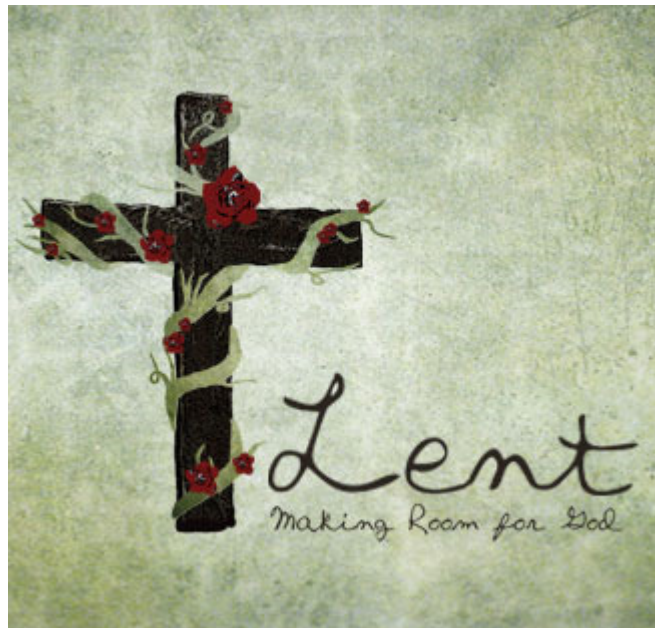


# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY ♦ FEBRUARY 21, 2021 ♦ 9:45 AM



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

[www.christchurchtomsriver.org](http://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. Ryan Paetzold

**DEACON:** The Rev. Ted Foley

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Polly Moore

**ORGAN/PIANO:** Andrew Van Buskirk

**CHOIR PARTICIPANTS:** John Columbus, David Corbitt, John Jowett, Cathy O'Neill,  
Helene Phillips, Eileen Schilling

**LECTOR:** Jeff Genthe

**INTERCESSOR:** Dale Chant

## PRELUDE

*Two Equali*

Ludwig Van Beethoven

## OPENING HYMN

*Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus*

Hymnal 495

1. *Hail, thou once despised Jesus! Hail, thou Galilean King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us, thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, thou universal Savior, through the virtue of thy blood;  
open is the gate of heaven, reconciled are we with God.*
2. *Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, all our sins on thee were laid;  
by almighty love anointed, thou hast full atonement made.  
Every sin may be forgiven, through the virtue of thy blood;  
opened is the gate of heaven, reconciled are we with God.*
3. *Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory, there forever to abide;  
all the heav'nly hosts adore thee, seated at thy Father's side.  
There for sinners thou art pleading, there thou dost our place prepare;  
thou for saints art interceding, till in glory we appear.*
4. *Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing, Christ is worthy to receive;  
loudest praises, without ceasing, right it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits, bring your sweetest, noblest lays;  
help to sing our Savior's merits, help to chant Emanuel's praise.*

## A PENITENTIAL ORDER

*Priest*            Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins  
*People*            *His mercy endures for ever.*

*The people kneeling as able.*

## THE DECALOGUE

*Deacon*            Hear the commandments of God to God's people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon*            You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon*            You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon*            Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon*            Honor your father and your mother.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon*            You shall not commit murder.

*People*            *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon* You shall not commit adultery.

*People* *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon* You shall not steal.

*People* *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon* You shall not be a false witness.

*People* *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Deacon* You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*People* *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

*Priest* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

*The people kneel, as able.*

### **THE CONFESSION**

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

*The following is read by the Intercessor; said by all*

*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.

*Priest and People say the following*

**LORD, HAVE MERCY                      Kyrie**

*Priest* Lord, have mercy.

*People* *Christ, have mercy.*

*Priest* Lord, have mercy.

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Priest* Let us pray. Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 lesson is read by the Lector.*

## **THE FIRST READING**

Genesis 9:8-17

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

*The following is read by the Deacon; said by all*

## **PSALM 5:1-9**

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

*The lesson is read by the Lector.*

## **THE SECOND READING**

1 Peter 3:18-22

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

*Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 1:9-15

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*Deacon* In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## **REFLECTION**

The Rev. Ryan Paetzold

## HYMN

*Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Hymnal 142

- 1. Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,  
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins and close by Thee to stay.*
- 2. As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the vict'ry win,  
O give us strength in Thee to fight, in Thee to conquer sin.*
- 3. As Thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and chiefly live by Thy most holy Word.*
- 4. And through these days of penitence, and through Thy passiontide,  
Yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.*
- 5. Abide with us, that so, this life of suff'ring over past,  
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last*

*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 Intercessor is the “Leader”; the “people” is read by the Lector*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE — The Season of Lent —**

*Deacon* Let us pray for the church and the world.

