

# TRINITY NEWS

**W**elcome to Church of The Holy Trinity. Today is the eleventh Sunday after Pentecost and in today's liturgy we are confronted with the radical shift in our values brought about by our union with Christ in Baptism. In the Gospel reading, Jesus is asked to settle a property dispute between two brothers. Instead he warns against placing our highest value in material acquisition, for that value is a fleeting and uncertain one. The highest value must be placed on our relationship with God, which alone is permanent and certain.

In the Old Testament reading we have the wise reflections of a person who found that spending one's life and commitment on the accumulation of material goods is, in the end, an empty and ephemeral project. It is "vanity and striving after wind."

In the passage from Colossians, Paul describes the new way of living which belongs to those unified with Christ in Baptism. As people who have put on the new nature, our behavior toward others is transformed; our relationships with others are no longer based on human values or differences; and our lives consist of joy, peace, forgiveness, and thanksgiving.

When, we present to God the work of human hands in bread and wine and gifts of our material possessions, we are placing our lives into a new and transforming relationship with God. Our relationship toward the material world is likewise transformed. We are put right in our relationship with God, with others, with ourselves, and with the material world. Then we are sent out to live in that new relationship each day.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year, by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.*

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## The New Life in Christ Colossians 3:1-17

1. I have no enemies who cannot be redeemed
2. I am not reacting to anyone (Col. 3:13)
3. I have forgiven myself and others as the Lord has forgiven me (Col. 3:13)
4. The peace of Christ rules in my heart (Col. 3:15)
5. I do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Col. 3:17a)
6. I pray to God the Father through Jesus (Col. 3:17b)
7. The teaching of Christ dwells in me richly (Col. 3:16)
8. Wisdom and gratitude are the hallmarks of a Christian (Col. 3:16)

Colossians 3:1-17 is a call to the Christian life. It lists so much of what makes the truly lived Christian life very attractive indeed. Many saints have not had all the qualities and activated values that are cited in Colossians 3. But one could not be a saint without having a good portion of them.

Such basic essentials as the forgiveness of oneself and others; looking for the best in people rather than the worst; being conscious of our Savior's presence with us, reminding ourselves by doing all in his name; persisting in the search for peace in the heart, letting his teaching touch every aspect of our lives; and bringing it all to God the Father, sums up the Christian life so well.

Let us live the Christian faith, for there is no other way to enter the heart of what it means to us and to our Savior as we come in the Spirit to the Father. Amen

**Bishop Arthur Jones**

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### **THIS WEEK:**

Monday.

- Vestry meeting, 6:00pm, Parish office

Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am
- Group discussion, 7:30pm, Parish office

Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel

### **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalm 33

Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

Luke 12:32-40

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