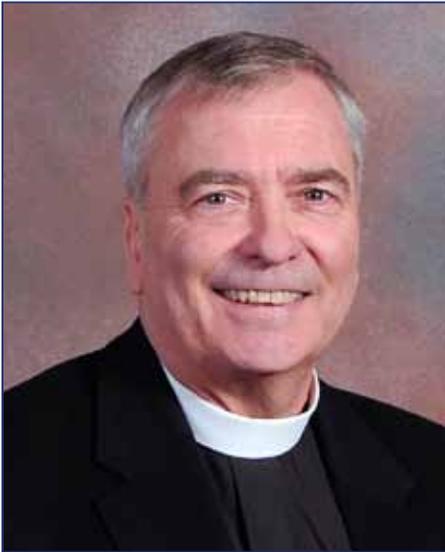


The
Epistle
January 2017



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

As we begin the New Year, I thought you would enjoy the following. It is called *For a Leader*, written by John O'Donohue from *To Bless the Space Between Us*.

Warmly,

Father Stephen

May you have the grace and wisdom to act kindly, learning to distinguish between what is personal and what is not.

May you be hospitable to criticism.

May you never put yourself at the center of things.

May you act not from arrogance but out of service.

May you work on yourself, building up and refining the ways of your mind.

May those who work for you know you see and respect them.

May you learn to cultivate the art of presence in order to engage with those who meet you.

When someone fails or disappoints you, may the graciousness with which you engage be their stairway to renewal and refinement.

May you treasure the gifts of the mind through reading and creative thinking so that you continue as a servant of the frontier where the new will draw its enrichment from the old, and you never become a functionary.

May you know the wisdom of deep learning, the healing of wholesome words, the encouragement of the appreciative gaze, the decorum of held dignity, the springtime edge for the bleak question.

May you have a mind that loves frontiers so that you can evoke the bright fields that lie beyond the view of the regular eye.

May you have good friends to mirror your blind spots.

May leadership be for you a true adventure of growth.

Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, December 20, 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 Shepherd's Haven Management Group were ratified. The Income & Expense Report for the period ending November 30, 2016 was distributed.

- The Finance Committee is still working on the 2017 budget. 69 pledge cards have been returned so far.
- A motion was passed that the \$34,000 remaining from the Fidelity growth be set aside for air conditioning repairs.
- A motion was passed to pledge 10% of our normal operating income to the Diocese in 2017.

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, January 17, 2017.

The Work of Christmas

When the star in
the sky is gone,

When the Kings and
Princes are home,

When the shepherds are
back with their flocks,

The work of
Christmas begins.

To find the lost.

To heal the broken.

To feed the hungry.

To release the prisoner.

To teach the nations.

To bring Christ to all.

To make music in the heart.

*By Howard Thurman,
submitted by
Deacon Barbara Harriman*



Sunday School News

This year we were Thankful to celebrate Thanksgiving with some of the parishioners from Church of the Good Shepherd in Ringwood. We invited their Junior Choir to sing with our Junior Choir and we also invited them to attend our service and join our Coffee Hour. In addition, we asked our parishioners to bring traditional Thanksgiving treats to Coffee Hour for all to share. And we were so pleased when they were able to join us for the service and the coffee hour. Thanks to all of our parishioners who brought in food. It truly was a feast and was enjoyed by all. In addition, we had the pleasure of Native Drummers both during the service and during coffee hour.

As always, we had a Christmas collection for those less fortunate. This year we again collected gifts for drop off to Eva's kitchen, where they would be shared with families in need. We asked for unwrapped gifts for a range of different ages. We were thrilled to receive 60 toys and 40 articles of clothing to share. It is wonderful to help others, especially at this time of year.

On December 11th, the children all enjoyed our annual Cookie Bake. Who doesn't love decorating and baking cookies?

This year we decorated and baked enough cookies to send boxes to 23 households. These households have individuals who either cannot get to church or who would simply enjoy the gift of cookies from the Sunday School. We also shared with Shepherd's Haven. Thank you to those who helped us bake and decorate! Another reason to celebrate the season!

Karen Cahill, Louise Hanania and Debbie Onderlinde



The Ox and The Mule

For many days an old farmer had been plowing with an ox and a mule together and working them pretty hard. The ox said to the mule, "Let's play sick today and rest a little while." But the old mule said, "No, we need to get the work done for the season is short" But the ox played sick and the farmer brought him fresh hay and corn and made him comfortable.

When the mule came in from plowing, the ox asked how he made out. The mule said, "We didn't get as much done but we made it all right, I guess."

