

# *Every Perfect Gift*

*Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift,  
is from above – James 1:17*

November 8, 2021

Dear Friends,

This morning as I was reading the Bible, I began reflecting on Matthew 6:19-21. It reads, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths break in and steal. Rather lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven. For where your treasure lies, there will your heart be also.”

Holy Trinity is such a treasure! When I first moved to Florida, I began searching for a church home. I had moved several times in the past and never had difficulty finding a place to worship, but this time things were different. Over a period of years, I visited 17 churches, not finding one to call home. Finally, I walked through the doors of Holy Trinity. This time, things *were* different. This time, I knew I had found home.

Holy Trinity is such a blessing! It is filled with talent! I have heard it in the music of our bell choir and in Juan, our music director, and in the voices of our choir and congregation. I have seen it in the loving way our Altar Guild prepares the altar for our services. I have appreciated your talent in the way you give wisdom, counsel, and experience to our Vestry and our committees. I have seen your talent manifest in the volunteers in and donations to our Thrift Store, and in the Outreach Committee projects, and in the gifts of food you bring for the hungry each Sunday. I have experienced it in the love and welcoming spirit you show me and each other each and every Sunday at Holy Trinity. I have experienced it in the structure and guidance Pastor Daniel provides to our church. We have an abundance of Talent in our church community! Each of you has something you do well, and I am grateful that you share your time and talents with our community and our neighbors.

(over)

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
3240 North McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, Florida 33761

Holy Trinity is such a joy! Why do you attend Holy Trinity? I know why I do. At Holy Trinity I have found love beyond measure. I have found fellowship that brings me joy. I have found inspiration that brings me closer to God. I have found acts of service that help me see the kingdom of God. At Holy Trinity, I have found home.

How do we support and maintain Holy Trinity? We do it through giving. We give, not from a place of obligation, but from a place of deep inner joy. Holy Trinity offers us a beautiful space to worship and we are the caretakers, the stewards of that joyous space. We need to be committed to our church. I give because the church needs to plan. The Vestry and the committees of the church need to be able to plan the programs and ministries we offer for the coming year, and the years to come.

It took me a long time to realize that I needed to pledge; to realize that a church needs to operate within a budget; to realize that a church needs to not only meet its budget, but exceed the budget, so that the church can continue to grow, and plan for the future.

Every year I make a personal budget. The first item on that budget is my pledge to Holy Trinity. Once that is done, I never look at that item again. If my finances come up short at that end of the month, I don't think, "well, maybe I just won't send that money to Holy Trinity this month". I never look at that dollar figure in my budget again. Giving becomes easy. Giving allows me freedom to serve God. My giving comes from a place of joy. My giving comes from a grateful heart. Giving allows me to put my treasure where my heart is.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Make a commitment to the financial support of Holy Trinity today! Commit more than you did last year. Give from a place of joy! Give thanks, with a grateful heart!

May God's blessings be upon you this day,

*Joni Pfeifer*

Joni Pfeifer,  
Senior Warden

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
3240 North McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, Florida 33761