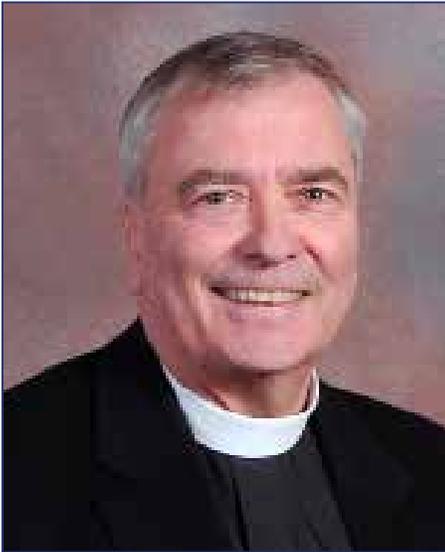




The  
*Epistle*

*March, 2019*

## A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

This comes from my sermon on the first Sunday of Lent. It is especially meant for those of you who weren't able to be in Church.

*"My friends, watch out! Don't let evil thoughts or doubts make any of you turn from the living God." Hebrews 3:12-19*

"Thoughts," in and of themselves, are not evil. You and I have a million of them every day. Most of them, I daresay, are judgmental. Thoughts are, however, the source of evil. They become the source of evil when I act on them.

I like to think of my thoughts as the voices that speak to me inside my head. They never go away. When I was eighteen years old, worshipping at the Episcopal Cathedral in Panama, I received a "calling" to be a priest. There was this voice that beckoned me into the priesthood. There was another voice, quite louder, that reminded me, "You can't be a

priest. You stole twenty dollars from your father that he asked you to put into the Church collection. People would laugh you right out of the Church if they knew who you really are!" The voice was troubling, to say the least. It haunted me for a long time with the reminder I'm no good or certainly not good enough.

It took me many years to discover that these two voices were distinct. One was the voice of God and the other the voice of the devil.

The discovery came when I learned to distinguish which voice was speaking to me. The voice of God beckoned me forward and left me with a sense of joy. The kingdom is always presented as something "at hand" or in front of us. "Thy kingdom come." The voice of the devil haunted me with the guilt of my past – something behind me. It affected my soul with a deep sense of resignation.

I use the voice of the devil now. Previously, it used me. I use it by responding, "Thank you for reminding me who I belong to, and it ain't you, sucker!"

Any voice that turns us from the living God is the voice of the devil. Actually, it's not my voice or I could stop it! Distinguish which voice is speaking to you. It will restore the kingdom within. It will promote "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done." Amen.

*Warmly,*

*Father Stephen*

## 5 Weeks in Lent "Everybody Always"

Beginning Wednesday, March 13th, Father Stephen will facilitate a 5 week evening Bible study based on Bob Goff's uplifting and thoughtful DVD series, *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*. Bob is the founder of Love Does, a non-profit organization that operates schools and pursues justice for children in conflict areas such as Uganda, Somalia, and Iraq. With some great humor and terrific connections to reality, he shares some of the stories from his life that have helped him understand what it truly means to love people the way Jesus loves -- without fear, insecurity, or restriction. The Study Guide is just under \$12 and available through any online bookstore. Dates: March 13, 20, 27, April 3 and 10, from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to let us know that you are coming. *Everybody Come!*

## Easter Eggstravaganza

The Eggstravaganza will take place on Saturday, April 20, at 9:00 am. A pancake breakfast will be served followed by an Easter egg hunt with treat filled eggs. Bring your eggs and dye them, and have a photo taken with the Easter Bunny! Tickets are \$8.00 per person. Please see Debbie Onderlinde for tickets or call her at 973-962-6359. Tickets can also be purchased through the Parish Office.





## Spring Gala Tricky Tray

The Christ Church Spring Gala Tricky Tray will be held on Friday, March 29, 2019 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 gift 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. The sign up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall. Please help in any way that you can so we can make this a very successful fundraiser!

Entrance tickets are \$15 a person and can be purchased at Coffee Hours or by calling the Parish Office at 973-835-2207. A Prepack of bidding ticket is available if you pay for it in advance, a \$48 dollar value for a cost of only \$35!

## Mothering Sunday

Christ Church will be celebrating Mothering Sunday at both services on Sunday, March 31, 2019. Mothering Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, has been observed since medieval times. In that era, children were taken from their families by the age of seven and sent to work as indentured servants of the lords of the land. Once a year, on the fourth Sunday of Lent, these children were sent home to visit their mothers, and allowed to bake and take with them Simnel bread as a gift.