The ox asked, "What did the old man say about me?"

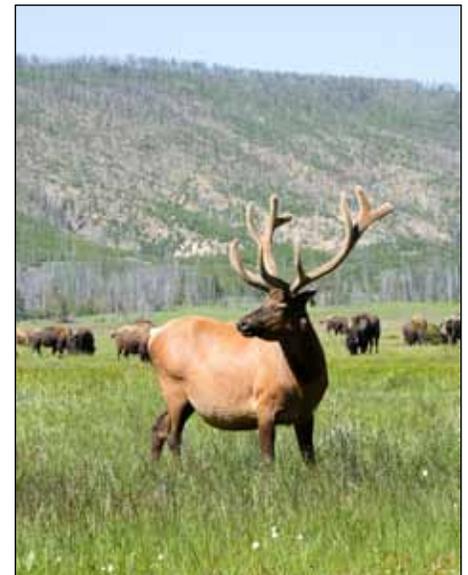
"Nothing," said the mule.

The next day the ox, thinking he had a good thing going, played sick again. When the mule came in again very tired, the ox asked, "How did it go?" The mule said, "Alright I guess, though we don't get much done." The ox also asked, "What did the old man say about me?" "Nothing to me," was the reply, "but he stopped and had a long talk with the butcher."

From the bulletin of the Berean Fundamental Church of North Platte, Nebraska

The Wild Game Pot Luck Supper

On Sunday, March 5, at 5:30 pm, a pot luck supper will be held in the Parish Hall. Bill Calcagno will be providing the featured foods with a wild game theme. Please bring a side dish or dessert. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall so that you can indicate what you are bringing and how many will attend.





Soup on Sunday

The *Soup on Sunday* program continues this Winter 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



Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting of the Parish of Christ Church, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, will be held following the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, January 29, 2017, for the purpose of electing one Warden, three members of the Vestry for three years terms, one Vestry member for a one year term, and one Delegate to the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Newark; to hear reports, adopt the 2017 parish budget, and to consider any other business which properly may come before this meeting. Father Stephen, Linda Meyer, Janet Furness and Karen Cahill are on the Nominating Committee. If you would like to make a nomination, please see the instructions in the following excerpt from our By-Laws.

"Article 2.9 Nominations by Petition. Any six (6) qualified voting members may nominate another qualified voting member for any office to be elected by providing a signed petition to the Clerk of the Vestry (Mary Ann Salerno-Fitzgerald) seven days prior to the Annual Meeting. If the Clerk receives such nominations, she shall present to the Priest in Charge, the name(s) of the nominee(s). After verification of eligibility of the candidates, the chairperson shall immediately post a notice of nominee/s on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and email it to every household in the parish. NO NOMINATIONS shall be made from the floor."

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!



Pledge Card Reminder

This is a reminder to return your 2017 Pledge Cards. You can mail them, put them in the offering plate, or bring them to the Parish Office.

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- January

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

- 1 - Marianne Taylor
- 1 - Anthony Simone
- 1 - Fran Kamer
- 2 - Joy Liston
- 3 - Bill Conklin
- 4 - Linda Daly
- 6 - Shirley Van Dunk
- 8 - Wendy Simone
- 11 - Bill Calcagno
- 11 - Rachel Gasataya
- 11 - Jackie Beveridge
- 12 - Carol Earl
- 15 - Paul Steberger
- 23 - Justin Milligan
- 17 - Amanda Shepard
- 20 - Ashley Caffery
- 21 - Nicholas Coleburn
- 23 - Sven Lilienthall
- 23 - Joyce McDiarmid

Christian Longo's birthday was not included in the birthday list in the December Epistle. Christian's birthday was December 16. Happy Birthday, Christian. We are sorry for the omission and hope you had a great celebration!

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. 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 *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



Christ Church is on Facebook

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

Ninth Annual Wild Game Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday, March 5 at 5:30 pm

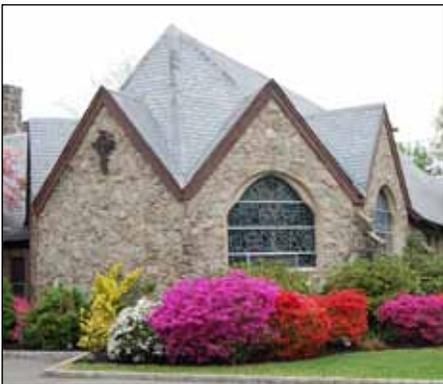


Capital Campaign Offering Envelopes

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.

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.



*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*

January 2017

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