

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

CALL HOST: Joanne Gwin

PRIEST: The Rev. Petrina M. Pyatt

DEACON: The Rev. Ted Foley

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Polly Moore

ORGAN/PIANO: Andrew Van Buskirk

CHOIR PARTICIPANTS: David Corbitt, John Jowett, Cathy O'Neill, Helene Phillips

LECTOR: Polly Moore

INTERCESSOR: Suzanne Schleck

PRELUDE

Morning Song

Reginald Martin

OPENING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

Hymnal 525

*The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her and for her life He died.*

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.*

*Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed:
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song!*

*'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.*

*Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The people standing, as able, the Priest says

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

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.

People *Amen*

The following is read by the Lector; said 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. Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The following is read by the Intercessor; 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 read by the Lector; 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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks

that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiprah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water." The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is read by the Deacon; said by all

PSALM 124

- 1 If the Lord had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the Lord!
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Petrina M. Pyatt

HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Lift Every Voice & Sing 99

*1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

*2. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]*

*3. His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]*

*4. When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]*

All stand, as able, as the Priest says the following

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 "people" is read by the Lector

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Leader As our God continues to reveal his power in our lives, let us pray to God saying, God of love, hear our prayer.

God of power, may your Spirit give strength to all your people as they work and witness in your world. God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader God of peace, we pray for peace and goodwill among all nations, an ending to all strife and discord. We pray for all the leaders of the world. God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

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

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader God of Creation, we thank you for the abundance and beauty of our planet earth. Grant us the wisdom, ability, and will to care for its resources and creatures wisely. God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader God of grace, we give you thanks for the many blessings in our lives, for those blessings we now name...And for all blessings. God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader God of Healing, 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 Jerry Harney, Christina Madden, Amanda Keilley, and for those we name at this time
God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader God of life, we pray for those who have died from the COVID-19 virus, for those who died serving our country, for all who have died in the hope of rising again, especially Barbara Connors, Virginia Parent, and for those we name at this time God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Priest Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* (BCP 826)

The Priest may add a closing collect.

The people kneel, as able

THE CONFESSION .

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Please listen to the following prayer read by the Deacon

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 read by the Priest; 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 Episcopal 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 via phone or email with any questions or concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please also read "Parish News" beginning on page 11 of this bulletin for additional information and news.

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people

CLOSING HYMN

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

As sung by Sing Hosanna

*He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got you and me brother in His hands, He's got you and me sister in His hands,
He's got you and me mother in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got you and me mother in His hands, He's got you and me father in His hands,
He's got you and me mother in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got the little tiny babies in His hands, He's got the little tiny babies in His hands,
He's got the little tiny babies in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

*He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.*

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

POSTLUDE

Jubilation

(as played by Jason D. Payne)

Jason D. Payne

+ + +

PARISH NEWS

(Titles in Red indicate a New or Updated Item)

THANK YOU MOTHER PETRINA FOR BEING TODAY'S PRIEST! Here is a brief bio on the Rev. Petrina Pyatt, Long-Term Supply Priest at Christ Church: "I was born in NYC and have been a cradle Episcopalian ever since. I am the eldest of two sisters and a brother, am widowed with two daughters and two granddaughters. I worked on Wall Street with a Securities Exchange Department. I then attended and graduated General Theological Seminary with a M. Div. degree. Following this I was ordained and became a hospice chaplain for several years in New Jersey. At this same time, I served as Assistant Rector at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, NYC. Next, I was Rector of Our Merciful Savior Church in Penns Grove, NJ, from which I retired in January 2017. I have had a love affair with God and the Episcopal Church since I can remember, and have been involved in many church ministries: Altar Guild, Vestry member and warden, Lay Eucharistic Minister, Chalice Bearer, Lector, Sunday School teacher, home-bound visitor, and an outreach coordinator. And now, I am happily serving here at Christ Church and as a Supply priest where needed. I am still in love with God and the Church and pray this affair remains



UPDATE ON RESUMING IN-PERSON SERVICES: Christ Church has submitted a plan to the RRR Diocesan Task Force to request approval to resume in-person services **OUTDOORS (under the Pavilion) ON SATURDAYS AT 5PM beginning on September 19, 2020.**

Here are a few details:

The service will be similar to our regular Saturday Holy Eucharist Service.

Music and singing will not be included in the service.

The Great Thanksgiving will be included in this weekly service. Communion (Host only, as required by the Bishop) will be distributed to you according to Diocesan guidelines.

All CDC and Diocesan guidelines will be required. This will include face coverings and social distancing.

In order to minimize cleaning and disinfecting, attendees will be asked to provide their own chair to sit on.

We will keep you updated on this plan each week as we continually approach with safety, consideration and love for all. Please know that the Sunday, Wednesday and Friday tele-services will remain available with no changes.

COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND: The Covid 19 Fund Committee has been considering the situation of low income families and the possibility of virtual or remote learning this year. We want to make sure that all students have the resources to create a healthy and productive learning environment. If you know of a child that has a need for any such items (computer, high speed internet access, books, office supplies, etc.) please contact one of the clergy or leave a message at the church office.

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 of August 20, the COVID-19 Fund balance stands at: Contributions: \$22,955.50; Disbursements: \$9,391.80

FALL RUMMAGE SALE: Due to COVID-19, the Annual Fall Rummage Sale originally scheduled to take place in September has been canceled. An outdoor Sale of some variation may be considered for an October date. Let us know if you are interested in such. We will be able to better determine during the month of September if this is a wise and doable activity. Please stay tuned.

WEEKLY FINANCES: During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending August 14, we received \$4,292 in pledges. (There were no loose offerings due to there not being any services in church.)

THE FOOD PANTRY is going strong and remains open to anyone in need every Tuesday from 9:30am - 12 noon. We are still accepting donations, but currently only in need the following specific items: **Canned peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, and chicken and rice soup.** If you would like to donate, please leave items on the table marked 'Donations' outside the lower door during Food Pantry open hours. Any questions, please text or leave a message for Claire at (732) 600-5709. Thank you! Please share and encourage any individual or Family in desperate need of food to visit us.

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 many of the services recorded and then posted on our website www.christchurchtomsriver.org for access at your convenience. 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).

For those who prefer listening in Spanish, The Gospel Reading, a Reflection and Prayers are posted each Sunday on our Facebook page or WhatsApp. To join the WhatsApp group of Christ Church contact Deacon Jose: jmcantos5@hotmail.com

MONDAY EVENING VIRTUAL "COFFEE HOUR" FROM 7-8PM*

**No Coffee Hour on Labor Day, Sept. 7*

Join this Zoom Meeting Here! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94333201452> OR

Dial by Phone (audio participation only): **1 646 558 8656**

And then enter the Meeting ID: **943 3320 1452**

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 (but you will not have a visual). 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 me know!

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!

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! **The current total for the month of AUGUST is \$1 (2 birthdays)!**

JEWELRY REQUESTED: While many of us are spending more hours at home these days, now is a good time to look through that jewelry for any you would like to donate to the Women of Christ Church (WCC). The WCC are interested in all kinds of jewelry, including costume, tarnished and broken. Please set these items aside until the church doors reopen and it is again safe for you to visit the building. There will be a collection bin labeled "jewelry" on top of the mailboxes. Thank you!

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.

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!

IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU, WOULD WE KNOW ABOUT IT? Do the people who care about you know to notify the church right away in case of your hospitalization, or an accident, or an extended illness, etc.? Please give them the church's contact information with clear instructions to contact us right away. We hope to be praying for you during any incidents rather than after the fact. 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!

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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