CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

BORDENTOWN, NJ



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

20 DECEMBER 2020

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We extend a welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us today. Christ Church is truly a beautiful edifice, erected and appointed to the Greater Glory of Almighty God. Herein you find all things in their proper place; everything focused toward the Altar, the center of our worship. The windows in the Nave depict some of the fathers of the early Church, both English and Latin. The Rood shows our Savior, robed as a Priest, with the right hand in Blessing. The Chapel forms a quiet restful spot where, before the Blessed Sacrament, one may kneel in supplication and reverence. We are proud of our worshipful Church and invite you to share its benefit. Come in, rest, pray apart from the world. Surely God is in His Holy Temple.

All who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, have been baptized in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, are repentant of their sins and believe the Blessed Sacrament to be the true Body and Blood of Christ are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. We hope that you will enter fully into worship by joining in the prayers, responses and hymns. Because our worship may be unfamiliar to those not raised in the Episcopal Church, feel free to ask the assistance of those around you in following and participating in the liturgy. If you are in search of a church home, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship and service. Please sign the guest register at the church entrance so we may have a record of your visit.

Restrooms are located in the Parish House, and are accessible through the double doors by the pulpit or by exiting through main doors and accessing the Parish House by way of the side office door. Adults, please use only the Accessible Restroom. The Baby Changing Station in the Ladies' Room is available, as is the Children's Restroom in the Nursery.

Pastoral Emergencies such as sickness, hospitalization, or the death of a loved one should be directed to Fr. Matt at 732.859.5823. Father is happy to respond to your needs even if you are not a parishioner, so please do not hesitate to call.

Covid-19 Protocols can be found inserted into this bulletin and on the usher's table. Please feel free to go to an usher with any questions you may have.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00AM

The Congregation rises at the ringing of the bell

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever, Amen.

COLLECT OF PURITY

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

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son Jesus Christ cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Congregation may be seated for the Lesson and the Psalm

LESSON Romans 16:25-27

A Reading from the Letter of the Blessed Apostle Paul to the Romans.

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:7-13

- 8 Arise, O LORD, into thy resting-place; * thou, and the ark of thy strength.
- 9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; * and let thy saints sing with joyfulness.
- 10 For thy servant David's sake, * turn not away the face of thine anointed.
- 11 The LORD hath made a faithful oath unto David, * and he shall not shrink from it:
- 12 Of the fruit of thy body * shall I set upon thy throne2.
- 13 If thy children will keep my covenant, and my testimonies that I shall teach them; * their children also shall sit upon thy throne2 for evermore.
- 14 For the LORD hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for himself; * he hath longed for her.
- 15 This shall be my rest for ever: * here will I dwell, for I have a delight therein.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

S. Luke 2:26-38

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Congregation And with thy spirit.

Celebrant ■ The continuation of the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Congregation Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Tucker

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church Militant here on earth.

The Congregation kneels for the Prayers

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Blessed Mary Ever Virgin and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

THE PEACE The people may greet one another in the Name of the Lord, with a bow or a wave, and then be seated.

THE INTENTIONS OF THE MASS

THE OFFERTORY

THE MASS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Congregation And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

Congregation We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Congregation It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Congregation kneels for the Canon of the Mass; the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again:

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, THIS IS MY BODY, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for THIS IS MY BLOOD of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, *be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant We do not presume

Congregation to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to Thee. And since I can not now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate Thee from me. May I live and die in Thy love. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Congregation And with thy spirit.

Celebrant The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

The Congregation rises for the Last Gospel

THE LAST GOSPEL

Celebrant. The Beginning of the Holy Gospel according to John.

