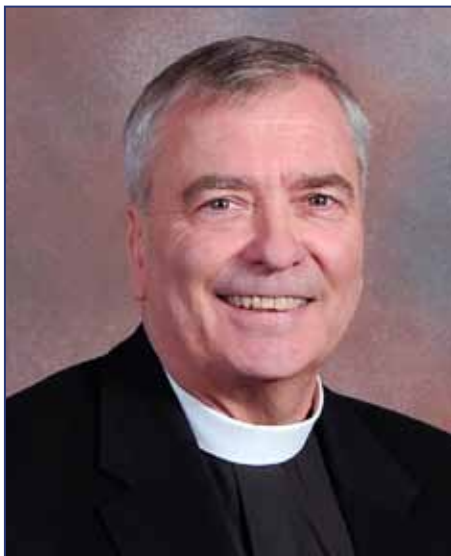


The Epistle

April 2016



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

A very curious thing happened when Jesus appeared to his disciples on the evening of the resurrection. The first words out of his mouth "Peace be with you." And then he said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. If you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Jesus connects peace with forgiveness. Hmm!

Might be worth an internal audit. If you are not experiencing an inner sense of peace, is there anyone (including yourself) that you haven't forgiven? Karl Schinke mentioned to me on Sunday morning that it was Nelson Mandela who defined resentment (holding on to unforgiveness) as "like drinking poison and hoping the other guy dies." Might this also apply to myself when I am unwilling to forgive me.

Remember you don't, have to forgive. There is actually a benefit in not forgiving. I get to be Right! There is a choice here. I can be right or I can be related.

Actually, most people I know would rather be right than related. As funny as it sounds, when I don't forgive myself I get to be right about how awful I am.

Lent is the time we are invited to do an internal audit. The sense of forgiveness is so crucial to our well-being that Jesus implies it is related to the peace within.

Use this Easter season to discover peace within. Make the invitation of Jesus personal: Peace be with you!

Warmly,

Father Stephen

Spring Gala Tricky Tray

The Christ Church Spring Gala Tricky Tray will be held on Friday, May 6, 2016 at 7:00 pm! Please mark your calendars and start to think about what you can donate. We'd love to have themed baskets, or monetary donations. Do you have any Christmas gifts that you don't know what to do with? We'll gladly take them and use them in one of the baskets. Please consider asking your employer for a donation too. We love certificates to any business. If you have any specific talent, consider how that could be used... maybe you needlepoint, crochet, draw or paint, make something for us! Donations are accepted any time between now and the Tricky Tray. We also need lots of volunteers to help with wrapping, set up, baking clean up etc. Soon the sign up sheets will be posted in the Parish Hall.

Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and the report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit. The actions of the Little Lamb Management Group, and the actions of the Thrift Shoppe Management Group were ratified.

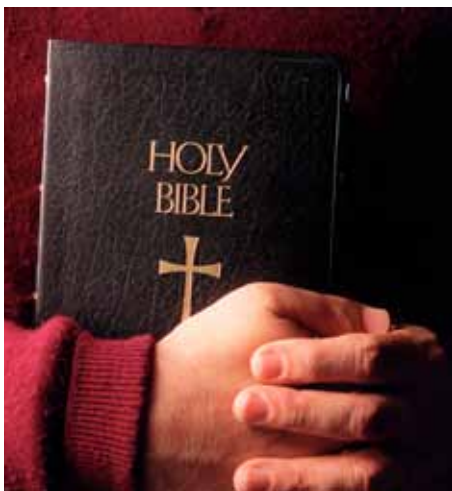
- The Buildings and Grounds committee fixed the leak in the roof over the kitchen and Parish Hall.
- A motion was passed to purchase a shed for the Thrift Shoppe. The Thrift Shoppe will pay for a third, a third will come from *Soup Off* proceeds and a third will come from Christ Church maintenance and repair budget.

The minutes of the Vestry meeting will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall as they become available. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016.



Congratulations to Our Confirmands

The following Christ Church parishioners were Confirmed on April 16 at the Cathedral in Newark: Christopher Angermund, Maxine Boudway, Andrew Conklin, Kyle Conklin, Trevor Elliott, Jenna Goodwin, Molly McAtee, Megan Miller, Amanda Onderlinde, Erin Porter and Emily Shepherd. Additionally, two adults were received into the Episcopal Church at the Confirmation service at the Cathedral: Mary Baumer and Janet Furness. Congratulations to all of you!



Capital Campaign Offering Envelopes

Capital Campaign Offering envelopes are available for your convenience, and can be found on the table in the Vestry Room or in the Parish Office.



Pictured above is the Beefsteak Dinner bread tower from the winning table.

Beefsteak Dinner

The Beefsteak Dinner was a big success! Thank you to all the coordinators, to those who worked in the kitchen, to the set up and clean up crews, and to those who attended. We are already looking forward to next year!



Family Promise

Family Promise of Passaic County brings shelter, meals and support to families without homes. Family Promise serves families with children without regard to race, religion or age. Families may stay in the network as needed, providing they are adhering to guest guidelines and making progress in their own efforts towards self-sufficiency.

