

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Honoring the Class of 2026



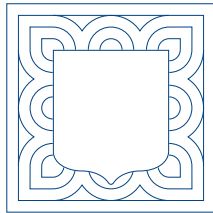
*in
the Two Hundred and Third Year
of the College
May the Sixteenth
Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

The Tradition of Trinity College Baccalaureate

The Trinity College baccalaureate celebration seeks to honor our community's scholars—both students and faculty members. This occasion of celebration reflects our liberal arts environment, invites thanksgiving, and includes elements of the rich diversity of spiritual, religious, and ethical thinking embodied by our community. We welcome all students, faculty, and staff, as well as family, friends, and visitors today.

Applause is welcome. Please silence mobile devices.



Our Student Speaker—Alexander Nadelberg '26

Alexander Nadelberg '26 will graduate with a double major in Jewish studies and international studies: Middle Eastern studies. An active member of the Trinity College community, he served as Hillel president in 2024, has been singing with the Accidentals since his first year, is a brother of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, twice served as a Summit-to-Success (S2S) pre-orientation mentor, and, after studying in Rome last spring, has been a Global Engagement Office program ambassador for Rome. Beyond campus, Nadelberg is the religious school music teacher at Congregation Beth Israel in West Hartford, where for four years he has led music classes for grades K–6 every Sunday.

During his time at Trinity, Nadelberg held internships at the Jewish Federations of North America's New York City headquarters and at Gratz College's Center for Holocaust Studies and Human Rights. He undertook a senior thesis on Jewish resistance and collective memory through the lens of the Masada narrative. Nadelberg hopes to enter the Jewish nonprofit world after graduation, working for a few years before continuing his education. He is grateful to the friends and family who have come to support him and to the faculty, staff, advisers, and administrators who guided him these past four years.

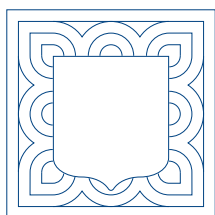
Our Faculty Speaker—Ibrahim Shikaki

Associate Professor of Economics Ibrahim Shikaki has taught at Trinity College since 2019. He completed undergraduate studies at Birzeit University in Palestine and earned a Ph.D. in economics from The New School for Social Research in New York.

His research focuses on macroeconomic modeling, growth and distribution, and economic history, with particular emphasis on the political economy of Palestine. More broadly, his work examines the limitations of conventional macroeconomic frameworks when applied to developing economies and seeks to develop approaches that better account for the political, social, and institutional contexts shaping economic outcomes.

Shikaki has held teaching positions in the United States, Italy, and Palestine. At Trinity, he teaches courses on macroeconomic theory, economic growth, inequality, and the history of economic thought. His teaching approaches economics as a social science embedded in historical, political, and institutional realities rather than as a purely technical field. Across the curriculum, he aims to equip students with strong analytical tools while encouraging them to engage critically with questions of power, inequality, and social change.

Shikaki views teaching as an ongoing and reflective process shaped by continual learning and adaptation. Having taught economics on three continents, in two languages, and to students from a wide range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds, he believes one constant has remained: With each iteration, he comes away having learned something new about economics, about teaching, and often about himself.



Order of Service

Carillon Prelude

Procession

Cortège Académique
Ernest MacMillan (1893–1973)

Please stand as the Procession enters the Chapel.

Gathering Anthem

The Chapel Singers
Anna McAdams '28, soprano

“All that Hath Life and Breath”
Music by René Clausen (b. 1953)
Words from Psalms 96 and 22

All that hath life and breath praise
ye the Lord,
shout to the Lord, alleluia!
Praise the Lord with joyful song,
sing to the Lord with thanksgiving,
alleluia!

Unto Thee, O Lord, have I made
supplication,
and cried unto the rock of my

salvation;
but Thou hast heard my voice,
and renewed my weary spirit.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the king of creation.
O my soul praise him for he is thy
health and salvation.

Praise him, laud him, alleluia!

Opening Prayer

Rabbi Bonnie Margulis
Director of Hillel and Jewish Life

Welcome

The Very Reverend Marcus George Halley
Chaplain to the College and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life

Wisdom from the Dhammapada

Page Donahue '26

“Not by passing judgments rashly does one become just.
The wise person, having examined both right and wrong,
judges others impartially.
One who guides others not by violence but by righteousness,
who is impartial and discerning—
that one is called wise.”