Over the years the Anglican Church has carried on this observance as the first Mother's Day Celebration. You are invited to join us as we celebrate this joyous occasion. If you would like to bake your own Simnel bread, the recipe follows. Please bring it to church on March 31 and place it on the "birthday bank" table to be blessed. Eat the cake yourself, or share it with your Mom or loved ones.

## February Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The actions of the Little Lamb, Shepherd's Haven, and Thrift Shoppe Management Groups were ratified. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit.

- The Income & Expense Report for the period ending January 31, 2019 was distributed.

- Renovations will begin in the Parish Hall on March 3. The ceiling grid will be painted and new ceiling tiles will be installed.

When that is complete, the walls will be repaired and painted and new draperies will be installed. Repairs need to be made in the Narthex. There are broken floor tiles and there is no footing under the front door. The Church should have better handicap access. Options are being discussed.

- There will be an adult book study for five Wednesday in Lent beginning on March 13.

- The Tricky Tray will be on March 29. Lots of help and donations are needed.

- There will be a blood drive on March 23 in the Parish Hall from 8 am until 1 pm.

- A motion was passed to order a new Memorial Garden wall plaque using funds from Undesignated Memorials.

- A motion was passed to approve the Diocesan Parochial Report.

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, March 26, 2019.

*Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.*

*It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.*

*We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?*

*Who are you not to be?*

*You are a child of God...*

Nelson Mandela,  
Inaugural Speech, 1994

*Submitted by Deacon Barbara*

## A Reminder...

If you have not already done so, please renew your commitment to our Christ Church ministries by filling out and returning a 2019 Pledge Card. Extra pledge cards are available in the Vestry Room and in the Parish Office. You can put your card in the collection plate on Sunday, or bring it or mail it to the Parish Office, 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. Thank you very much for your stewardship of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!

## Christ Church T-Shirts for Sale

T-shirts with a Christ Church logo are available to be purchased. Take a look at the shirt in the Guild Hall. It is a nice quality grey t-shirt with a black logo in the corner. Sizes small, medium and large are \$10 each. The extra-large size is \$12 each. There are also a couple of polo style t-shirts that are \$25 each. You can give your payment to Sue Helm or Alison Thornhill, or leave it in the Parish Office labeled for t-shirts.



## Christ Church is on Facebook

Christ Church is now on Facebook. Go to [www.facebook.com/christchurchpompton](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchpompton) to become a fan.



## Sunday School Update

In January and February, our Sunday School outreach collection continued, now dedicated to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, in honor of Caleb Van De Voort. Caleb was a Christ Church Sunday School student, and we were all very saddened when he passed away in January from an Asthma attack. Therefore, the Sunday School will be raising money for the Asthma and Allergy Foundation this year in his memory.

To coincide with Super Bowl Sunday and to start our fundraising collection in the new year, the Sunday School had a Hoagie Sale. This was run by Sunday School teacher Karen Simone. This was started by taking pre-orders for the hoagies, then a few skilled sandwich makers made and delivered 60 hoagies on Sunday, February 3rd, in time for the big game! Thank you to all who helped and to those who purchased!

On Sunday, February 10th, the Sunday School had a Valentine's Day party following the 9:30 service. This was hosted by Sue Cook and was filled with goodies such as cookies and brownies. The children got to make Valentine's Day crafts and play games, win prizes, and of course, leave with a goodie bag of Valentine's Day swag. A few

adults also came to share in the fun and prizes and a good time was had by all!

Family Sundays were celebrated on the last Sunday in both January and February. As always, on Family Sunday, the children took responsibility for all of the readings, the cherub choir was adorable when they sang their songs, and the overall service was joyful and brought smiles to our faces. It is always so wonderful to enjoy the children in church.

Respectfully submitted by  
Karen Cahill for the Sunday School.

*Superintendents: Karen Cahill,  
Louise Hanania and  
Debbie Onderlinde.*

## Simnel Bread

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Have at room temperature 1 cup of butter and five eggs. Butter and flour one large loaf pan or two small ones. Cream until light and fluffy 1 cup butter (sweet is best) and 1 2/3 cups sugar; beat in, one at a time, five eggs.

