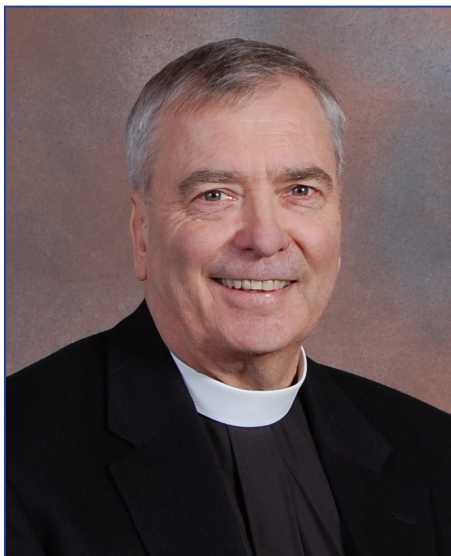


The Epistle

January 2021



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

“Living in the spirit of gratitude” inspired me as a theme for our stewardship campaign this year. I was able to experience “living in gratitude” personally and profoundly last November when I celebrated my 10th anniversary as your Priest in Charge here at Christ Church, Pompton Lakes! The cards and personal notes of acknowledgement were over the top, more than satisfying. They elevated my spirit in a way that will sustain me for many, many years.

This wonderful experience has prompted me to invite each of you in the parish to extend “living in gratitude,” via acknowledgement, to the various organizations within our church. There are many: the Altar Guild, the Choir and music program, the Sunday School program, the Ushers, Greeters and Coffee Hour Hosts, all those who assist on the Altar, our Wardens and Vestry, and the staff and management

groups of Shepherd’s Haven, Little Lamb and the Thrift Shoppe.

What a spectacular way to be God’s Gift in the world, Living in Gratitude and bringing forth an acknowledgement of the people within the Church who make it sparkle.

We will start with the letter “a” which stands for Altar Guild. Later this month we will provide the names of the members of the Altar Guild. You will be invited to acknowledge them with a note of gratitude. Living in the spirit of gratitude is our response to the Lord who envelopes us in the Spirit of Love.

Let us be captured by the Spirit and bring forth our expression of gratitude to those within.

*Warmly,
Father Stephen*

Treasurers Commentary for 11/30/20

- Expenses exceeded income this month by almost ~\$11,325.
- Total Income (Year to date) is below budget by about ~\$6,438.
- Net (Year to date) is about -\$45,468.



Offering Envelopes Ready for Pick Up

The offering envelopes are ready and can be found in the Guild Hall. They can be picked up Monday through Friday from 7:00 am until 6:00 pm. Look for the box with your name on it. There are extra boxes available. If you take one of the extra boxes, please be sure to write your name, on the list provided, next to the number of the envelopes you are taking.

Sunday Service on Facebook Live at 9:30 am

Please join us on Facebook live at 9:30 am. If you haven’t already “liked” Christ Church Pompton’s Facebook page, you can go to www.facebook.com/christchurchpompton. It’s the next best thing to being together in person!



Open Enrollment at Little Lamb Children's Center

Little Lamb Children's Center has reopened and is now accepting enrollment for all ages, 3 months to Kindergarten. We have implemented all of the State guidelines for keeping your children safe and healthy. 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 littlelambccc@gmail.com.



The Thrift Shoppe is Now Open

The Thrift Shoppe, located at 420 Ramapo Avenue, has reopened! Put on your masks and come in to shop. The hours of operation are Tuesdays 3:15 - 7:00 pm, Thursdays 4:00 - 8:00 pm, Saturdays 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Sundays (second and fourth) 11:00 am - noon. Donations can be left in the shed in the church parking lot. For more information please call Florence at 973-962-6289 or 925-640-3421.



Parish Family Birthdays

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

January

- 1 - Marianne Taylor
- 1 - Anthony Simone
- 1 - Hanzah Kanaan
- 2 - Joy Liston
- 3 - Bill Conklin
- 5 - Fatima Kanaan
- 5 - Ossam Kanaan
- 6 - Shirley Van Dunk
- 7 - Esrra Kanaan
- 8 - Wendy Simone
- 11 - Bill Calcagno
- 11 - Jackie Beveridge
- 15 - Paul Steberger
- 23 - Justin Milligan
- 17 - Amanda Shepard
- 20 - Ashley Caffery
- 21 - Nicholas Coleburn
- 23 - Sven Lilienthall
- 23 - Joyce McDiarmid

February

- 8 - Cayla Coleburn
- 13 - Emily Hoeflinger
- 13 - Lip Siang Eng
- 16 - Samantha Hanania
- 22 - Kristen Finger
- 27 - Bruce Hetzel
- 28 - Matthew Buginsky
- 29 - Brian Buginsky

Please Give Us Your Blank and Birthday Greeting Cards!

