



HTC CONNECT

THE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER
VOL. 4 2021



OUR VISION STATEMENT

The New Wine Vineyard— Revealing Christ through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To give honour and glory to God by making disciples of Jesus Christ, empowering them to live according to the principle of God's kingdom through the ministry and mission of the church.

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DEAN'S ADDRESS

BY THE VERY REVEREND
SHELLEY-ANN TENIA

Staying Connected In COVID-

The season of Epiphany is a bridge in our liturgical landscape. In this ordinary time, we are prompted to connect the Incarnation to the Passion, the Resurrection and our daily interactions. Through the biblical themes and images, we are guided to consider that chaos and confusion, vulnerability and volatility, wildness and wantonness were present in the beginning, all part of a good and spacious cosmos over which the Spirit presided - creating order, deeper connection and pathways for care. God manifested through the Spirit, in the person of Jesus, in the angel that guided the Shepherds and prompted the Wisemen. At Jesus' presentation, baptism and through his tests and temptations the Spirit filled, strengthened and sustained him. For Peter's confession, Paul's conversion and in the midst of our daily Covid confusion, the very same Spirit indwells us, animates us, connects us, and is our constant companion and ever-present help.

The strength of our connections has surely been tested. Many have asked is the Spirit still with us? or What is the Spirit trying to tell us? We have struggled to make sense of the Covid catastrophe amidst the cacophony of voices at home and abroad. Some voices shout self-preserve out of fear - protect yourself from the 'other', he/she is not your brother or sister or keeper, while others say do not dismay, despair or live in fear, your strength is in the care you share, the hope you declare, and the courage you demonstrate as you hold space for another.

This issue of HTC Connect comes to you one month into a new calendar year with words of encouragement and reminders of Truth. The Spirit of the living God connects us to God, grounds us in Truth and keeps us connected to each other. When tempted to socially isolate, choose solitude and meditate. When loneliness comes near, choose to reach out to someone who is near or dear. When fear beckons despair, remember Christ is near, give thanks and share in the care of another.

NOTICES

WORSHIP REMOTELY

Live Stream Services

Facebook: The Holy Trinity Cathedral

Monday to Friday

6:30AM | 12:00PM | 6:00PM | 9:00PM

Sundays

7:00AM

(Subject to change)

TV Broadcast

TTT: Diocesan Services

Every Sunday

11AM

Radio Broadcast

Talk City 91.1FM

Every Wednesday

9PM

WORSHIP IN PERSON

Services at the Cathedral

Fridays: 6:15AM & 12PM

Saturdays: 5PM

Sundays: 7AM

Take a glimpse of the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Port of Spain.

<https://bit.ly/31NydKv> OR

<https://roundtripin.com/Tours/Trinidad/TrinityCathedral/index.htm>

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KNOW YOUR FAITH

... AND ALSO WITH YOU - BY OMAR HOLDER
The Anglican Consciousness



Anglicanism was given birth in the history, culture, language and institutions of the British Isles, which was handed down through the centuries and remains distinctive at heart.



The British way of thinking can be described as left hand thinking, characteristic of poetry, art and music, often expressed as a "yes, but". Unlike, right hand thinking characteristic of computers.



Fantasy literature, like the Hobbit and the Narnia Chronicles are good examples.



British thinking is also dominantly feminine, since in medieval times England was even known as "the land of Mary" and many of the greatest English monarchs were several queens.



It is this distinctive history that makes Anglicanism's liturgy, poetry, music and life very easy to fall in love with God.

In 1998, on the western side of the southern entrance, Trinity Cathedral laid down the first Labyrinth in Trinidad, which allows for a spiritual walk and personal meditation.



CLERGY CORNER

7 QUESTIONS WITH DEACON DAVID POLLARD

1. What is your proudest accomplishment?

My family. I've always wanted a family. God blessed me with an incredible wife and three of the very best children.

2. What is your favorite book to read?

Oh, that's tough. I have a couple of favorite books. My favorite genre is those to do with discipleship and theology.

3. What did you want to be when you were small?

I wanted to be a jockey. I was actually enrolled in a jockey school with the aim of moving to Canada to start my jockey career, but God had other plans. I was about 20 at the time when God introduced me to my wife and that was convincing enough to stay in Trinidad.

4. What is your favorite game or sport to watch and play?

I enjoy watching cricket. When I was much younger I used to sit in the mango tree in our yard in Tunapuna and watch men play cricket in Eddie Hart Grounds.