*Leader* With all of our hearts and with all of our minds, let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

Almighty God, whose glory is always to have mercy, be gracious to all of us who have gone astray. Forgive us and restore us into the way of your truth. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* Gracious God, we pray for all your people everywhere, that they may know and experience your mercy and love. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* We pray for peace and goodwill among all nations. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* We ask your mercy for all who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, and victims of disaster. Help us to partner with them in meaningful and life-giving ways, that they will be empowered, nourished, and renewed. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* We give you thanks, Almighty God, for the many blessings in our lives, for those blessings we now name.....(wait)..... And for all blessings. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* We pray for those affected by natural and man-made disasters; for those who are sick and suffering; for those who struggle to care for a loved one; for those who are in pain or distress; for those who are serving our country; for those listed on our parish prayer list, especially for Betty Sohl, Dorothy Gabbett, Nancy Mayer, Jeffrey Childress, for those we name at this time..... Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* We pray for all who have died in the hope of rising again, especially for Roger Doty, for those who died serving our country, and those we name at this time..... Lord, in your mercy,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Priest* O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(BCP 815)*



*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 an additional closing collect.*

*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.*

*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.*

## 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 complete and current news.*

## THE BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people*

## CLOSING HYMN

*Baptized in Water, Sealed by the Spirit*

Lift Every Voice & Sing 121

*1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king; heirs of salvation,  
trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.*

*2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our king; one with his rising,  
freed and forgiven thankfully now God's praise we sing.*

*3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our king; born of one Father,  
we are his children, joyfully now God's praise we sing.*

## THE DISMISSAL

*The Priest dismisses the people*

*Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*March*

E. K. Heyser



## **PARISH NEWS**

(Titles in Red indicate a New or Updated Item)

**THANK YOU FR. RYAN FOR BEING TODAY'S PRIEST!** "Rev. Paetzold is a passionate social justice advocate and public theologian who has been a featured speaker at multiple events on issues of healthcare and immigration justice. Rev. Ryan Paetzold lives in Marlton, NJ with his art-educator wife, Katie, and son, Asher; their rather feisty, yet adorable cockatoo, Peach; as well as two very energetic Pomsy puppy sisters - Yuki and Nutmeg. Rev. Paetzold has led two nonprofit organizations, and has been a featured speaker at multiple events on social issues, including events on healthcare and immigration justice. He is pleased to be worshipping virtually with Christ Church this morning."



**A MESSAGE FROM DEACON TED:** We have been saying the Prayer in Time of Pandemic for almost a year. Much has changed during that year and, as a country, we seem to be entering a new phase of this difficult time. I think that it may be time to update our communal prayer to reflect these changes - and - I would like to invite everyone to help write this prayer together.

Please let me know if there is a petition you would like to include in this prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude, a prayer for children or parents, or a prayer for friends or family members, etc. In the end, I hope to have one prayer that we can say together as a community. We will likely not be able to mention specific names however, maybe we can leave room for, "those we now name...."

If you would like to contribute to this prayer, please email Deacon Ted (see directory). You can also email or leave a voicemail at the church office and Nicole will make sure it finds its way to me.

And one more thing - Thank you all for your prayers for Kathy and me as we traveled back from Oregon. Peace, Deacon Ted

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### **\*\*\* LENT OPPORTUNITIES \*\*\***

- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS, TUESDAYS AT 7PM**

These are depictions for the 14 incidents in the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death from Pilates' house to being placed in the tomb and rising from the dead. Each "station" will have a brief reading, response and collect. This is offered by Christ Church every Tuesday in Lent, Feb. 23 – March 30. A bulletin will be emailed prior to the start date. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86268913186> pwd=YmZXQXFUDU3g3aVhMWGxJWkVoZDdOdz09

Or Dial: 1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 862 6891 3186

Passcode: 186184

- **2021 LENTEN MEDITATIONS** (provided by Episcopal Relief & Development) "You are invited to meditate on these reflections daily and to engage the "[Four Steps of Lament](#)," by resting, reflecting, repenting and ultimately being restored to God and to one another. Many of the authors share deeply personal and painful experiences related to a variety of issues including disease, violence, racial injustice and poverty." The booklet is completely virtual this year. You can view the English and Spanish version of the booklet here [www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/) as well as subscribe to receive the meditations daily in your email inbox.

- **CHRIST CHURCH LENT PROGRAM, WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15PM**

As has been our tradition, we will again be offering a Lent Program this year. However, this year's program will be different since it was conceived, designed, and will be led by very familiar voices at our church. The program is called "Pathways to the Divine". Each week, an individual from the parish will be leading a session exploring a practice that you can use to help develop your relationship with God.

