

# The Navigator

The Newsletter of the Monastic Fellowship of Saint Brendan's  
Volume XV, No. 4 — Fall 2019

## Holy Trinity Chapel: The Heart of Saint Brendan's

Fr. Alan Andraeas, Prior

We're doing something different with this issue of *The Navigator*. Rather than working through Saint Brendan's *Rule of Life* (this edition would've focused on the Fruit of Joy), we're going to give God thanks for Holy Trinity Chapel—from its first days as a small "prayer closet" in a 200-year old farmhouse to the newly consecrated chapel that sits at the heart of the Saint Brendan's homestead.

Holy Trinity Chapel has changed shape and locations over the past 15 years, but it has always been the center of life here because worship, adoration, and prayer should occupy the

center of a devoted and disciplined Christian life. True, there were days and seasons when it seemed like the application of our *Rule* to daily life felt stretched or ignored, and other occasions when the presence of the Holy Spirit was so palpable that every guest and retreatant would make that same observation. Yet in both extremes, the chapel was always there.

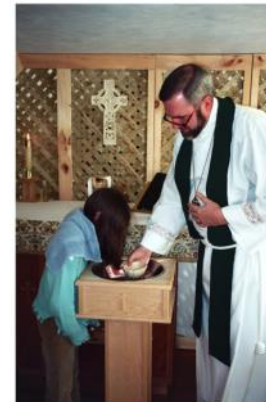
As the Priory or Mother House for the Fellowship (basically, the base of operations for everyone associated with Saint Brendan's), that means Holy Trinity Chapel is your chapel, too! So we're going to look at its beginnings, its time as a house church, and its construction as a chapel. We'll do this mostly through photos, which means you might even see the faces of a few of our Fellowship members during their visits here to help. So let's begin at the beginning. The year is 2005, and we just arrived to the property...



The small 2nd-floor loft is framed up to give us a guest room on one side and a small chapel on the other side. It's hard to tell from the picture, but we could sit up to 10 people in the chapel.



While Holy Trinity Chapel had several earlier locations, this was the first location specifically designed to be the chapel.



The chapel did everything a church would do: Daily Offices, baptisms, weddings, worship, and receiving vows from our members.

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With extra Sunday visitors came the need for more space, not to mention that the steps to the 2nd floor were difficult.



The chapel was moved downstairs which ended up creating, in effect, a house church in our daily living/dining space.



MARY GREENE of Lubec and Helen Kilby of Edmunds, worshippers at Holy Trinity Chapel in Dennysville, assemble relief packages that will be sent to persecuted Christians living in Sudan. (Alan Andraeas photo)

### Dennysville chapel sends aid to Sudan

Prior to Sunday worship on August 18, members of Holy Trinity Chapel in Dennysville assembled relief packages that will be distributed to persecuted Christian communities in the African nation of Sudan. The relief packages contained shoes, clothing, blankets, bed linens, soap, school supplies and other essential items.

It took several weeks for chapel members to gather all of the supplies. A picture of the congregation was also added to each package. After the Eucharist the completed packages were placed on the altar and blessed by Father Alan Andraeas. They will be sent to Voice of the Martyrs for final shipping to Africa.

Voice of the Martyrs is a mission organization that ministers to Christians who are displaced and persecuted because of their faith. Holy Trinity Chapel is a conservative Anglican mission fellowship that meets at 38 Cemetery Road in Dennysville. For more information or Eucharist service times, call Rev. Dr. Alan Andraeas or Sue Andraeas at 726-5129 or e-mail <[a href="mailto:saintbrendans@pwless.net">saintbrendans@pwless.net>.



It was always a joy when Bishop Lipka would come for an episcopal visit.



During one of their several visits to Saint Brendan's, Fellowship members Clay and Marcia presented us with a sign for Holy Trinity Chapel.



It was always a challenge to find the right placement for all the chapel furnishings in our dining room. Toward the end, we flipped everything around backwards and put the altar where the chairs used to be.



Babies were a particular delight at Holy Trinity Chapel. This is young Kagan who now helps to extinguish candles after a service.

Here we are packing survival bags for the relief of persecuted Sudanese Christians.

After 10 years as a house church, however, it was finally time to build the chapel. Even so, we continued to meet in the Priory House during colder weather because the chapel didn't have heat until just last year. But as soon as there was a roof, we moved to the chapel during the summer months.