Help honor
Christ Church birthdays

Do you have a drawerful of birthday or blank cards that you've received from a charitable organization that was seeking your support? Cards you didn't ask for--but didn't want to throw away? Or maybe you overbought cards at some point? We want them, please! The Birthday Card Gang has started sending birthday greetings to parishioners for whom the church knows a birthdate (month and day only – no year necessary). We'd like to do this as a low-cost project, so save your cards for us and drop them off in the Guild Hall. Thank you for your support!



December Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 via Zoom. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The Income & Expense Report for the period ending November 30, 2020 was distributed. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit.

- The actions of the Little Lamb, Shepherd's Haven and Thrift Shoppe management groups were ratified.

- The driveway was repaired. The total cost was lower than the proposal.

- The plans for the new altar are being reviewed.

- The Annual Meeting will not be held in January. The Bishop has given permission to delay the meeting. The current Wardens and Vestry will remain in place until we are able to hold elections.

- A motion was passed to keep our annual pledge to the Diocese the same as last year, at 11% of our Normal Operating Income..

- A motion was passed, according to the regulations of the Diocese, that the appropriate portion of Father Stephen's compensation package be designated as housing allowance.

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 26, 2021.

A Message from Your Wardens

A message – this one from Jesus himself: "Where your treasure is, there is your heart also."

During this time when we can't be together, your treasure is a necessity for the well-being of Christ Church. Please consider mailing your pledge or taking the required steps to donate on-line. Your pledges and donations are a vital part of the welfare of our Church. Your pledge can be mailed to the Church at 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. To make a donation on-line, click on this link to go to our donation page. https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk-24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BD-vsSG3VIWQCPJNNxD8upkiY7JlDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSo8L-dUKGuGuF396vbVZO8d9V69XDBQQuTKH4BPciYnTg5dP4O6rpX5QvPEWIBhHDN59kLZFffwKfYERpOmkkwp8Xt5Crzq4gI3rKkOg=&ver=3

While we all are being inconvenienced in major ways, the love of God, the life of Jesus and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will guide and sustain us!

Bishop Hughes' Messages

Bishop Hughes posts regular messages, including videos, online at dioceseofnewark.org/bishops-vlog.



Prayers of Pandemic from the Diocese of Newark

Bishop Hughes has invited members of the diocese to write and share their own prayers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prayers can be sent to Canon Wright at awright@dioceseofnewark.org for posting. Please include the name and town of your church. The following prayer is taken from the Diocesan website.

Oh God of love and peace, help us to survive each day, in the midst of things we cannot understand, To those of us who are afraid, give us courage To those of us who are exhausted, give us strength To those of us in despair, give us hope. Comfort us in our struggle, O Loving God, Walk with us through this time of crisis, Grant us and our loved ones' safety, security and stability, and help us to learn the lessons you are giving us at this time, so that we may all work together to rebuild our lives, and make the world a better place. In the name of our loving Creator we pray, Amen.

Sister Monica Clare
Community of St. John Baptist



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. It's a win-win. They get recycled and we get some cash for new music. Please leave your items in the Parish Office. Thank you!



Sunday School

We are well into our 2020/2021 Sunday School year and we are having a lot of fun! The class runs from 9.30 am to 10. If you do not already have the log-in information, please contact Parish Office. Logging in is very easy and

you can do it via phone, computer or tablet. We are happy that modern technology has allowed us to continue this very important service so that the children can stay in touch with their friends while continuing their studies. As always, we thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your child's Christian education and welcome any new students.

Used Book Collection

Looking for a place to donate your well-read and loved books? Please consider our new book bin in the parking lot on Ramapo Avenue. We accept books with ISBN numbers. That is the 13 digit number following the letters ISBN on the book near the bar code. No magazines or encyclopedias please. The books are resold and redistributed. They are only recycled if they are in very poor condition. This is a fundraiser for Christ Church, as we will receive some money for the books collected. Thank you for your support!



