



THE TRINITY TRUMPET

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Longview, Texas

JANUARY 2026
TRINITYPARISH.ORG

Loving God and others, we invite, welcome and embrace all people through worship, fellowship, and service.

A Letter from Our Diocesan Bishop, Andy Doyle

Dear Dr. Prior, Mtr. Shelby, and beloved in Christ at Trinity Episcopal Church, Longview,

I write to you with hope. In a time when our world and the City of Longview ache for signs of light and steadiness, Trinity's witness matters. Longview needs a strong Trinity Church. Now is the time to take the next faithful step together.

In recent seasons, disagreements within the parish have weighed heavily on a few hearts, particularly around the tenure and leadership of your previous rector. We acknowledge the pain, disappointment, and anxiety some have felt. At the same time, we give thanks for the health and vitality that emerged in that season. There are, in fact, signs of growth, renewed ministry, and a broad-hearted welcome that has sought to be a church for people without a church and a community that welcomes diverse ideas. I appreciate the leadership of the vestry over these past years and of the rector.

In Christ, we are one body (Ephesians 4:1–6). That unity is not uniformity; it is a covenant of love. Today I ask you to lay down resentments and set aside old divisions for the sake of the future God is calling you to share. Not the certainty that demands agreement on every point, but the clarity that comes from Jesus at the center—clarity about who you are, whom you serve, and how you will walk together.

The Diocese stands with you. We are here to strengthen your leaders, to resource your ministries, and to accompany you with prayer, counsel, and practical support. Your current leadership has carried much and, like all of us, at times feels fragile. Please uphold them. Speak to them with charity. Pray for them by name. Encourage them in good works.

We ask each member of Trinity to commit to these simple practices in the months ahead:

- Pray daily for Trinity's unity and mission, that Christ's peace may rule in your hearts (Colossians 3:15).
- Speak truth in love (Ephesians 4:15): address concerns directly and with humility, avoiding gossip and contempt.
- Choose reconciliation over winning. When wrongs are named, seek forgiveness and offer it freely.
- Serve together: show up, shoulder a ministry, and share the work of hospitality and healing.

Beloved, now is a moment for courage. God is calling Trinity beyond disappointment, fear, anxiety, and anger into a renewed community rooted in prayer, eager for reconciliation, and alive to the Holy Spirit's future. The hope before you is not thin optimism; it is the risen Christ who has already gone ahead of you into Longview, preparing good works for you to walk in. Let us resolve, therefore, to guard our unity, invest in our shared mission, and take the next step in faith. We are confident that, by God's grace, Trinity will be a place where strangers are welcomed, the weary find rest, and the Gospel is proclaimed with clarity and joy. Know that we are praying for you and are ready to help—today and in the days to come.

In the love of Christ,
C. Andrew Doyle, D.D.,
IX Bishop of Texas

ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 25, 2025
Immediately following the 10:30 AM Service • **Lunch provided**
**Please join us as we celebrate our lives and accomplishments,
and anticipate our future together.**

TRINITY CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Vivian Shelby, Associate Rector
Cindy Verhalen, TST Head of School
Rachel White, Youth and Children's Minister
Bill Bane, Director of Music Ministries
Jeff Richardson, Communication & Connection Minister
Leno Mancilla, Sexton
Sammy York, Endowment Board President

VESTRY

Christine Prior, Senior Warden
John Michaels, Junior Warden
Treasurer, TBA

Class of 2025

Karen Frith, Christine Prior, Tovah Robertson, Gary Whitwell

Class of 2026

Tisha Grotemat, Jim Sawyer

Class of 2027

Wesley Linseisen, Gail Martin, John Michaels

MISSION OF THE MONTH



Feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, welcoming the stranger

Their work to heal a hurting world is guided by the principles of compassion, dignity and generosity, as a mandate from the words of Jesus, found in Matthew 25.

Episcopal Relief & Development works with partners worldwide to alleviate hunger, create economic opportunities, respond to disasters, promote health, and strengthen communities. ERD is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

To learn more about the Episcopal Relief and Development organization, please visit their website at

www.episcopalrelief.org

Pastoral Care Needs?

Please call Mother Vivian Shelby with any Pastoral Care needs. As well, please keep her informed of any pastoral issues that she may need to know about.

You can reach her at:

Mother Vivian Cell - (832) 846-7072
mothervivian@trinityparish.org

She will be glad to receive phone calls up to 10:00 PM for general issues and at any time for an emergency. Please use your discretion for items that can wait until normal business hours. But, please err on the side of calling or texting for any issues you feel needs her urgent attention.



Children's Church

Children's Church meets during the 10:30 AM service and is led by our Youth and Family Minister, Rachel White. Children beyond nursery age are always welcome in the service and invited to sit with their parents in church. For more information about Children's Church, please contact Rachel White - rwhite@trinityparish.org

We have a fully staffed nursery available for infants - 3 years from 9:00 AM to Noon on Sundays. The nursery is located in the former Flanagan Room in the hallway behind the nave.