Once again, Christ Church will host approximately 12-14 people (approximately 4 families) for a one week period beginning Sunday, May 15 through Sunday, May 22. Christ Church volunteers will cook, serve meals, stay overnight, interact with guests. We need volunteers to provide dinners for each day that week, have fellowship time with our guests in the evenings, stay overnight (9:30 pm until 7:30 am), provide food for breakfasts and lunches.

This is an opportunity for Christ Church to do what we do best in providing hospitality, delicious food, and the warmth and love we have to offer, to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Our Family Promise weeks have been so successful because of the many people who volunteered. Please volunteer to participate in whatever way you can. Sign up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall. For questions or more information, please call the Parish Office, 973-835-2207 or Sue Helm, 973-856-2129.

Sue Helm



Sunday School News

On February 21st, the Sunday School children all met together in a group class. This class was led for the last time by the 2016 confirmation class and the theme of the class, appropriately, was 'love'. This will be the last group class led by the confirmation class this year. The Sunday School would like to thank the confirmation children, their teacher Maria Elliott and Father Stephen for fostering this interactive teaching time between the confirmation class and the Sunday School students.

On March 13th, Christ Church celebrated Girl Scout Sunday, and the church was filled with many girl scouts and their parents from the troops in the area. Father Stephen acknowledged every Girl Scout in attendance and allowed each parent the opportunity to state what they best loved about their child. The leaders made certain that children without parents at the service were also acknowledged and every scout glowed with pride as their finer attributes were noted. All of the Christ Church Sunday School children (Girl Scouts and others) remained in church so they could also be part of this service. It was great to welcome these Scouts from the community and we hope to see them again.

The Sunday School continues to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis. The Wild Game night raised more than \$500! Karen Simone is coordinating a Spring flower sale so if you are interested in sprucing up your yard please consider buying some flowers from the Sunday School and helping a worthy cause.

The Sunday School teachers will continue to educate your children on important Christian values and lessons, especially during Lent and the Easter season. We know your children are listening by their behaviors and actions and we enjoy watching them thrive. Thank you for allowing us to nurture this growth.

*Karen Cahill, Louise Hanania
and Debbie Onderlinde*



Soup on Sunday

The *Soup on Sunday* program continues in Spring with an expanded outreach. The proceeds from soup will be donated to Father Stephen's granddaughter who has cystic fibrosis.

To order, simply use the soup selection list that is available in the Parish Hall. When 12 pints of a particular soup have been ordered, that particular soup

will be made during the week and have it ready for pick up on the next Sunday.

For those who don't always plan in advance, we will more than likely have some specials available from time to time and an inventory available from the freezer. Feel free to take what you like from the freezer and pay Maureen in the Parish Office, or Joel at the 8:00 coffee hour.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the parish hall if you would like to order soups and to support this special cause!

Joel Finger

Save the Date and Ditch the Clutter!

July 16 is the Town-wide Garage Sale.

Christ Church offers the coolest (air conditioned) spot on the block and serves breakfast, baked goods, and lunch. Help us fill the Parish Hall with your former treasures. (Please, no furniture, clothing, or televisions.) Volunteer to help - just for the fun of it! For more information, contact Janet Furness - 585-734-0374.



Treasurer's Note

In an effort to appropriate funds to the correct accounts, any checks intended for the Capital Campaign should be made out to Christ Church noting "Capital Campaign" on the memo line. Thank you for your attention to this detail.



Choir Fund Raiser

Do you have old cellphones, ink cartridges or other small electronic devices such as games, MP3 players and iPods? Don't toss them in the trash!! Bring them in and leave them in our box in the church office. The choir can recycle these items and receive cash for them! It's a win, win...the choir can buy more great music and you can help the environment at the same time.

Book of Remembrance

You may have noticed the red book on the Prayer Desk on November 2, and when the Lay Reader read the Prayers of the People, names you haven't heard in a while were read along with the names of those in whose memory altar flowers were given, or

who were recently deceased. Once a year, on All Saints' Day, or the Sunday after All Saints' Day, names added to the Book of Remembrance over the past 5 years or so are read.

If you would like a loved one's name inscribed in the Book of Remembrance, which normally resides in the case on the wall to the right of the Baptismal Font, please see Erica Stewart or any one of the Altar Guild members. The person's name, as you would like it to appear (for example, with or without a middle initial or name, etc.), and their birth and death year, will be inscribed in the book and read aloud next year during the Prayers of the People on All Saints' Day. A \$5.00 donation to the Altar Guild is requested.

Just a Reminder

We recycle at Christ Church. Plastics, glass, and metal cans should be placed in the large white plastic containers with the red tops, near the dumpster outside the kitchen. Paper and card board should be flattened and stacked neatly in the blue wire cart, also outside the kitchen, next to the dumpster.

Your help with these items is greatly appreciated since there is no particular person in charge of these tasks, and they shouldn't accumulate in the kitchen. Thanks in advance!