When creamy, slowly add 2 cups flour. Fold in 1/2 cup of raisins or 1/2 cup of sultanas (white raisins) or 1/2 cup of currants or 1/4 cup of candied peel of citron. (Dredge fruit in 1/4 cup of flour.) Spoon mixture into buttered and floured loaf pan(s) and bake 45 minutes to an hour or until inserted toothpick comes out clean. Cool 15 minutes before removing from pan. Wrap in aluminum foil and then in plastic wrap. Do not eat for 24 hours. You may ice it if you wish with a butter cream icing or poured fondant.

*Paula Wootton*

## Choir Fund Raiser

We still want your electronics! The choir is still collecting electronics to recycle. We need old phones, Ipads, Ipods, hand-held games and of course used printer cartridges. The phones bring the most return but please remember to wipe them clean before you turn them in to us. We don't want your personal information to be vulnerable. Just bring in the old stuff and drop it in our box in the office. It's a win-win. They get recycled and we get some cash for new music.



## Openings for New Clients at Shepherd's Haven

We would like to cordially invite you to come and spend time with us at Shepherd's Haven. We are a non-profit activity and social center, where there is good food, great conversations and a lot of laughs. Our clients are great at trivia, enjoy painting, bingo, gardening, cooking, and games of skill and so much more. Come and meet some new people, our fabulous volunteers, and excellent staff. We are offering you a free day, with no obligations. We would love to see you and share with you a fun filled day. We are open Monday through Friday until 3:30pm. Call Leigh at 973-835-4747.

## Parish Family Birthdays-March

If you have not yet informed the parish office of your birthdate, please call Maureen at 973-835-2207.

- 3 - Catherine Shaw
- 3 - Deborah Onderlinde
- 6 - Lehman Mann
- 7 - Max Helm
- 7 - Zigi Zacs
- 8 - Karen Porter
- 8 - Kyle Conklin
- 13 - Brianna Lilienthal
- 13 - Val Rusinko
- 16 - Layne Swansen
- 18 - Patti Mitchell
- 19 - Bette Davis
- 19 - Melanie Liston
- 20 - Rebecca Lilienthal
- 21 - Jimmy Novak
- 21 - Gregory Schmidt
- 22 - Sue Helm
- 22 - Dave Kida
- 24 - Dan Hoeflinger
- 27 - John T. Tintera
- 28 - Nora Reynolds

## Looking ahead to April Birthdays:

- 1 - Jenny Bogert
- 2 - Anthony Longo
- 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



## Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

Christ Church is having a Krispy Kreme fundraiser. They offer a variety of doughnuts and coffee to suit your taste. You can order fresh Krispy Kreme Original Glazed doughnuts for a price of \$10 per dozen. They also offer special varieties of doughnuts for \$11 per dozen, available in Chocolate Iced, Lemon Filled, Raspberry Filled and Kreme Filled. Krispy Kreme Signature Coffee is \$9 for a 12 oz. bag, available in Rich, Smooth and Decaf. Order forms can be found in the Vestry Room and in the Parish Office. You can place your orders until April 17 for delivery in the end of April. If you have any questions, see Alison Thornhill or call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207.

## Blood Drive

Christ Church will host an America Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, March 23 from 8:00 am until 1:00pm in the Parish Hall. Appointments are preferred. To schedule an appointment, please visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter the sponsor keyword: Christ Church Pompton Lakes. If you have questions call 1-800-733-2767 or see Carole Turner.





## Neighborhood Initiative

**Y**OU are the reason for the Neighborhood Initiative. When life happens, it means a lot to have a neighbor nearby who is connected to your parish community and ready to serve you. Increasingly, Christ Church participants are finding this true. One of the joys of serving each other and our communities is that needs, small or large, brief or over a long-term, can be addressed through the network of neighborhoods created by the Outside In/Inside Out Commission of the Vestry. Neighborhood Leaders cross-reference resources with each other and are building a web of compassion. Here is the current list of Neighborhood Leaders who meet quarterly to discuss and plan how best to serve our 15 neighborhoods. Please let us know if your town is not represented. Feel free to call your Neighborhood Leader just to say hello or thanks for being there!