5. If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Curry! You can curry anything!

6. How do you stay organized?

It comes quite naturally. I have always been a person of order.

7. What is important to you in a Church?

Hmm, many things are important, from sound theological teaching to building a God-centered community, but what I think is most important is having a heart posture like Christ. When we allow the Holy Spirit to shape our heart like Christ's we become an extension of Him, able to show His love to others in a practical way.



WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

SANCTUARY GUILD BY DONNA SEALEY

What is the Sanctuary Guild? A guild of servants of the Sanctuary which is a sacred place. The purpose of the Sanctuary Guild is to serve God and our Parish by maintaining the church Sanctuary, linens and vestments and enhancing the beauty of our worship space. It's a labour of Love.

So who knows what goes on behind the scenes before service? We come to church; we sing the hymns; we take communion and we go home to repeat next Sunday. Here's some of what goes on in preparation for service.

Let's start with the colours for the seasons of the Church year.

Season	Colour	Exceptions
Advent	Purple	
Christmas	White	
Epiphany	Green	White for feast days 4th Sunday – rose Palm Sunday – red Maundy Thursday – white Good Friday - no altar clothes
Lent	Purple/ Sack Cloth	
Easter	White	
Ascension	White/ Gold	
Trinity	Green	White for feast days
Pentecost	Red	

The Altar cloth or Fair Linen have to be clean - no wine stains or candle wax. The Fair Linen is placed on top of the altar. It should hang well down at each end. Then a protector cloth is placed on it. Eucharist candles are placed at either end of the Altar.

*The Credence Table is a small side table which is used in the celebration of the Eucharist. When setting it up, you need to know what will be needed for which celebration and how to arrange the various items. The Chalice, Purificator, Paten, priest's Host, Pall Seasonal Veil, Corporal, Burse, Wafer, Lavabo Bowl, Lavabo Towel, Ciborium, Cruets with water, Intinction set, bells, water and hand sanitizer may all be placed on the Credence Table. All vessels should be washed and sterilized with warm water. The small church linens also must be clean with no stains, lipstick nor wine. The veil and the burse should be in the colours of the Church year. ***

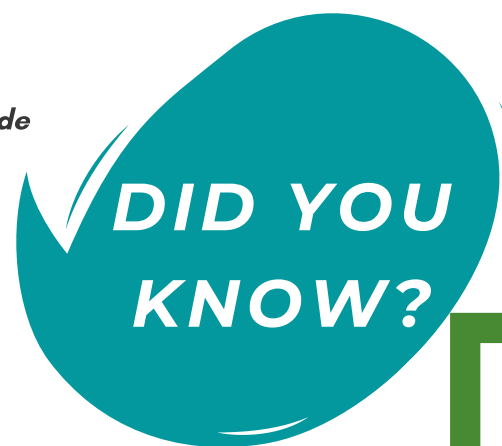


*The Celebrant's vestments (the Alb, Cincture, Stole and Chasuble) must be cleaned, ironed and ready for service. The Cope is used for special services. Now we are prepared and ready for church. ****

At the Cathedral we have not had a Sanctuary Guild for a long time. Mrs. Brenda McLean-Taylor, our Verger, has done it all alone. On January 26th 2020 a group of sixteen (16) committed persons started training under The Very Rev. Shelley-Ann Tenia, Dean and Rector. We lost one of our members in Mrs. Barbara Reid-James in July 2020. We will continue to serve in this ministry with honour, due diligence, respect and to the glory of God. This is a promise that we made to Auntie Barbara because she was so passionate about the Guild.

If you would like to join this ministry, call Donna Sealey at 767-7778 or speak with the Dean.

The quite modern stations of the cross were beautifully designed and made by well-known artist, Pat Bishop, and maintained by Miss Rochford.



