

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY ♦ MAY 3, 2020 ♦ 9:45 AM



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

www.christchurchtomsriver.org

HOW TO LISTEN IN TO THE LIVE TELE-SERVICE

DIAL: 712-770-5505

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WELCOME! AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FROM YOUR HOME FOR TODAY'S SERVICE!

WHILE WE ARE NOT ABLE TO PHYSICALLY COME TOGETHER TODAY FOR WORSHIP, WE APPRECIATE YOUR SPIRITUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS SERVICE.

WE THEREFORE INVITE YOU TO REPLICATE MANY OF THE SAME PRACTICES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN A SUNDAY WORSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, WE INVITE YOU TO SPEND SOME TIME IN QUIET PRAYER TO PLACE YOURSELF BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS.

DURING THE SERVICE, WE INVITE YOU TO PERFORM THE SAME GESTURES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN CHURCH (SIGN OF THE CROSS, BOWING, ETC.).

ALSO, IN THOSE PLACES IN THE SERVICE WHERE THE PEOPLE WOULD NORMALLY SAY A PRAYER (SUCH AS, THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING) OR RESPONSE (SUCH AS, "AND ALSO WITH YOU"), PLEASE SAY IT ALOUD.

YOUR PHONE IS MUTED BUT OUR VOICES WILL RISE TOGETHER IN AFFIRMING OUR FAITH. THANK YOU.

TODAY'S MINISTERS

PRIEST: The Rev. Mary Frances Schjonberg

DEACON: The Rev. Ted Foley

MUSIC: Polly Moore, Cathy O'Neill, Andrew Van Buskirk, Davit Corbitt

LECTOR: Caroline Saunders

INTERCESSOR: Helene Phillips

OPENING HYMN

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

Hymnal 377, vs. 1-4

*All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.*

*Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make:
we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.*

*O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his Name always, for it is seemly so to do.*

*For why? the Lord our God is good; his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The people standing, as able, the Priest says

Priest Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Priest Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The following is said together by all

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray. O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The following is said by all

THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING

All Almighty and gracious God, we are your church, serving your mission. Lead us forth beyond our walls to seek out all people in our community, to invite and love them as Jesus would. Empower us to welcome to Christ Church all who are hurting or in need, all who are searching for you or for answers to life. Open our eyes to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. Transform us all into disciples of Christ. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The following is said by all

PRAYER FOR THE SELECTION OF A RECTOR

All Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for Christ Church that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people sit as the lessons are read.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is said by all

PSALM 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Mary Frances Schjonberg

HYMN

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Hymnal 664

*My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercies' sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk thru the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;
One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows; thine oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come;
No more a stranger nor a guest, but like a child at home.*

All stand, as able.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* “catholic” here means the universal Church across time and place

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader In the sure and certain hope of resurrection, we pray to the Lord, saying, God of grace, Hear our prayer.
Gracious God, we pray for all your people, that they may find, and be found, by you. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We pray for peace and good will among all nations. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We give you thanks, Almighty God, for the many blessings in our lives, especially for those blessings we now name and for all blessings. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We ask your mercy for all who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, oppressed, in prison, or in any kind of trouble. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We pray for those affected by natural and man-made disasters; for those who are sick and suffering; we pray for a quick end to this pandemic and for those with and exposed to the virus; for medical professionals, first responders, and emergency workers; for those who have lost their jobs or suffered financial loss; for those serving our country; for those listed on our parish prayer list especially J.M. Kieding, Lynne, and for those we name at this time God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader For all who have died in the hope of rising again, for those who have died from the COVID-19 virus, for those who died serving our country, and those we name at this timeGod of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

The Priest adds a concluding collect.