Where do you begin? With the first shovel full of dirt, May 6, 2013.



Young Thomas, son of an area pastor, watches as the foundation is poured.



With the excavation and foundation work complete, it's time to backfill up to the frost wall and begin the subflooring.



Fr. Alan and neighbor, Spencer, work on joists and subflooring.



With subflooring complete, a cross is set up to mark the location of the future altar.



It was an amazing process as we watched local carpenter, Terry, frame up the walls. What a thrill as we witnessed the chapel taking shape.



One by one the roof trusses were raised and fixed into position.



One of the many conversations that Fr. Alan had with the carpenter during the construction.



Sheathing and shingling the roof. What a wonderful day to finally stand in the chapel with a roof over our heads!



Even without lights, heat, or windows, we moved the services into the chapel during the summer months.



Fr. Alan celebrating the Eucharist "in the rough." No one seemed to mind because it felt like a cathedral!



Fellowship member, Clay, from Arizona helped to cut down old, long pews so that they could fit in the chapel.



Dear friends and neighbors, Lloyd (we call him Pilly) and Ron, graciously helped to install our windows.



Sue and neighbor, Gwen, are among the very first people to be pictured with the new stained glass window.



Fellowship member, Neal, from Maryland, applies primer to some outdoor molding and trim.



Fr. Alan and Sue build the framework for a raised platform in the front of the chapel.



The altar and other furnishings are set in place. It looks more like a church every day.



Sue and neighbor, Pilly, are at the very peak of the chapel as they nail the cedar shingles to the exterior wall.



Sue works on staining the wainscot that wraps around the whole interior of the chapel.



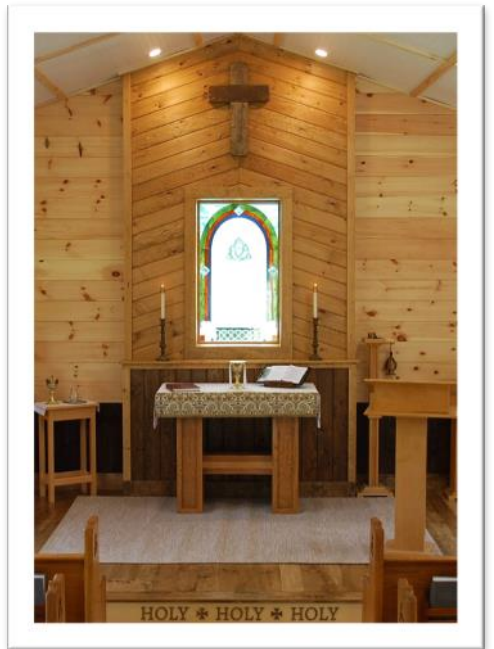
Fr. Alan works on building and installing all the interior window boxes and trim.



Floorboards and trim are added to the platform and the front is faced with the words “Holy, Holy, Holy”. Simple and beautiful at the same time.



Sue applies several coats of floor-grade polyurethane to the platform. The rest of the floor will hopefully be installed next summer.



Heat, lighting, trim, and even an “old, rugged cross” made from 200-year old lumber found under the barn make the chapel ready for its official service of consecration after six years of slow but debt-free work. Praise God!



Bp. Lipka and his wife, Susan, arrive on Saturday, September 21, 2019, for the consecration service.



Everything is blessed and anointed in the chapel, even the keyboard.



After the altar is blessed, it is officially ‘dressed’ by Fr. Alan and Sue.



The bishop’s miter takes its rightful place on the front corner of the altar.



Once the building and everything in it were consecrated, the most important thing left to do was to celebrate the Eucharist.



So here we are. Holy Trinity Chapel, YOUR chapel, is built and consecrated; a place of worship, prayer, adoration, and instruction. There were times when it felt like it was crawling along at a snail’s pace. There were other times when we could hardly catch our breath. So many hands helped. So many gifts and donation were given to the honor of Jesus Christ. There’s still quite a bit to do—the floor, the interior of the sacristy, some more interior trim, outdoor floodlights, etc.—but God’s house now sits at the center of Saint Brendan’s. The only thing that remains now is to close with the words we used at the conclusion of the ceremony: *“Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!”*

# Other Social and Media Links...



For Saint Brendan's Official Website, go here...