COUNTING THE COST

HOW TO SPEND YOUR PRECIOUS MONEY

DURING COVID-19 - HTC FINANCE COMMITTEE

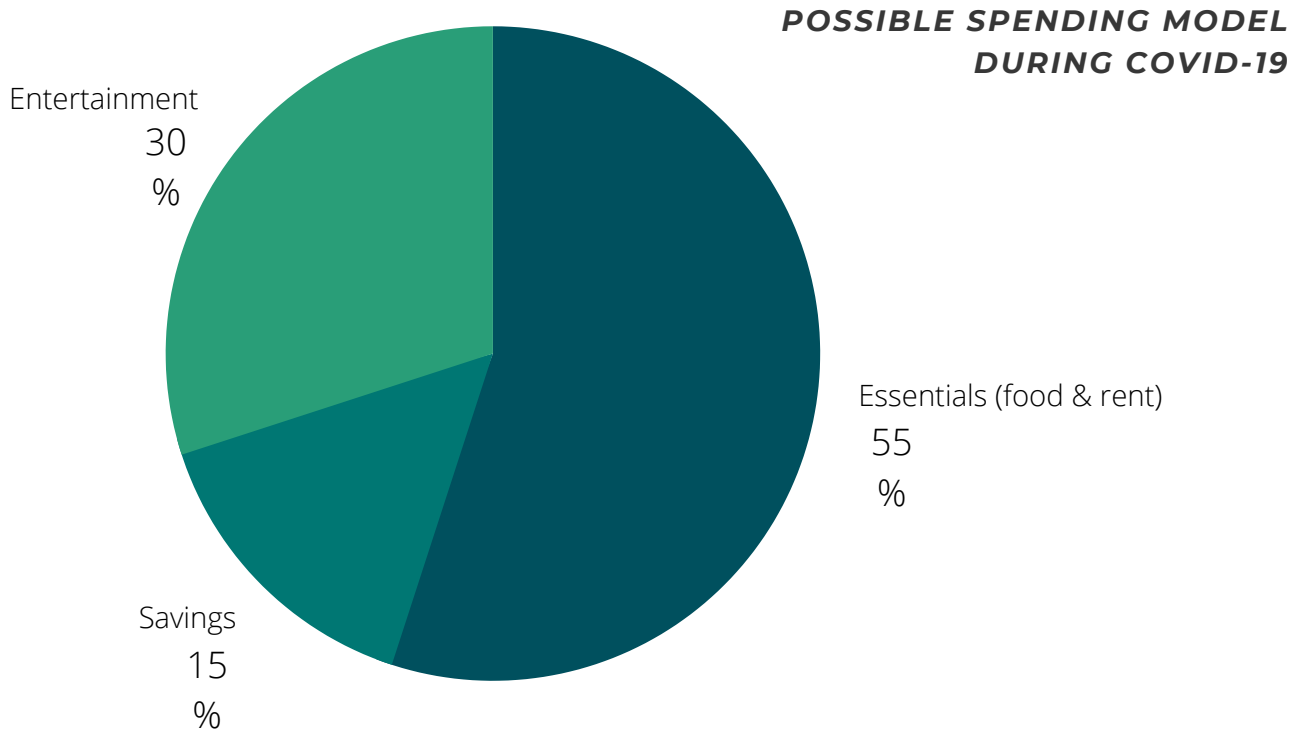
The unprecedented COVID-19 outbreak has had us locked in our homes and wondering about our finances. In the current scenario, many families across the country are grappling with a sudden loss of income which could be in the form of job loss or reduced salary and "side hustle" income. Also, for those families which rely on monthly rental income, they may experience hiccups, with tenants finding it difficult to pay rent during this pandemic. While saving may be difficult, one can cut down on discretionary expenses and services.

As a result, an immediate financial planning requirement for most families would be to review and curtail unnecessary/avoidable expenditure. For instance, you may find two or three cable TV connections in a home, and if practical, it could be reduced to just one. Similarly, daily expenses on groceries could be reduced by better planning and ordering of takeaway foods from popular brands should be avoided.

While the future may be uncertain, it is critical to understand contingency planning or making sure your family has adequate funds to meet immediate expenses, including medical emergencies and health care.

In a typical scenario, the rule of thumb is to maintain three to six months of cash-flow of household expenses in a safe, easily accessible, interest bearing account. In a worst-case scenario, whereby lockdown may be extended impacting your job or business, it makes sense to create savings that can last for at least 12 months. This can act as a buffer in case of any emergency.

Some financial experts recommend a COVID-19 spending model using the 55/30/15 concept. In this concept:



A. 55 percent of your salary should go toward expenses that are essential and non-negotiable, e.g. food, rent, school supplies and tithing etc.

B. 30 per cent should be allocated to saving instruments like savings account, mutual funds and insurance, which can secure your family's long-term future and meet unforeseen medical expenses, university fees or a wedding or funeral.

C. 15 per cent should be allocated for entertainment and recreational purposes, e.g., restaurants, movies and shopping.

Albert Einstein once said that "In the middle of difficulty, lies opportunity".

2021 is an opportunity to build healthy spending habits in the midst of COVID-19 uncertainty.

