

# TRINITY NEWS

**W**elcome to Church of Holy Trinity in this Fourth Sunday in Lent. This time includes the theme of eating and drinking as signs of God's love and of the rejoicing of God's people in the Eucharist and in God's kingdom. This theme finds its expression in today's collect, which describes Jesus as the "true bread which gives life to the world."

In the Old Testament reading, we hear about the first Passover celebrated by the Israelites in the Promised Land. On that occasion, the manna which sustained them in their wilderness journey ceased, and they lived on the "fruit of the land." God's people, washed and adopted in Baptism and sustained in this world by Holy Communion, will likewise enter God's kingdom and be nourished by God's life.

Thus, in today's Gospel reading of the story of the prodigal son, the culmination of forgiveness is a banquet and feast. This parable, which describes the totality of forgiveness and God's eagerness to be reconciled with us rebellious children, bears in it the promise which is fulfilled in our celebration of the Holy Eucharist and, above all, in our Easter rejoicing.

This sacred meal is the sign of our return to God, of God's unlimited forgiveness, and of the feasting of God with all the redeemed in the kingdom. In our Lenten self-denial we are reminded that our pilgrimage in this life is like Israel's wandering in the wilderness, and that our ultimate goal is the promised land of God's kingdom, the life of which is foreshadowed in the Holy Eucharist.

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## **THIS WEEK:**

### **WEDNESDAY.**

- Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

## **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:**

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-19