on Saturday, March 25, 2017. Rev. Canon Scott Houser from St. John's Anglican Church in Chelsea, Alabama, will give two talks in his presentation "A Theology of Sexuality: God Created Them Male and Female." Each talk will be followed by a question and answer period. Rev. Houser's first talk is entitled "The Image of God and the Mystery of Holy Matrimony." His second talk is entitled "Genesis, Male and Female He Created Them: Original Solitude, Original Unity, Original Nakedness."

Deaconess Michelle Caldwell is organizing a lunch for all attendees who the lecture series. The lecture series and lunch is free to the public. Bp. Morse will be in attendance, as well as local clergy from the Ohio and surrounding regions.

Trinity REC has advertised on their website (www.trinityrec.org) and reached out to local Christian high schools and colleges, as well as local Christian radio stations and local churches. Bishop Peter Manto, rector of Trinity REC, hopes that the lecture series will be useful in prompting positive discussion in church congregations and within high school and college classes regarding a biblical view of gender and human sexuality. Trinity's Men's Bible Study group has been studying Pope John Paul II's work Theology of the Body in preparation for Rev. Houser's presentation.

Trinity is hopeful for a robust turnout! Stay tuned.

REC Diocese of the Central States

The Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse,
Bishop Ordinary
Email: bishop@rec-mdcs.org
Phone: 615-947-6703
Fax: 615-833-3675
Website: rec-mdcs.org

Send submissions for the Advent issue by 20 June 2017 to Dss. Teresa Johnson at newsletter@recdss.org.

TRINITY LECTURE SERIES

**A THEOLOGY OF SEXUALITY:
GOD CREATED THEM
MALE AND FEMALE**

Speaker: The Rev. Canon J. Scott Houser
St. John's Anglican Church, Chelsea, AL

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Parish/Mission	Date
Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN	03/26/2017
Trinity, Mason, OH	04/02/2017
All Saints, Raleigh, NC	04/09/2017
Fr. Matthew & Sora Colvin	04/16/2017
Christ the King, Dayton, OH	04/23/2017
Trinity, Evansville, IN	04/30/2017
St. James, Memphis, TN	05/07/2017
Holy Trinity, Fairfax, VA	05/14/2017
Church of the Redeemer, Wilson, NC	05/21/2017
St. Jude's, Richmond, VA	05/28/2017
Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH	06/04/2017
Church of Our Saviour, Leesburg, VA	06/11/2017
St. Lazarus, Dayton, OH	06/18/2017

Outline of an Anglican Life: Sunday School Series at St. Jude's

By Dcn. Barton Gingerich

Starting on the First Sunday in Lent, St. Jude's Anglican Church of Richmond, VA, initiated a new Sunday School series entitled "Outline of an Anglican Life." Although it shares the title of a beginner's introduction book by Louis Tarsitano, this series focuses just as much on the "how to" of Anglicanism as the "what" and "why." St. Jude's is a relatively young congregation, having been founded over 6 years ago. Most of her members come from either a modern Episcopalian upbringing or else a different denominational background altogether. As such, Dcn. Bart Gingerich hopes to establish a sort of "catechetical baseline" for Anglican doctrine and practice in order to better equip the saints of Richmond for their respective vocations and ministries. For the most part, the lesson plans follow the order of the Book of Common Prayer, allowing the congregants to better familiarize themselves with and understand this fundamental pillar in the Anglican way.

The series seeks to highlight skills and habits that are far too often assumed, forgotten, or neglected,

such as how to use the lectionary, the universal privilege of praying the Daily Offices, how to be a good godparent, how to ready oneself to take the Lord's Supper, and how to prepare for a holy death. In addition, this Sunday School emphasis has provided a way to better inform parishioners about the ministries of the Church that they can avail themselves of, such as pastoral counsel, unction, and private confession. The lectures have allowed for extensive question and answer periods, offering an appropriate forum for St. Jude's congregants to voice inquiries about anything that they have found confusing or unusual, but were otherwise hesitant to mention.

Dcn. Gingerich hopes that this series fulfills some of the aims of the Lenten catechesis of the ancient church, in which catechumens prepared for their Easter vigil baptisms. However, it is likely that the "Outline of an Anglican Life" project will continue well beyond the season of Lent.

For more information, visit stjudesrec.org.

Bishop Morse's Episcopal Visit Schedule

March 26—Trinity, Mason, OH

April 26-29—Bishops meeting, Summerville, SC

May 7—All Saints, Raleigh, NC and St. Andrew's, Asheboro, NC

May 14—St. Jude's, Richmond, VA and Holy Cross, Midlothian, VA

June 4—Covenant, Roanoke, VA

June 11—Holy Trinity, Fairfax, VA

June 14-16—General Council, Dallas, TX

June 26-30—ACNA Provincial Council, Wheaton, IL

Parishes that have not yet scheduled an episcopal visit should select a date and clear it with the bishop.

St. Lazarus Mission

St. Lazarus recently became part of the Matthew 25 initiative of the Anglican Church in North America.

For more information, visit lazarusmission.org.

Lenten Offering for Croatia

Presiding Bishop Ray Sutton has asked all REC parishes to participate in a special offering during Lent to assist the REC in Croatia with an outreach project at Good Shepherd Reformed Episcopal Church in Osijek, Croatia. The project includes completion of a Reformation Museum in time for celebrations to be held for the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in Europe.

For more information, visit www.recbfm.org.

A Celtic Christmas at Trinity Anglican Church, Evansville, IN

By Jean Tillery and The Rev. David Straw

This last Christmas Eve at Trinity Anglican Church, we celebrated "A Celtic Christmas." The entire church was greened using a Celtic theme with tartan bows, lanterns, and other Celtic decorations.

We processed into the church led by bagpiper Roger Fuchs playing "Highland Cathedral." For the first time in our congregation's history, some of our members formed a choir. Postulant David Goodwin, from Christ the Redeemer in Owensboro, KY, sang a solo of the "Wexford Carol." Our Music Director, Karen Paulson, went to great lengths to choose Christmas music from either the Celtic tradition or used Celtic musical instrumentation.

Every family that visited us on Christmas Eve received a box of Christmas confections personally baked by our Rector's wife, Sabrina Straw, and each child in attendance received a gift. It was a unique and very blessed Christmas indeed.



Photos from Ash Wednesday at Trinity-Evansville

Submitted by The Rev. David Straw

Trinity-Evansville started out the Lenten Season with a beautiful Ash Wednesday Service. We did a candlelight service this year with softer music on piano and acoustic guitar and it was very well received by both our membership and visitors.