Parish Classifieds

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 typesets, 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



Journey of the Magi

by T. S. Eliot

*A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For such a journey,
and such a journey:
The ways deep and
the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.
And the camels galled,
sore-footed, Refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow,
There were times we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes,
the terraces,
And the silken girls
bringing sherbet.*

*Then the camel men cursing
and grumbling
And running away,
and wanting their
liquor and women,
And the night fires going out,
and the lack of shelters,
And the cities hostile
and the towns unfriendly.
And the villages dirty
and charging high prices:
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred
to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing
in our ears, saying
That it was all folly.*

*Then at dawn we came down
to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line,
smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream*

*and a water-mill
beating the darkness.
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped
in away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with
vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing
for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the
empty wine-skins.
But there was no information,
and so we continued.
And arrived at evening,
not a moment too soon.
Finding the place; it was
(you may say) satisfactory.*

*All this was a long time ago,
I remember,
And I would do it again,
but set down This Set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a
Birth, certainly.
We had evidence and no doubt.
I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were
different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us,
like Death, our death.
We returned to our places,
these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here,
in the old dispensation,
With an alien people
clutching their gods.
I should be glad of
another death.*

Submitted by Deacon Barbara



Christ Church on Facebook

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

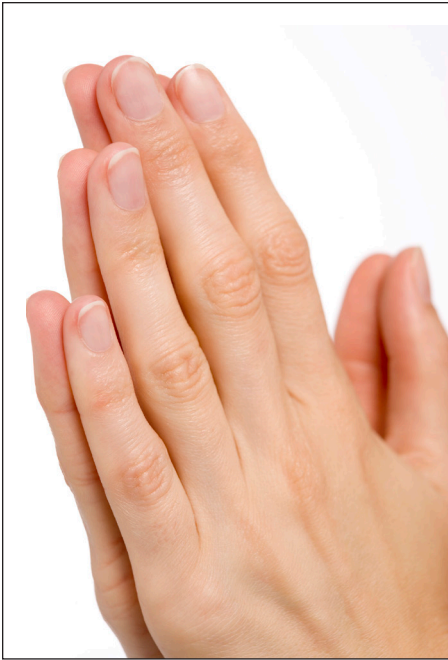
Pop Up Youth Ministry

Pop Up is a welcoming ministry of the Diocese of Newark bringing together youth for fun activities, community, and faith formation. All youth grades 6-12 are encouraged to join us for our monthly events. For more information, including plans for the first few months of 2021, go to <https://dioceseofnewark.org/youth>.

Seasons of Hope Greeting Cards

A Christ Church Fundraiser

Available now. Perfect as holiday gifts. Featuring the harmony of nature with our lovely Christ Church property. Package of 6, Four Seasons cards, blank inside, \$12 per package. Variety pack of 6 cards, blank inside, \$12 per package. Place your order by sending an email to the Parish Office at christchurchpomptonoffice@gmail.com or by calling the office at 973-835-2207. Checks can be made out to Christ Church or, to pay on-line, click on the link to go to our donation page, select "other" and specify greeting cards. [Donate](#)



Please pray for those who are homebound or have a long term illness

Sue Contos *Pat Giannone*
 Christine Tafuri Lewis *Pat Giannone*
 Kim Hetzel *Bruce Hetzel*
 Nora Reynolds *Debbie DeFreese*
 Joe Stewart *Erica Stewart*
 AJ DiGennaro *Carol Egan*
 Daniel Bevilacqua, Sr. *Carol Egan*
 Tony DiGennaro *Carol Egan*
 Mike Egan *Carol Egan*
 Philip Prekel *Cathy Prekel*
 Suzanne Braun *Liz Kostyn*
 Pablo Fallas *Javier Fallas*
 Tom Filipi *Andy Shaw*
 Timothy Falk *Tom Falk*
 Dale Garafalo *Carol Egan*
 Dinah Zacs *Zigi Zacs*
 Rebecca Hough *Stephen Rozzelle*
 Richard Russinko *Valerie Russinko*

Kathleen Caputo *Romilly Liloia*
 Bill Brouhle *Cheryl Finger*
 Richard Greco *Pat Giannone*
 Donna Cook *Pat Giannone*
 Roxanna Parker *Shirley Van Dunk*
 Alice Schmelzer *Carol Egan*
 Jim Hester *Carol Egan*
 Liz Unger *Natalie McCabe*
 Joseph Hynes *Natalie McCabe*
 Andrea Lentz *Wilma Ciaburri*
 Anya Neugebauer *Cathy Prekel*
 Jason Trovy *Barbara Hanenberg*
 Mary Babb *Parish Care*
 Scott Stoveken *Denise Pugsley*
 Mike Abriola *Parish Care*
 Rosemary Claeys *Parish Care*
 Selma Schwartz *Elizabeth Kostyn*
 Judy Loeb *Parish Care*

