

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(PROPER 21)

SUNDAY ♦ SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 ♦ 9:45 AM



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW
21:23-32

The Pharisees Question Jesus
- by James Tissot (1836 - 1902)

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

www.christchurchtomsriver.org

HOW TO LISTEN IN TO THE LIVE TELE-SERVICE

DIAL: 712-770-5505
ACCESS CODE: 189853 #

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. David Snyder

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: Dale Chant

PRELUDE

By the Waking of Our Hearts

Ricky Manalo

OPENING HYMN

Sing, Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness

Hymnal 492

*Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness, wake your noblest, sweetest strain,
With the praises of your Savior let his house resound again;
Him let all your music honour, and your songs exalt his reign.*

*Sing how he came forth from heaven, bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave,
Stooped to wear the servant's vesture, bore the pain, the cross, the grave,
Passed within the gates of darkness, thence his banished ones to save.*

*So, he tasted death for mortals, he, of humankind the head,
Sinless one, among the sinful, Prince of life, among the dead;
Thus he wrought the full redemption, and the captor captive led.*

*Now on high, yet ever with us, from his Father's throne the Son
Rules and guides the world he ransomed, till the appointed work be done,
Till he see, renewed and perfect, all things gathered into one.*

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. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 17:1-7

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?" The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is read by the Deacon; said by all

PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers,
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through;
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day,
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff,
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him." The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. David Snyder

HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Lift Every Voice & Sing 111

*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing. Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, O fix me on it mount of God's unchanging love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, surely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.
He, to save my soul from danger, interposed His precious blood.*

*O, to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace, Lord, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it from Thy courts above.*

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, especially for the birth of Jordan Matthew DeRiggi, the Ordination of the Rev. Catherine Wieczorek, and 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 Marie Nagengast and for those we name at this time God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. 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 Julia Chesna, and for those we name at this time God of love,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We pray for all teachers, parents and students during this school year. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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.

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people

CLOSING HYMN

All Praise to Thee, For Thou, O King Divine

Hymnal 477, vs. 1,2,3,5

*All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine:
Alleluia!*

*Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;
by thee the outcast and the poor were sought,
and by thy death was God's salvation wrought:
Alleluia!*

*Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
who wast a servant that we might be free,
humbling thyself to death on Calvary:
Alleluia!*

*Let every tongue confess with one accord
in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord;
and God the Father be by all adored:
Alleluia! Amen.*

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

Go Forth with Praise

Isabelle Ritter

+ + +

PARISH NEWS

(Titles in Red indicate a New or Updated Item)

RECOVERY SUNDAY 2020: The last Sunday in September has been reserved as “Recovery Sunday”... a day on which churches join others across the nation in addressing the damage of addiction...showing support and compassion to the hurting and addicted and showing they want to help with one of the biggest problems in our communities...Faith communities supporting individuals and family members affected by addiction in all its forms. Opioid addiction has reached epic proportions. Alcohol, illicit substances, and other addictions continue to destroy individuals and tear families apart.

Did you know that Christ Church houses over 20 Anonymous/Recovery Meetings each week?! This is surely part of our Outreach to the Toms River and surrounding communities.

People in recovery experience God’s grace, healing, and wholeness in remarkable ways, and they have much to teach the rest of us. Let us honor recovery on this and every Sunday by praying for these souls of our nation and continuing to always be a *safe* and *welcoming* place to those in recovery.

THANK YOU FR. DAVE FOR BEING TODAY’S PRIEST!

