

# Trinity's History

*"Every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God."  
-Hebrews 3:4*

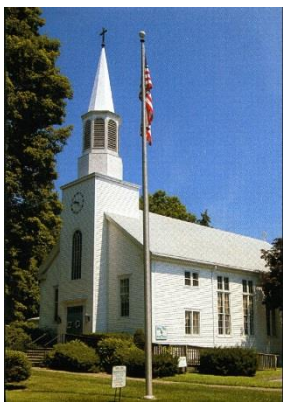
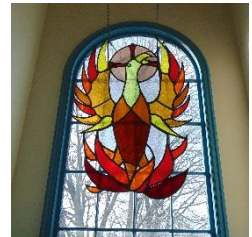


As early as 1815, Episcopal services were held in private homes in Nichols by clergy from surrounding parishes. On November 9, 1847, Trinity Episcopal Church was incorporated by the Ecclesiastical Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Encouraged and assisted in the formation of their church by the Rev. Gordon Coit, D.D., of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, a group of Nichols Farms' residents gathered in the home of James B. Curtiss to pen the Act of Incorporation.

The twelve families of the new church, no longer satisfied with meeting in different homes, began raising funds to build a church of their own. In December 1847 they chose a spot on a hill overlooking the surrounding farmland at the corner of Huntington Turnpike and Jerusalem Hill Road. While construction was underway, the Rev. Enoch Huntington, Trinity's first rector, held worship services in the homes of parishioners. In May 1849, Trinity Episcopal Church was consecrated.

The Peet Memorial Parish Hall was built in 1921. The present rectory and grounds surrounding it were given to Trinity Church in 1933 from the estate of George and Elizabeth Peet. The church was moved from its original location to its present one in 1942 to accommodate the newly built Parkway. The original Peet family residence became the rectory. The mission became a parish in 1958.

Trinity faced its greatest ordeal in 1969 when the original church was destroyed by fire. The church was rebuilt and Peet Memorial Parish Hall, which had been a separate building, was incorporated into the new structure. The present church, dedicated in November 1970, is in the traditional white New England style and has a seating capacity of 240. The Phoenix is an early Christian symbol for the Resurrection and Renewal; Greek mythology recounted that a golden and scarlet-hued bird, more splendid than the eagle, rose anew from the ashes of its own conflagration every 500 years. This glorious figure, prominently placed in the choir loft, is the perfect symbol for the renewed spirit of Trinity Parish following our fire.



A memorial garden lies between the church and the rectory. The garden, established in 1996, enhances the beauty of our property and provides a peaceful spot for meditation and the interment of the ashes of deceased parishioners and their families.

In 1959, approximately 7.25 acres of undeveloped land to the north of the church was donated to Trinity by Samuel Cutting. The Town of Trumbull made an offer to Trinity to purchase this property to be maintained as open space. In 2007, the Parish accepted the offer and the proceeds from the sale were used to establish an endowment fund which yields an income stream for Trinity's general fund.