Please listen to the following prayer

PRAYER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with all essential workers. Be with all emergency responders, law enforcement, and medical professionals who seek to help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of all people, particularly those who are poor and most vulnerable. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Adapted from prayer written by Kerry Weber, America Magazine

The following is said by all

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**We use the modern translation of Lord's Prayer because it is closer to the Greek original text; particularly for the verse, "Save us from the time of trial" since God does not deliberately lead us into temptation.*

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The priest invites the following prayer to be said by all:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The ministries of Christ Church “thank you” for your continued giving during these times of uncertainty. Your generous donations and pledges keep Christ Church moving forward. Please continue to mail to Christ Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) or set up with your individual bank, a bill pay, to be directly submitted to Christ Church. Please contact the Church Office with any questions or concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please also read “Parish News” beginning on page 10 of this bulletin for additional information and news.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

Hymnal 556, vs. 1-5

*Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.*

[Refrain:]

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

*With all the angel choirs, with all the saints of earth,
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth.*

(Refrain)

*Your clear hosannas raise and alleluias loud;
while answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud.*

(Refrain)

*Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.*

(Refrain)

*Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array,
as warriors through the darkness toil, till dawns the golden day.*

(Refrain)

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU MOTHER MARY FRANCES SCHJONBERG FOR BEING WITH US TODAY! "...retired on July 1, 2019 as the senior editor and reporter for the Episcopal News Service, a denominationally sponsored organization. She spent nearly 25 years working as a newspaper reporter, editor, photographer, copy editor and page designer before becoming a priest. Mary Frances served as assistant rector at Christ Church in Short Hills, New Jersey, before joining ENS in 2005. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and mass communications from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master of divinity degree from Church Divinity School of the Pacific. In 2010, CDSP, the Episcopal Church-related seminary in Berkeley, Calif., granted her a doctor of divinity degree, honoris causa, for her body of work since graduation. She lives in Neptune, New Jersey."

"SIGNS OF LIFE" VIDEO DISCUSSION SERIES: Deacon Ted invites you to a "video discussion group" (like a "book discussion group") based on the video series, "Signs of Life". We will meet virtually twice a week (Tues & Thurs) for about an hour starting at 4 PM. This series will begin Tues, May 5.

Schedule for Discussion Series:

Tuesday, May 5 - "Light" — Thursday, May 7 - "Water"
Tuesday, May 12 - "Food" — Thursday May 14 - "Shelter"
Tuesday, May 19 - "Community"

The virtual discussion group will be on ZOOM. For those not familiar with ZOOM, it is a video chat room/meeting space. If you have a phone or computer with video/camera functions, you will be able to join in and SEE the faces of Deacon Ted and others participating, as well as show us your face. If you are not interested in being visible, having your video off is an option. If you do not have or are not comfortable using a computer or internet, you can still participate by calling in on your phone. You will still be able to listen and speak to everyone else participating. Please do note that video only works by using the internet link to join the meeting; using the phone number does not permit video).

In order to be able to participate in the virtual discussion group on ZOOM, you MUST REGISTER. An email with all the needed instructions and web links to register and participate in the Discussion Group and watch the weekly videos was sent out on April 30. Please contact the church office if you did not receive this email. For those who do not have a computer and still would like to participate in this discussion, please leave a voicemail at the Church Office 732-349-5506. Deacon Ted will get in touch with you with special instructions. We hope you will be able to join us as we all grow in faith together.

JOIN US IN DAILY PRAYER AT 8:00PM: Pray, wherever you may be ...at home, at work, in the car...let us pray together for a resolution and end to the COVID-19 pandemic...let us pray for health care workers, first responders, law enforcement and all essential workers... let us pray for our federal and state government officials ... let us pray for those that are sick and those that have died from the virus...let us pray for the families of the victims of the virus and all those who are poor and more vulnerable to the virus...let us pray for New Jersey, the United States of America and the World.

There is no right, wrong or specific way one should pray ... pray the "Our Father", the "Prayer in Time of Pandemic" from our Sunday bulletins, or pray using words expressing how your heart feels. Join us in a moment of prayer daily at 8pm.