Your Happiness = Your use of money + Your Values

YOUTH NEWS

2021 A FRESH START! - BY DAMALI MANNING

With the beginning of any new year there is the opportunity for a fresh start; a renewal. Most people tend to use this as motivation. It helps them to set goals that they may wish to accomplish which they may have put off for a while or haven't completed in the past. Be encouraged to set your resolutions and manifestations for 2021 but remember to do this with a humble attitude and trust in God.

Colossians 3: 17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Here are a few resolutions for 2021 by the young people of our parish.

Initials: THJ

Age: 14

Ministry/ Parish Group: Youth Group

New Year Resolution(s): To further strengthen my relationship with God and try to ask for help when necessary whenever I'm struggling.

Initials: NC

Age: 21

Ministry/ Parish Group: Servers

New Year Resolution(s): Just to continue with my studies.

Initials: JJ

Age: 18

Ministry/ Parish Group: Youth Group

New Year Resolution(s): To put my mind to anything I want to do.

Initials: NP

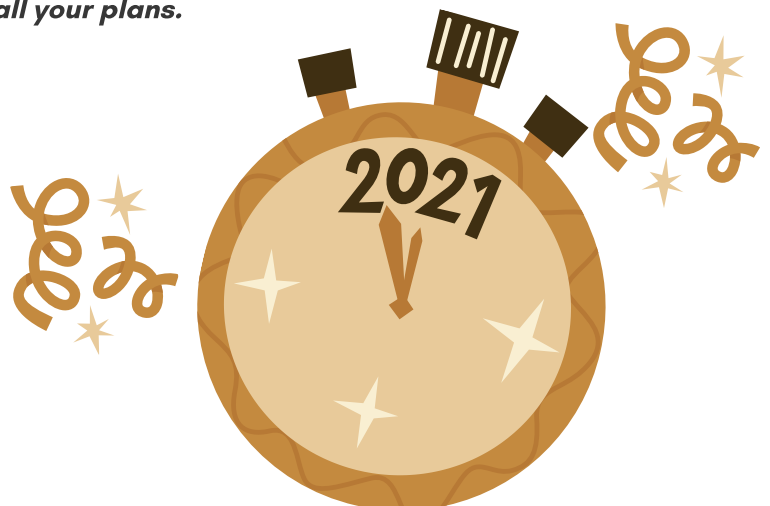
Age: 14

Ministry/ Parish Group: Youth Group

New Year Resolution(s): To be closer with God and achieve unfinished business goals from last year.

Psalm 20:4

May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans.



SOCIAL OUTREACH

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW - BY ELIZABETH SAMUEL HOWE

The Social Outreach Ministry is one of the oldest Ministries in the life of the Holy Trinity Cathedral and continues to be one of the cornerstones of the Cathedral. The objective of this Ministry is to assist as many underprivileged persons as possible, including those who suffer in times of disasters such as fires, flood, earthquakes and other crises.

The many arms of the Social Outreach Ministry include Health Services, Education Support Services, Counselling, Emotional and Social Support. However, the core of the program is a Food Distribution Network which provides food and clothing to the needy and homeless.

The Social Outreach Program is sustained by contributions of non-perishable food items, clothing and monetary gifts from the Cathedral Family and the wider business community.

In 2020 the Ministry focused more heavily on the Food Distribution Network which included Food Vouchers from the Ministry of Social Development due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Educational Support Services with the distribution of laptops, stationary supplies and the sponsorship of internet service for students. Some of the major achievements include:

- Expansion of the community network to include persons as far as Carenage and Diego Martin in the West to San Juan in the East;
- The doubling of distribution of food hampers to the less fortunate as the Ministry witnessed a continuous request for assistance from an average of 30 to 60 persons per month over the period;
- Expansion of the program to include the distribution of food vouchers to persons affected by COVID 19. To date over 400 food hampers and 338 food vouchers were distributed;
- Distribution of food hampers twice in the month of December on the 15th and on the 29th December 2020;
- Monetary contribution to one of our parishioners whose home was burglarised;
- Reaching out to over 20 of our shut-ins with phone calls and personal visits to distribute hampers;
- Fundraising for the St. Clare (Oxford Street) Home;
- Generous donations from the Parish Community and businesses, including Agostini, Angostura, Nestle, Servol, Pennywise Cosmetics, Jimmy Aboud.

The Social Outreach Ministry extends heartfelt thanks to all the 2020 Cheerful Givers and we pray for God's continued blessings on your life. We do look forward to your continued support in 2021.