Parish Family Birthdays-April

Happy Birthday to all of you in our parish family having birthdays in the month of April. If you have not yet informed the parish office of your birth-date, please call Maureen at 973-835-2207.

- 1 - Jenny Bogert
- 6 - Joe Blauvelt
- 6 - Terry Kearney
- 9 - Bruce Gottheiner
- 12 - Sean Porter
- 13 - Denise Pugsley
- 15 - Bill Sondermeyer
- 19 - Melanie Liston
- 21 - John Fitzgerald
- 26 - Pennie Waltz
- 26 - Jessica Kida Swanson
- 28 - Danielle Geresi
- 29 - Andy Shaw

Vacation Rental

Condo, hotel, or villa accommodations available for rent. Flexible Time and locations across the globe! These are our personal Time shares that we currently cannot use. I offer a NO obligation availability search, so please allow me to find you a great resort, at a location of your choice, at a cost that fits your budget.

Cheryl Finger
cheryl@graphinn.com
973-616-0451



Personalized Cards

If you are looking for a convenient way to send out cards to friends, family, and/or business relations...look no further!

Order personalized cards with your name or signature printed directly on the card and return address printed directly on the envelope! This is a huge time-saving convenience!

Best of all, these cards are offered at a 20% discount and, in addition, Christ Church receives 7% back on the order...making your order a win-win for everyone.

The entire line of cards are available online for perusal at www.graphicinnovations.carlsoncraft.com. On the website, you will be able to select a stock verse or create your own, select typestyles, and personalize it further by adding your name.

There are cards available for all budgets – go on, have some fun! Call Cheryl Finger with any questions or if assistance is needed at 973-616-0309.

To preview products online:
www.graphicinnovations.carlsoncraft.com

Our Communal Kitchen

There are many of us who use the kitchen at the church. Those who do should bear in mind the following guidelines:

- Leave the kitchen the way you found it. Everything should be cleaned, hand-dried, and put away. The counters and work surfaces should be clean and free of clutter. It's really nice to come into a clean kitchen.
- If you use cloth towels it would be greatly appreciated if you can bring them home, add them to your own laundry, and return them.
- Make sure the refrigerator doors are completely closed.
- Lock all lockable cabinets before your departure.
- Your help with maintenance is greatly appreciated since there is no particular person in charge of our kitchen; therefore, we all are. Thank you in advance!

The Thrift Shoppe

at 420 11 One Step Up

The Thrift Shoppe is now open on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 11:00 am until 12:00 noon. We are also open Tuesdays from 3:00 to 7:00 pm, Thursdays from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Donations can be left in the alcove just inside the kitchen door where the soda machine used to be. If there is anyone who has experience with Craig's List, the Thrift Shoppe would like some help posting some big items for sale. The Thrift Shoppe is always in need of shopping bags. For more information please call Florence at 973-962-6289 or 925-640-3421.

Florence Loscalzo

Yarn & Fabric Are Needed

The lovely senior woman who makes knitted and crocheted items such as slippers, scarves, booties, hats, baby blankets, etc. for charity events has expanded her outreach to making "coughing pillow teddy bears" for hospital patients who have had heart surgery. If you have any leftover yarn and fabric that she might be able to use, please consider donating it. Donations can be left in the Church office marked for Erica Stewart. Thank you to all who have donated and continue to donate - she greatly appreciates your donations!

Baptisms

March 6

Rebecca DeNunzio

April 10

Addison Joy Zatorski

Food for Friends

The second Sunday of each month is the traditional day to receive your contributions of canned or packaged food stuff and for personal hygiene items for distribution through our Food for Friends program. Items may be placed in baskets at the baptismal font or in the Children's Chapel. You may also bring items any time during the month and leave them by the box in the Guild Hall.

facebook

Christ Church is on Facebook

Christ Church is now on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com/christchurchpompton to become a fan.

*Give God what is right,
not what is left*



Grocery Gift Cards

The painless fundraiser!

When you buy Grocery Gift Cards today, you'll have a good feeling knowing that Christ Church receives a Nickel for every dollar you spend! Grocery gift cards are available from A&P, ShopRite, and Stop & Shop in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations. All of the cards will carry any unused balance until you use it up. Perhaps you would consider donating a Shop Rite gift card to Shepherd's Haven or to Food for Friends. Cards are available from Joe Blauvelt, Linda Meyer after the coffee hours and Maureen Kilian in the church office during the week.



Cards of Remembrance

Cards of remembrance are for those, who on the death of a friend, desire to send a memorial offering to Christ Church, instead of sending flowers. The cards are available through the Parish Office.

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark Mission Statement

*Equipping congregations...
Empowering people...
Engaging the world...
...with the hope and
justice of Jesus*

The Epistle

*The newsletter
of Christ Church,
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey
973.835.2207
www.christchurchpompton.org*

April 2016

Please submit all copy to Maureen Kilian, Parish Administrator in a typewritten format or e-mail to office@christchurchpompton.org by the 15th of each month.

The Epistle is designed by Graphic Innovations www.graphinn.com

Visit the parish calendar at the website at www.christchurchpompton.org