CHRIST CHURCH VEGETABLE GARDEN: Calling all gardeners! It is time to prepare our beds and to start planting. We typically plant tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, basil, green beans and zinnias. All of our produce is harvested and given to our food pantry for distribution. We would love to have more hands helping out. It is a great way to be active and maintain social distance!

We have two 4x4 garden boxes available for any parishioner who would like to have their own garden. Please contact Dale Chant if you are interested. dalechant@ymail.com OR 732-600-5260.

We will be having a planning "conference call" within the next 2 weeks. Please contact Dale if you would like to participate in the call.

DO YOU MISS FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY? We have been so blessed by our Clergy and Lay Ministers for the many services available each week during this time of suspension of all public gatherings.

But what about “Coffee Hour” and the many “Events” that we would typically and regularly gather and socialize with our Church Family?

Christ Church is currently hosting on ZOOM a virtual “Coffee Hour” each Monday evening from 7:00-8:00pm.

For those not familiar with ZOOM, it is a video chat room/meeting space. If you have a phone or computer with video/camera functions, you will be able to join in and SEE the faces of your Church Family as well as show us your face. If you are not interested in being visible, having your video off is an option.



If you do not have or are not comfortable using a computer or internet, you can still participate by calling in on your phone. You will still be able to listen and speak to everyone else participating.

You should have received in your email on April 23 a ZOOM invitation to register for Monday Evening "Coffee Hour". You MUST register in order to be able to participate. After registering you will receive another email including both the link to Join the Meeting with internet and video or the Phone # to call in and Meeting ID# (video options only works by using the link, using the phone number does not permit video).

Don't worry, those without the capability of receiving this email or registering online have been individually phoned and provided all needed information to participate if interested. And, if you did NOT receive an email already, please contact the Church Office and request the registration email.

We look forward to “seeing” your faces in these virtual Coffee Hours as we take this opportunity to say "Hello!" and "How are you?" If you need any help, please let Nicole know! Here is a photo of the April 27 “Coffee Hour” Blessings!

JOIN US FOR “SERVICE” FROM THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOME!

During this time of “public service suspension” through at least the month of May, your Clergy and Staff are providing multiple times a week live and recorded services via phone and email. The current weekly schedule of live services via phone are: Sundays, 9:45am — Wednesdays, 10:00am — Fridays, 7:00am

We plan to have each service recorded and then provided to you via email as well as posted on our website www.christchurchtomsriver.org. To listen to the live service please: Dial: 712-770-5505 and Enter Access Code: 189853# If you have any difficulty, please email or call the church office (leave a voicemail).

COMING SOON! SUNDAY SERVICES ON ZOOM—Although previously advertised that we would change our Sunday Services to ZOOM, it has been decided to forego this change. At this time, all future Sunday and Weekday services will remain on Conference Call as we have been doing since March 15th.

UPDATE FROM THE DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE: Greetings! As all of us are aware, we are in the midst of an unprecedented time in our living history. As buildings have been closed, employment furloughed and life as we knew it came to a grinding halt, the diocese also had to make decisions about people and practices that would be impacted. In light of this, Bishop Stokes and Rev. Dr. Brian Jemmott, Transition Coordinator have suspended all discernment activity with prospective clergy until further notice. The committee has been able to do virtual meetings and we are set and ready to continue once the "all clear" is given. Please pray for those who have applied to be our rector that they may remain safe and healthy as they minister to their parishioners.

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS RECEIVING VOICEMAILS, EMAILS & MAIL: If you need to reach us for any reason, please 1) Call the church office at 732-349-5506 and leave a voicemail. Voicemails are being immediately received offsite and we are calling you back as soon as possible. Or 2) Email NicoleStrada@ChristChurchTomsRiver.org and she will reply as soon as possible. We are also receiving our USPS mail.

COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND: While everyone's life has been impacted by the coronavirus, we have become aware of several people in our parish who have already lost their jobs and income and are in dire need of emergency assistance. Also, as this disaster continues, we expect that more jobs will be affected. For this reason we are setting up a Coronavirus Discretionary Fund. This fund will provide emergency assistance to people affected by this disaster. If you are in need of emergency assistance, please contact one of the clergy (Mother Petrina, Deacon Jose, or Deacon Ted). If you are able to contribute to this fund, please send a check to Christ Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) with "Coronavirus Fund" in the memo. A restricted account has been established specifically for this purpose. May God bless us all. We will get through this together. ** As April 30, the COVID-19 Fund balance stands at: Contributions: \$19,805.50; Disbursements: \$3,110.00

The **FOOD PANTRY** remains open to anyone in need on TUESDAYS from 9:30am to 12noon. The pantry is well stocked and we are still serving many in our community.

WE DO HAVE SOME ITEMS WE ARE URGENTLY IN NEED OF:

Jelly, grape — Jelly, strawberry — White rice — Canned fruit

We are also in need of:

Sugar — Peanut butter — 2% or fat free long life milk — Pasta sauce — Spam — Canned chicken — Canned stew — Canned diced tomatoes — Ketchup — Pinto Beans — Mayo — Mustard — Pancake mix — Pancake syrup — Canned peas — Ramen noodles

If you are still comfortable shopping, can shop safely and would like to drop off donations, please drop them on the lower table (outside) marked DONATIONS ONLY, between 9:30am and 11am on Tuesday mornings. This allows our volunteers time to log and load the food while we are there. If you need to schedule a different drop off time, please contact the Church Office.

If you have any questions at all, or are not considered 'at risk' and would like to volunteer for the Food Pantry, please free feel to contact (text/call) Claire Koerner at 732-600-5709 or email Clairekoerner1503@gmail.com. Thank you, more than ever, for your support of the CHRIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY.

WEEKLY FINANCES: During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending April 24, we received \$3,165.34 in pledges. (There were no loose offerings due to there not being any services in church.)

CONTRIBUTIONS & PLEDGES DURING COVID 19: Our pews will be empty for the next several weeks, that also means our collection plate is empty. We are asking if you would please continue to send in your pledges even though our weekly worship services have been suspended. Although most of life as we know it has come to a halt, the bills continue to come in and need to be paid. You can help us keep our bills current by keeping your pledge up to date. You can do this by mailing a check to the office (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753), or you can set up online bill pay through your bank (see your bank for details). Please consider doing this, so that once we are back in church, we can continue moving forward without the worry of how we are going to "catch up". Thank you!

PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU ARE DOING — We want to hear from you! And know that you are doing "ok" amongst this pandemic. Please leave us a Voicemail or send us an Email!

BECKER YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP: ATTN: High School Seniors and College Students! Completed applications must be submitted by May7. Need the application? Reply to this email and we will email it to you. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica DeRiggi at jessderiggi@gmail.com or 732-330-9092.

THE ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE originally scheduled for May 14 & 15 has been **CANCELLED**. We will hope for better and healthier circumstances in September for a Fall Sale.

BIRTHDAY CLUB: We all have one day of the year that is just for us; it's our birthday. We may celebrate in grand style with family and friends singing that special song, eating cake and GETTING gifts; or we may choose to celebrate in a quiet fashion. However you choose to celebrate, it is YOUR special day. The Endowment and Stewardship Committees have come up with another way to celebrate this day. How about GIVING a gift that will KEEP ON GIVING? Each year on your birthday, we are inviting you to join the Birthday Club by writing a check in the amount of your age to Christ Church, which will be deposited into the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is invested with the diocese. By giving to this fund on your birthday, you will be contributing to the day-to-day life of the parish as well as the future of Christ Church. It is truly a gift that will keep on giving! How can you donate? Simply write out a check for the amount of your age, put Birthday Club in the memo and put it in the offering plate, mail it or drop it off to the office mailbox. So that we can all watch our gifts grow, we will update you on what we have received. We look forward to celebrating each of your birthdays! **Total contributions for the month of April are currently \$289 (4 birthdays)!**

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
415 Washington Street Toms River, New Jersey 08753
www.ChristChurchTomsRiver.org