The Rev. Dr. David L. Snyder — Hi...here is what you need to know about me! I am an Episcopal priest, canonically resident in the Diocese of New Jersey. In June 2016, I celebrated the 30th anniversary of my ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament (I was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the *Lutheran Church in America* in June of 1986). I retired as Rector of *St. Andrew’s* Episcopal Church in Mt. Holly, NJ on Sunday, January 27th, 2019. Prior to my call to St. Andrew’s, I served as Interim Rector at *The Church of the Good Shepherd* in Pitman, New Jersey from November of 2014 to November of 2015. I am the “*husband of one wife*” (Susan) and we celebrated our 45th anniversary in August of 2018. I am the father of four children (Joshua; Rebecca; Timothy and Zachary) and the grandfather of eight (five boys and three girls). Susan and I have lived in Burlington, NJ since July of 2005. I am a graduate of Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, Pennsylvania) with a BSc. in Education (May of 1972). I received the Master of Divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. (December of 1985), and the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Bangor Theological Seminary (Bangor, Maine) in May of 1997. Since graduating from seminary, I have served as Associate Pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Pottstown, PA. (1985-1989); Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Newington, NH (1989-1997); Pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Nativity in North Conway, NH (1997-1998). I began my formal association with the Episcopal Church in August of 2000 when I was called to serve as the part time Rector of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Bridgton, Maine (2000-2005). At the time, I was the first pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to be called to serve an Episcopal Church following “*Called to Common Mission*” which brought the Episcopal Church and the ELCA together in a “full communion” relationship. In February of 2008, I was officially welcomed into the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New Jersey. I am currently serving as a member of Project Resource: The Diocesan Stewardship Commission for the Diocese of New Jersey. I am a Trustee of Doane Academy (an Episcopal day school in Burlington, NJ).



VOTE FAITHFULLY— SEPTEMBER 26/27 ANNOUNCEMENT

Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church preached about the relationship between voting and the church. (You can see his full message here <https://youtu.be/ckOexitOVIM>.) A group of concerned church members want to help you fulfill this important responsibility. Please visit https://youtu.be/G-dvt_G66vA for an

updated fun video and more information. The first step in the process is to make sure you are **registered**. You can do this by going on the website, <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/registration-check> and just fill in your name and date of birth. If you do not have internet access, please call Dale Chant (732-600-5260) or Patti Russo (732-267-6076). Alternatively, you can leave a message on the church office phone. Don't wait. The deadline for voter registration is October 13. ("Neighbors Helping Neighbors Vote 2020" is a non-partisan group of concerned citizens working to "get the souls to the polls")

ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS will be on Saturday, October 3 at 12pm under Pettit Pavilion at Christ Church. The Blessing will be officiated by The Rev. Petrina Pyatt. All pets welcome (in crates & on leashes please!) Each participating pet will receive a certificate of blessing. Please wear a face covering and practice social distancing.

CHRIST CHURCH OUTDOOR YARD SALE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 FROM 10AM TO 3PM

Limited number of spaces available. For additional details, including Renting a Space to Sell Your Personal Items, please email: ChristChurchEvents@yahoo.com

The Outdoor Yard Sale is instead of the Rummage Sales unable to take place this year. There is no rain date.

Volunteers are needed:

- to staff tables on the day of the event
- to sort items pre-event
- to donate drinks and individually packaged cookies and chips that will be sold at the event
- to direct parking

The church IS NOT accepting any donations of items for this event.

If you are interested in renting a space to sell your personal items or volunteering, please email Melissa Briggs at ChristChurchEvents@yahoo.com

BLOOD DRIVE ON OCTOBER 22 FROM 1-7PM AT CHRIST CHURCH: Appointments strongly suggested. Walk-ins accepted only if space allows. For an appointment go to smarturl.it/NJBS_Drive
Enter Sponsor Code: 70944 or call 1-800-933-2566.

"TRUNK OR TREAT" AT CHRIST CHURCH ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24!

What is a Christ Church Trunk or Treat? It's simply a bunch of parishioners (like you!) banding together in the church parking lot, decorate (or not) your vehicle trunk with any theme decorations, and then let the younger parishioners meander from car to car (6 feet away!), collecting prepackaged TREATS! We are hoping to offer a fun and safe Family event for all ages to enjoy! **But we need your help to make it happen!** Please SIGN UP at <https://signup.com/go/fggwZCJ> as soon as you know you may be available to ATTEND or VOLUNTEER!

In order to make this a successful event, we are in need of:

12+ decorated (or not) trunks – theme ideas available

Individually prepacked candy, chips, cookies, etc. dropped off at the church by 10/17.

Setup / Cleanup crews

KIDS!!!!!!

For more information please contact Shanon Berry or Nicole Strada, coordinators.

WEEKLY FINANCES: During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending September 18, we received \$5,054 in pledges only (no loose offerings).

THE FOOD PANTRY (updated 9/22/20) is going strong and remains open to anyone in need every Tuesday from 9:30am - 12pm. We have a few more items we're in need of at the Food Pantry now. The following are items asked for that we are currently out of now: 2% long life milk — Cornflakes — Vegetable Oil — Sugar — Grape Jelly
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.