What: Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season
A Study of 1st and 2nd Kings • Cost of Book \$15

When: Every Thursday evening at 6:00 - Beginning on Jan 9th.

Where: The Church Library

Who: All women of Trinity. Please invite your friends. Contact Elise or Vicky for a copy of the resource being used.

Call Elise Hill (903) 736-5176 or Vicky Bright (903) 738-6752

Come learn the Word of God and meet new people through fellowship and conversation



The Trinity Veterans' Group

Meetings will be at 0900 on January 11th, April 12th, July 12th, and October 11th, 2026. All meetings will be held in the Adult Sunday School room. Mark your calendars now! For more info, please call Gayland Rushing at (903) 399-9503

Fair Winds and following seas

January Parish Events

EPIPHANY BONFIRE AND CELEBRATION

Saturday, January 3 • 6:00 PM • Collins' Home

SERVICE OF COMPLINE

Sunday, January 11 • 8:30 PM • Nave

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Monday, January 12 • 5:30 PM • Parish Hall

SENIOR MEN'S DINNER

Sunday, January 20 • 6:00 PM • Nave

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25 • 12:00 PM • Parish Hall

WEEKLY

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Mornings at 7:00 AM • Silver Grizzly

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM • Guild Hall

CROCHET GROUP

Wednesday Mornings at 10:00 AM • Guild Hall

FAITH WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Evenings at 6:00 PM • Library

MID-WEEK HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesdays at 12:15 PM

JANUARY



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Lisa Baker (1/02)

Phyllis Jolley - Smith (1/12)

Graham Godfrey (1/03)

Alan Jones (1/18)

Lynne Sticher (1/04)

David Baker (1/23)

Mary Scott (1/07)

Elick Maledon (1/23)

Pamela Davis (1/08)

Jaclyn Abernathy (1/24)

Patsy Machin (1/09)

Cashion Sikes (1/27)

Isabella Junqueira (1/10)

Elisa Collins (1/11)

Patrick and Kathy Tate (1/18)

David and Rebecca Houston (1/18)

C O M P L I N E

Sunday,
January 11
8:30 PM



Trinity
Episcopal
Church
LONGVIEW, TX

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we may rest in your eternal changelessness.

**Evening Prayer Online - Mondays and Thursdays
7:30 PM • www.facebook.com/TrinityLongview**

Epiphany, also called **Feast of the Epiphany**, **Theophany**, or **Three Kings' Day**, (from Greek *epiphaneia*, "manifestation"), is a Christian holiday commemorating the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of his divinity, as it occurred at his baptism in the Jordan River and at his first miracle, at Cana in Galilee. Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church (the other two are Easter and Christmas). Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, and other Western churches observe the feast on January 6, while some Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Epiphany on January 19, since their Christmas Eve falls on January 6.

The festival originated in the Eastern church, where it at first included a commemoration of Christ's birth. In Rome, by 354 Christ's birth was being celebrated on December 25, and later in the 4th century the church in Rome began celebrating Epiphany on January 6. In the Western church the festival primarily commemorates the visit by the Magi to the infant Jesus, which is seen as evidence that Christ, the Jewish Messiah, came also for the salvation of Gentiles. In the East it primarily commemorates the baptism of Jesus and celebrates the revelation that the incarnate Christ was both fully God and fully man.

We observe traditions unique to the Feast of Epiphany, including the Bonfire, where we burn the Christmas trees used to celebrate the birth of Christ. The fire represents the light that Christ brings into the world.



Trinity Service Calendar

January 2026 – Lectionary Year A

Date	January 4, 2026 2nd Sunday after Christmas	January 11, 2026 1st Sunday after the Epiphany	January 18, 2026 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany	January 25, 2026 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
1st Reading Psalm	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 84	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-12	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 5-13
2nd Reading Gospel	Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a Matthew 2:13-15,19-23	Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23
Altar Guild	Sticher Team	Matteson Team	Baker Team	Collins Team
Coffee Hour	Bill B.	Cherry S.	Trinity Men	Michelle G.
Flower Delivery	Karen F.	Karen F.	Karen F.	Karen F.
8:00 AM				
Verger	Dinah R.	Sallie T.	Rusty T.	Rusty T.
Ushers	Charles Team	Peters Team	Abernathay	Abernathay
L. E. M.	Jack W.	Gayland R.	Mike A.	Mike A.
10:30 AM				
Verger	Rocio M.	Scott J.	Ben B.	Rocio M.
Ushers	Gray/Matthews	Wilcox/Tate	Howard	Martin/Sikes
Readers	Trevor E.	Heather B.	Jessica W.	Tricha W.
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Jim S.	Alan R.	Sammy Y.	Richard J.
Acolytes	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 1

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Epiphany
Jan. 3 @ 6 pm



Potluck and Celebration— Bring your
Christmas Tree for the Bonfire!
1404 Creekwood Ln, Longview, TX 75602