[www.saintbrendans-online.org](http://www.saintbrendans-online.org)



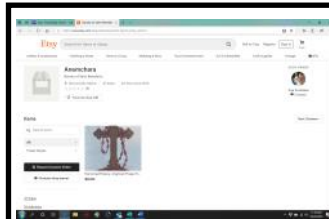
For Saint Brendan's Official Facebook page, go here...

[www.facebook.com/st.brendansfellowhip/](http://www.facebook.com/st.brendansfellowhip/)



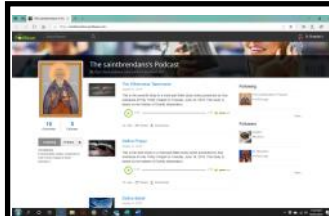
For Holy Trinity Chapel's Official Facebook page, go here...

[www.facebook.com/holytrinitychapel.maine/](http://www.facebook.com/holytrinitychapel.maine/)



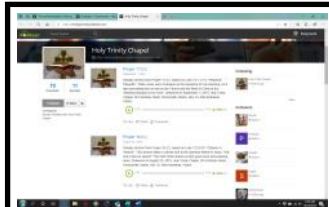
For Saint Brendan's Store, go here...

[www.etsy.com/shop/Anemchara/](http://www.etsy.com/shop/Anemchara/)



For our Tuesday Bible Study Podcasts, go here...

[saintbrendans.podbean.com/](http://saintbrendans.podbean.com/)



For our Sunday Chapel Sermon Podcasts, go here...

[frumpymonk.podbean.com/](http://frumpymonk.podbean.com/)



For Fr. Alan's Book "Sacred House", go here...

[www.amazon.com/Sacred-House-Liturgical-Sacramental-Church/](http://www.amazon.com/Sacred-House-Liturgical-Sacramental-Church/)

**The Final Word: Irenaeus (130-200 AD)** — Bishop of Lyons (in modern-day France); received early instruction from Polycarp (69-156) who was a disciple of the Apostle John. He fought heresy and helped define orthodoxy.



Although dispersed throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, the Church has received this faith from the Apostles and their disciples. The Church received this preaching and this faith. Although she is scattered throughout the whole world, yet, she carefully preserves it, as if she occupied only one house. She also believes these points just as if she had only one soul, and one and the same heart. She proclaims these things, teaches them, and hands them down, with perfect harmony—as if she possessed only one mouth. For although the languages of the world are different, yet the significance of the Tradition is one and the same. For the churches which have been planted in Germany do not believe or hand down anything differently than the churches in Spain; just as the churches in Gaul, throughout the East, in Egypt, Libya or the central regions of the world are also the same.

The path of those belonging to the Church encircles the whole world, as possessing the sure and same Tradition from the Apostles. It enables us to see that the faith of every believer is one and the same. For all receive one and the same God the Father. All believe in the same dispensation regarding the incarnation of the Son of God. All are cognizant of the same gift of the Spirit, and are familiar with the same commandments. All preserve the same form of ecclesiastical constitution and expect the same return of the Lord. All await the same salvation of the complete man, that is, the soul and the body. And undoubtedly the preaching of the Church is true and steadfast, in which one and the same way of salvation is shown throughout the whole world.

The Church preaches the truth everywhere, and she is the seven-branched candlestick that bears the light of Christ. Those, therefore, who abandon the conciliar preaching of the Church call into question the knowledge and anointing of our holy bishops. It behooves us, therefore, to avoid their strange doctrines and to take careful heed lest we also suffer any spiritual injury from them. Rather, let us flee to the Church and be brought up in her bosom, and be nourished with the Lord's Scriptures. For the Church has been planted as a garden in this world.

### **Saint Brendan's Fellowship**

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**www.facebook.com/st.brendansfellowship  
www.facebook.com/holytrinitychapel.maine  
frumpymonk.podbean.com (sermon podcasts)  
saintbrendans.podbean.com (Bible study podcasts)**

### **WE COVET YOUR PRAYERS!!!**

Please continue to pray for Saint Brendan's and these various needs:

- For necessary remodeling of the Priory House so that we can host more retreatants and guests.
- For the completion of the interior construction Holy Trinity Chapel.
- For physical healing of various conditions for both Fr. Alan and Sue.
- For discernment as we continue to define and refine Saint Brendan's role in the Body of Christ and this local community.

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