Please pray for those serving in the military:

FCA2 Peter Brower *Leigh Brower*
 Master Sgt. Robert Preston Mason
Scott Heck
 Chaplin Bill Kapr *Abby Novak*
 Captain Ryan Tintera *John Tintera*
 Petty Officer 1st Class Jake Smith
Abby Novak
 Lt. Col. Andrew M. Niebel
Karen Bogert
 1SG James Rivera *Carol Egan*
 Major Matthew Getty
Florence Loscalzo
 1st Lt. Daniel Wagner
Chris Kenyon
 Richard Chambers
Patti & Jeff Mitchell

Electronic Giving Now Available to Christ Church!

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help Christ Church year-round. Consider making a contribution or scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today! It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received. Get started today! Visit the Christ Church website at www.christ-churchpompton.org and look for the DONATE button on the lower right side. If you have questions, see Bruce Hetzel or call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207.

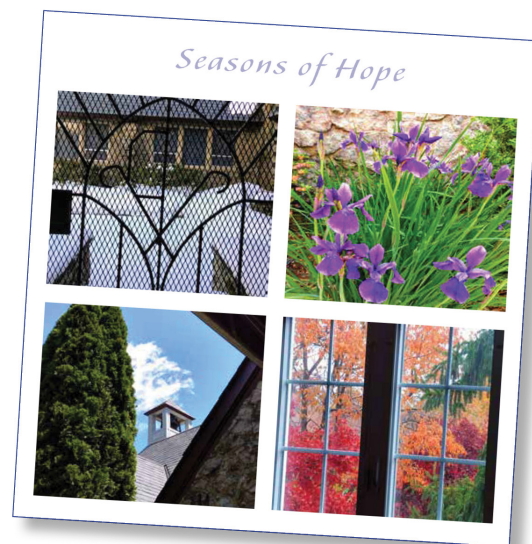
A Reminder...

Let's have our stewardship to the parish be a reflection of living with a spirit of gratitude! If you have not already done so, please renew your commitment to our Christ Church ministries by making a generous financial pledge to Christ Church. Please fill out and return a 2021 Pledge Card to 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. We are grateful for your stewardship of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!

Seasons of Hope Greeting Cards

(6) 5.5" X 6.5" cards, no inscription inside, including matching envelopes

(6) 5.5" X 5.5" cards, no inscription inside, including matching envelopes



Both sets of cards include photos of places in and around Christ Church

A Christ Church Fundraiser

Available now. Perfect as holiday gifts.

Featuring the harmony of nature with our lovely Christ Church property.

Package of 6, Four Seasons cards, blank inside, \$12 per package.

Variety pack of 6 cards, blank inside, \$12 per package.

Place your order by sending an email to the Parish Office at christchurchpomptonoffice@gmail.com or by calling the office at 973-835-2207. Checks can be made out to Christ Church or, to pay on-line, click on the link to go to our donation page, select "other" and specify greeting cards.



Neighborhood Initiative

YOU 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!

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

- **Bloomington/Butler/Kinnelon** - Karen Bogert - 973-634-0190
- **GlenRock/North Haledon/Totowa** - Marianne Taylor - 201-741-8825
- **Haskell/Wanaque**
Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Oakland/Wyckoff/Franklin Lakes** - Geri Sheehan - 201-337-7395
- **Pompton Lakes, Christ Church area & Colfax**
- **Pompton Lakes Hamburg Turnpike South** - Alison Thornhill - 973-886-9728
- **Pompton Lakes, Hamburg Turnpike North** - Mary Ann Salerno-Fitzgerald - 973-835-6553
- **Pompton Plains/Pequan-nock** - Megan & Kat Menezes - 201-575-9459
- **Ringwood/Wanaque** - Joan Van Splinter - 973-856-4978
- **Ringwood/Haskell** - Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Riverdale** - Bette Davis - 973-809-1384
- **Wayne** - Packanack Lake, Preakness - Janet Furness - 585-734-0374
- **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

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 2021

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