CURRENT SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES

SATURDAYS, 5:00 PM – HOLY EUCHARIST IN-PERSON OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Sign-up in advance to attend this service is requested.

SUNDAYS, 9:45 AM — LIVE WORSHIP TELE-SERVICE *

Recordings of this Service are posted on the Church Website and Facebook page for listening at your convenience.

SUNDAYS, 12:00 PM — SANTA EUCARISTIA IN-PERSON OUTDOOR SPANISH SERVICE

WEDNESDAYS, 10:00 AM — LIVE HEALING PRAYER TELE-SERVICE *

FRIDAYS, 7:00 AM – LIVE MORNING PRAYER TELE-SERVICE *

This service can be followed on page 80 of your Book of Common Prayer or at <https://www.bcponline.org/>.

FOR THOSE WHO PREFER LISTENING IN SPANISH, The Sunday Gospel Reading, a Reflection and Prayers are available weekly on our Facebook page or WhatsApp. To join the WhatsApp group of Christ Church contact Deacon Jose: jmcantos5@hotmail.com

*** TO LISTEN TO A LIVE TELE-SERVICE:**

(It is suggested that you call-in a few minutes prior to the start time of a service)

Dial: 712-770-5505 and Enter Access Code: 189853#

If you have any difficulty, please email or call the church office (leave a voicemail).

OUTDOOR IN-PERSON SERVICES ON SATURDAYS AT 5PM

Here is what you need to know before attending:

- The service will be OUTDOORS under Pettit Pavilion and the surrounding lawn area
- If inclement weather is expected, the service will be canceled by Friday PM
- SIGN-UP is requested prior to attending each service (See more details below)
- All CDC and Diocesan guidelines will be required. This will include face coverings and social distancing.
- In order to minimize cleaning and disinfecting, “bring your own chair” to sit on during the service
- Bulletins will continue to be available via email only. You may print and bring with you or view on your phone, tablet, etc. during the service (please note the church WiFi does not function at the Pavilion). We encourage you to bring your own Book of Common Prayer if you have or use at <https://www.bcponline.org/> as well if you desire
- Music and singing will not be included in the service.
- The Great Thanksgiving will be included in this weekly service. Communion (Host only) will be distributed to you according to Diocesan guidelines.

HOW DO I SIGN UP TO ATTEND A SATURDAY SERVICE?

There are two very important reasons why we ask you to sign-up for each Saturday service you plan to attend:

- CDC & Diocesan Guidelines requires Contact Tracing. When you register to attend a service, that information will be used in the event needed for this purpose.
- It will be helpful to our Ushers to know how many people and the size of each household to expect at each service.

We're using SignUp.com to organize our upcoming Sign-ups. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. Copy/Paste this link: <https://signup.com/go/LhPSFbQ>
2. Review the Saturday dates listed and choose the dates you plan to attend.
3. Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to create an account or password

We appreciate you using SignUp.com. But if you cannot, please call the Church Office 732-349-5506 and leave a voicemail with your name, phone#, the date and how many people will attend.

In the event of expected inclement weather, a Saturday service will be cancelled by Friday PM (an electronic or phone notice will be provided to all who had registered for such date)

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

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!

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 September is \$212 (3 birthdays/anniversaries)!**

COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND: The COVID-19 Fund Committee has been considering the situation of low income families and the possibility of virtual, remote or hybrid 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 September 24, the COVID-19 Fund stands at:

Contributions: \$22,955.50; Disbursements: \$10,679.64

** Students who are remote and hybrid learning this school year need to have access to many of their own supplies as schools cannot share.*

Internet: Comcast is offering free internet access. Please click on this link for information and share with families. <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>

Computers: Families may need inexpensive computers for their kids, please direct them to chrome books. These are typically around \$200, much less than a full laptop model.

Day Care: Families may also need day care for their kids while parents are working. The Ocean County Y is offering child care options (from 2-5 days per week) and a sliding scale based on need. Please visit this link for more information: <https://ocymca.org/childcare-camp/virtual-learning-childcare/>

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!

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. 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.

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
415 Washington Street Toms River, New Jersey 08753
www.ChristChurchTomsRiver.org**