The program will be held on five consecutive Wednesday evenings starting at 6:15PM on February 24th.

Each session will be held on Zoom. Please join your parish family as we come together as a community for this Lenten journey. Deacon Ted will lead the first session titled, "Pathways to the Divine: Guided Meditation". Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83466643255?pwd=MmxGQ2dlWkNIRy9EcTc3dTJoWnNzZz09>

Or Dial: 1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 834 6664 3255

Passcode: 046516

- **LENT MADNESS:** If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to get closer to Jesus Christ! For the eleventh year running, Lent Madness is gearing up for the competition in which thirty-two saints do battle to win the coveted "Golden Halo". And here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org) (or you can sign up to receive daily emails) about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of saintly 16; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. A large bracket will keep track of the winners for each weekday during Lent. Be sure to vote for your favorites!
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**CHURCH SCHOOL** for grades Pre-K thru 6th, meet virtually weekly on Sundays at 10:30am. If you are interested in your child participating, please email Church School Coordinator, Shanon Berry at [smchant@yahoo.com](mailto:smchant@yahoo.com) for a link to join.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Calling all Christ Church Youth!! (7th grade to 12th grade) invite a friend !

Join us for Zoom youth group meetings 2x per month! We will share together, plan some future service projects and end with Compline from the Book Of Common Prayer. **The next meeting is February 21 @ 5 pm.** Use this link (copy/paste) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86238659000?pwd=OUVuN1pWL2M2R0hTcFR3cW9zdGNBZz09> Meeting ID: 862 3865 9000 and Passcode: 622401 to join us!

**WEEKLY FINANCES:** During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending February 12, 2021, we received \$6,377 in pledges.

**2021 PLEDGES & OFFERING ENVELOPES:** To date, we have received 95 pledges for 2021, totaling \$202,000.84. Thank you to everyone who has turned in their pledge cards. Offering envelopes for those of you who requested them on your pledge cards are still available for pickup. (If you would be able to deliver envelope boxes to those who cannot make it to the church, please let me know.— Kathy Schott)

### **DEACON TED'S QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

*Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. (Jesus of Nazareth)*

**THE FOOD PANTRY** (updated 2/16/20) is going strong and remains open to anyone in need every Tuesday from 9:30am - 12pm (weather permitting). The following are items asked for that we are currently out of now: **Canned Mushrooms — Chicken Broth — Soups w/ Beef — Canned Beef Ravioli — Cranberry Sauce — Raisins — Cookies — Lucky Charms.** 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. **WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!** If you are able to help 1,2 (or more) Tuesday mornings per month, please also contact Claire. She is happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

The **2021 CHRIST CHURCH PARISH DIRECTORY** which includes contact information for all active parishioners, is available to Christ Church parishioners either electronically or in hard copy, upon request.

### **CURRENT SCHEDULE OF CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES:**

#### **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. The bulletin for this service is emailed weekly.*

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

*The bulletin for this service is emailed weekly.*

#### **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](mailto: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).

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

Join this Zoom Meeting Here! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94333201452> AND ENTER PASSCODE: 169772

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

And then enter the Meeting ID: 943 3320 1452 AND THEN ENTER PASSCODE: 169772

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 us know!

**UPDATE FROM DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE:** If you were not able to attend the virtual Annual Meeting on January 24th, then you did not hear the exciting news! The Vestry, with the approval of the Bishop, have called a New Rector! The Letter of Agreement is in the works. When that is officially completed, we will be able to provide more details of who and when! We thank the Discernment Committee members for their many hours of dedication over the past two years. Let us continue to pray for this exciting new chapter at Christ Church.

**PHONE ANGEL MINISTRY** - The pandemic is presenting us many challenges. One particular challenge that people may be struggling with is a sense of isolation. Although Christ assures us that we are never alone, sometimes we need just to hear a familiar voice. Christ Church has formed the ministry of "Phone Angels" to be that familiar voice. Phone Angels will be calling people in the parish to make those connections and see how you are coping. If you are interested in becoming a Phone Angel please contact Deacon Ted or the Church office.

**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 January 21, the COVID-19 Fund stands at: Contributions: \$26,980.50 ; Disbursements: \$16,743.14

**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 of donations received in the month of February 2021 is \$67 (1 birthday)!

**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!

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
415 Washington Street Toms River, New Jersey 08753  
[www.ChristChurchTomsRiver.org](http://www.ChristChurchTomsRiver.org)  
732-349-5506