Dhammapada 19:256-257

Introduction of Faculty Speaker

Emmanuel Mitikie '26

Faculty Speaker

Ibrahim Shikaki

Associate Professor of Economics

Anthem

The Chapel Singers

“That Which Remains”

Music by Andrea Ramsey (b. 1977)

Words by Helen Keller (1880–1968), from *The Open Door*

What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose.
A sunset, a mountain bathed in moonlight,
the ocean in calm and in storm—
we see these, love their beauty,
hold the vision to our hearts.

All that we love deeply becomes part of us.
Life is overlord of Death,
life is stronger than death,
and Love can never lose its own.

Wisdom from the Bhagavad Gita

Navya Arora '26

कर्म्मण्येवाधकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।
मा कर्म्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ॥
योगस्थः कुरु कर्म्मणासिङ्गं त्यक्त्वा धनञ्जय ।
सद्दिग्ध्यसद्दिग्ध्योः समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते ॥

*Your right is to action alone, never to its fruits.
Let not the fruits of action be your motive,
nor let your attachment be to inaction.
Established in yoga, perform actions,
abandoning attachment, O Arjuna,
and remaining even-minded in success and failure.
Such equanimity is called yoga.*

Bhagavad Gita 2:47–48

Introduction of Student Speaker

Joseph J. DiChristina

Special Adviser to the President

Student Speaker

Alexander Nadelberg '26

Anthem

The Chapel Singers

“I Shall Pass Through This World”
Music by Margaret Bonds (1913–1972)
Words by Etienne de Grellet (1773–1855)

I shall pass through this world but once;
therefore, any good that I can do
or any kindness that I can show to any human being;
let me do it now.
Let me not defer or neglect it,
for I shall not pass this way again.

Concluding Prayer

*Imam Osman Şimşek
Director of Muslim Life*

Alma Mater

The Chapel Singers

*Please stand for the singing of the Alma Mater, and remain standing
for the Retiring Procession.*

“Neath the Elms”

*Words and melody by Augustus P. Burgwin, Class of 1882
Arranged by Christopher Houlihan '09*

'Neath the elms of our old Trinity,
'Neath the elms of our dear old Trinity,
No more shall we meet our classmates to greet,
'Neath the elms of our old Trinity,

On the hills of our old Trinity,
In the halls of our dear old Trinity,
There is bright merry cheer, there are friends true and dear,
'Neath the elms of our old Trinity,

College days are from care and sorrow free,
And oft will we seek in memory
those days that are past, far too joyous to last
'Neath the elms of our old Trinity,

Then we'll sing to our old Trinity,
to our dear old Alma Mater Trinity,
We're together today, And tomorrow away,
Far away from our old Trinity.

Retiring Procession

*Toccata, from Symphony No. 5, op. 42, no. 1
Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)*

Christopher D. Yi '26, organ

Carillon Postlude

Order of Procession

William George Brennan '27, *verger*
Trinity College Chapel Verger and Head Sacristan

Navya Arora '26

Page Donahue '26

Emmanuel Mitikie '26

Ibrahim Shikaki, *faculty speaker*
Associate Professor of Economics

Alexander Nadelberg '26, *student speaker*

Rabbi Bonnie Margulis
Director of Hillel and Jewish Life

Imam Osman Şimşek
Director of Muslim Life

The Very Reverend Marcus George Halley
Chaplain to the College and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life

Joseph J. DiChristina, *mace bearer*
Special Adviser to the President

Daniel G. Lugo
Trinity College President

Other Participants

Christopher Houlihan '09, *organ and conductor*
John Rose Distinguished College Organist, Director of Chapel Music,
and Artist-in-Residence

Christopher D. Yi '26, organ
Assistant Chapel Organist

Ellen Dickinson, *carillon*
College Carillonist

Jennifer Fancher, *greeter*
*Chapel Administrator and Spiritual and Religious Life Program
Coordinator*

The Chapel Singers

Ethan Ambrossi '27

Will Bannon '28

Tommy Carty '28

Nicholas Cimillo '26,
secretary and marshal

Grace Fangmann '26,
vice president and marshal

Abigail Gomes '28

Amber Gray '26

Nicholas Keim '26,
treasurer

Maria Korman '27

Anna McAdams '28

Valentina Meléndez Puente '29

Elijah Morris '28

Claire Murray '27

Luca Paleologo '27

Beck Smith '29

Kat St. Amand '28

Zarina Stone '26
president

Benjamin Wulf '29

Tracy Xu '26

Chris Yi '26

Trinity College

Celebrate and congratulate the Class of 2026
by tagging us on social media
[@TrinityCollege](#)