- **Bloomington/Butler/Kinnelon** - Karen Bogert - 973-634-0190
- **GlenRock/North Haledon/Totowa** - Marianne Taylor - 201-741-8825

- **Haskell/Wanaque** - Joyce McDiarmid - 862-262-0719
- **Oakland/Wyckoff/Franklin Lakes** - Geri Sheehan - 201-337-7395
- **Pompton Lakes, Christ Church area** - Nancy Dalzell - 973-202-7704
- **Pompton Lakes, Colfax** - Matt & Louise Hanania - 973-616-1604
- **Pompton Lakes Hamburg Turnpike North** - Alison Thornhill - 973-886-9728
- **Pompton Lakes, Hamburg Turnpike North** - Mary Ann Salerno-Fitzgerald - 973-835-6553
- **Pompton Plains/Pequanock** - Megan & Kat Menezes - 201-575-9459
- **Ringwood** - Joan Van Splinter - 973-856-4978
- **Ringwood** - Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Riverdale** - Bette Davis - 973-809-1384
- **Wayne** - Packanack Lake, Preakness - Cindy LoBue - 973-694-7813
- **Wayne** - Sheffield - Barbara Hazelwood - 973-696-4966
- **West Milford/Stockholm/Oak Ridge/Hewitt** - Barbara & Karl Schinke - 973-557-5465
- **Foreigners & Travelers** (SW Morris Cty/Somerset County/Princeton and beyond) - Andy Shaw - 973-927-0202



## Wellness Ministry

**O**n every first and third Sunday monthly, Carole Turner, RN will be available in the Guild Hall at 8:45 a.m. to check blood pressures and help anyone with health-related questions. Carole has been an emergency room nurse, a missionary nurse in Zimbabwe, a school nurse, and summer camp medical professional for the Girl Scouts. A member of the vestry here at Christ Church and on the Outside In/Inside Out Commission, Carole has made healing her mission in life. Recently she told us: "I welcome suggestions from anyone about health-related topics our community wants to hear about or support groups folks would be interested in or feel there is a need for. We have plans to begin a bereavement program this fall, including a support group." If you have ideas or messages for Carole Turner, leave a note in her mailbox outside the church office door or give the idea to Maureen in the office. And as Carole likes to say, "Be Well!"

## Open Enrollment at Little Lamb Children's Center

**L**ittle Lamb Children's Center is now accepting enrollment for all ages, 3 months to Kindergarten. Little Lamb, open all year from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm, provides a safe and caring learning environment for your children. We are a State licensed, air-conditioned facility with an enclosed outdoor play yard. For information, registration forms and rates contact the director at 973-835-2236 or [littlelambcc@gmail.com](mailto:littlelambcc@gmail.com)

## Luxury Vacations in Mexico and the Dominican Republic

Luxurious accommodations await you at fabulous resorts in both Mexico and the Dominican Republic. Prices are extremely affordable. Dates and accommodations are quite flexible. Advance planning is advisable. For pricing, availability, and accommodation details please see or call Cheryl Finger at 973-723-5044.



## 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](http://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](http://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 *One Step Up*



The Thrift Shoppe would like to invite you to visit our page on Facebook and on Yelp. We are in the process of trying to find new ways of advertising and are hoping to get you to help. If you are on Facebook or yelp, please visit our site and give us a review and Like our page. Please share our page with your Facebook friends. Our volunteers work very hard for an amazing cause and we want everyone to know about us!

The Thrift Shoppe is open Tuesdays from 3:15 pm until 7:00 pm, Thursdays from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Donations can be left in the shed located in the church parking lot to the right of the permanent storage shed. It is clearly marked with a sign for Thrift Shoppe drop-offs. 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*

## 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.

## Nursery Attendant

We once again have an attendant in the Nursery on Sundays during the 9:30 am service, where you may leave your little ones in capable hands if you so choose.

## Financial Clerks Needed

Volunteers are needed to be Financial Clerks, those who count and deposit the Sunday offering. If you are interested, please see Bruce Hetzel, or call him at 973-800-2725.

## Craig's List for Christ Church

If you have an item you would like to sell or donate, you can post it on the bulletin board on the wall outside of the kitchen door entering the Guild Hall. It's like a Craig's List for Christ Church! Remember, one man's trash is another man's treasure!

Please contact Andy Shaw for a prize if you were able to read this!



## 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 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 after the coffee hours and Maureen Kilian in the church office during the week. Please purchase your cards with a check or with exact change.



## 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*

Please contact Andy Shaw for a prize if you were able to read this!

## The Epistle

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

*March 2019*

*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  
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www.graphinn.com*

**Visit the parish calendar at the website at [www.christchurchpompton.org](http://www.christchurchpompton.org)**