SOCIAL OUTREACH

BUILDING THE CHURCH COMMUNITY - BY OMAR HOLDER

On 8th January, 2021 – The Holy Trinity Cathedral (HTC) hosted a thanksgiving service for God’s grace and blessing upon its car park tenants and to say thank you for their support, particularly during covid-19, as they helped to support the HTC carry out God’s work in this part of His vineyard. “About half of our annual income comes from our car park rentals, so we always give thanks to God for this gift” said The Very Reverend Shelly-Ann Tenia, Dean of the Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Customer Loyalty – Many tenants have remained loyal to the HTC car park, amidst a growing number of parking options in the city. “They love us and have continued to support us in this trying time” said Ms. Lavaughn Honore, Parish Administrator. “We continue to pray for them on their way to and away from our carpark.”

About the Car Park – For over five years, the HTC car park has offered more than one hundred and fifty car park spaces for rent to corporate and individual tenants for a competitive monthly rental with assigned parking, great customer service, security and a central location in the heart of Port-of-Spain.

For more information on the HTC car park, kindly contact the HTC Parish Office at 623-7271.

TRINITY TESTIMONY

HTC CONFIRMATION EXPERIENCE - RAUKEMA KING (CONFIRMAND, 2020)

Psalm 51:5-6 says “5 For I was born a sinner- yes, from the moment my mother conceived me, 6 But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there”. My spiritual journey began when I was baptized as an infant into the Anglican religion, where one “enters into a union with Christ, to share in the New Covenant, becoming heir to God’s redemption” (The Catechism, 2007). The deep-rooted teachings were adopted and followed in our household.

This was further strengthened throughout my primary school experience at the St. Catherine’s Girls A.C. School, as my schoolmates and I were privileged to attend regular church services at The Holy Trinity Cathedral. This holistic development taught us how to pray, not only for ourselves and loved ones but for others, how to sing with gusto the various songs from the hymn book and the importance of how to comport yourself with honour and respect so that we can be a shining example for others to follow. They instilled a sense of Anglican pride!

One of my fondest childhood memories would definitely be a choreographed ballroom dancing medley, that the graduating classes of both the Girls’ and Boys’ (Christus Rex) School performed in the Church. It “wowed!” the audience - what a thrill of excitement, such a joyous occasion.

As I navigated through the next phases of life, I slowly drifted away from the church. However, when the tough days came, I would find solace and renewed hope in singing one of my favourite hymns - “The Doxology- Praise God from whom, all blessings flow...”. When those soothing words were coupled with the affirming scripture of Philippians 4:13 (NLT) “I can do all things, through Christ who strengthens me”, all was well again.

In the latter part of 2019, I began Confirmation classes seeking to fill the spiritual void that I felt. Our weekly meetings encouraged me to search within, to identify who I am and to understand my role and function as a Christian through the Church's mission. The facilitators brought their great wealth of knowledge and experience, creating a comfortable environment conducive to learning and participation.

Then, the pandemic struck! I clearly remembered that day, when it was announced that the country had its first confirmed imported case. As we sat in the choir pew, in a zone of uncertainty, with so many thoughts being discussed, Deacon Pollard calmly reassured us that the Lord was in control. In the weeks that followed, the virtual class was launched, not without its challenges (connectivity or limited user knowledge) but, we pressed on.

The Very Reverend Dean Tenia and Father Thompson played a very important role in our preparation, through their interactive guided teachings. Even though things seemed to have fallen apart, it actually allowed us to stop, reflect, reset and respond in more meaningful ways.

On Sunday 27th December, 2020 nineteen Confirmands (including myself), joined in the newness and fullness of the Christian hope. We have come full circle, sharing a common bond of perseverance through adversity. We can claim victory! I would take the opportunity to recognize our sister in Christ Sherrane "Sherry" Samuel who departed this life during our preparation. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

In reflection, I would sing praises to The Most High for all that He has done and continues to do. It is my honour to serve You Lord.

Special thanks to our parents, God-parents, family and well-wishers for your love and support. To the Clergy members, Ms. Flemming, Deacon Pollard, Father Thompson, Dean Tenia and The Right Reverend Bishop Claude Berkley for the time shared, for the knowledge imparted and by embracing us into the family, we feel welcome and are eternally grateful! According to Bishop Desmond Tutu "you don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them".

**Confirmation classes begin on February 20th, 2021.
You MUST call the office to register and attend
Ash Wednesday service on February 17 at 5PM.
NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ENTERTAINED.**