Congregation Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US; and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS & DEDICATIONS

The flowers that decorate the church this week are given in loving memory of John F. Carty, Jacqueline K. Carty, Anna May Carty, Donald C. Seelhorst, and F. Elaine Seelhorst

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

the sick: Darrell Vigh, Karen Kwietnieski-Casais, Earl Reading, Fran Sutter, Reagon Condron, Jim Baker, Russell Childs, Jennifer Millar, Lisa Jones, Ryan Kochie, Patty MacAllister, Alma Poksay, Evelyn Montalvo, Benjamin Kniss, Delmar Fenton Jr., Edward Lavelle, Dawn Matthews, Korey Walton, Gene McHugh, Maureen Rees, John Kochie, Stephen Turgyan, Lucy Janicelli, Claire Horyn, Anthony Petresilli, Scott O'Brien, Zachary Birnbaum, Shelly Eberhart, John Miosz, Robert Geneski, Kathy Pietsch, Karen Clifford, Mary Koch, Sava Nedic, Bunny Colby, and Dana Mirabelli, Aimee Kurtis, Walter Easley, Frank Corbo, Josephine Corbo, Kathy Gabel, Janice Foster, Susan O'Malia, David Kochie, Louise Kafer, Ron Augustyn, Alanna Bellflower, John Haney, Lorraine Sickles, Sharon Kedzierski, Ed and Marie Nyul.

and those who have long term illnesses: Patrick Moscatiello, Anthony Apicelli, Stephen Vigh, Mark Casais, Dixon Leavers Kevin Kintner, Robin Kintner, Gary Rutherford, Jane Humble, Charles Martin, Alice Ward Carriger, Carla Douglas, Ryan Murray, William Sweeney, Justin McCafferty, Zachary McCafferty, Kelly Bergen, Hannah McNinch, the Rev. Ted Anderson, R. Loraine Burke, Mackenzie Sutter, Daniel Applegate, Roberta Cash, Jennifer Vigh, Jim Tranter, Jonathan Okeson, Mary Dallmann, Patricia Dixon, Jeanette Poole, Bob Bernard, Pat Temple, Danielle Morgan, Jai Autar, Emma Burris, Gloria Jones, Kelley Gilger, Emma Carver, Maria Stout, Lori Forenson, Michael Chahanovich, Rita Haney, Sue Kelly, Sister Angela, Sister Gussie, Dee Watkins, Marge Lee, Michael Slaper, Robert Fritz, the Rev. Son Xuan Nguyen, Lynn Muller, Holly Jones, Irene Fithian, Cheryl Kranz Bach, Brian Nguyen, Rob Mendez, Christine Nicosia, Brianne Nicosia, Karen Schweppenheiser Lospinoso, Sister Pat, Carl Hasson, Susan Sizetz, Frank Clebock, Ron Clebock, Helen Marie Burns, and Thomas Zoccali.

those in military service: Ben Skarzynski, USMC; Chris Neal, USN; Jacob Foerter; USAFR; Samuel Manion, USA.

celebrating a birthday this week: Zachary Neal, Lawrence Nosari, Robert Bauer, Thomas Feuerstein, and Riley Woodrick.

Anyone may contact the office with names of those who are ill and/or hospitalized for inclusion in our prayers. Names will remain on the list for a maximum of four weeks unless we are notified that they should remain for a longer period.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 protocols for the parish have been published and are available at the parish and on our website and social media pages. For the health and safety of our parishioners, guests, and staff, please follow these protocols when present at the parish.

PLEDGES AND GIVING: Please remember your pledges and weekly giving, even in this time of crisis. Envelopes can be mailed to the church or slipped through the Rectory mail slot. Also consider online giving, which is convenient and socially distant. You can find the page for online giving under the donation link on our website. Thank you for remembering your church!

NOMINATIONS: In preparation for our 2021 Parish Annual Meeting, the nominating committee requests your thoughts and assistance. Terms will be ending for the Senior Warden, four Vestry posts including three full terms and one-year unexpired term; all Diocesan Convention delegates and alternates as well as our Convocation representatives. Suggestions of the names to be considered for the proposed slate may be directed to Father Matt or Mary Ellen Carty, 609-298-4337.

TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM will sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive on **Monday, December 21, 2020** at the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Lodge, 103 Dunns Mill Road, Fieldsboro, from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. Donating blood is a heartwarming experience and provides a unique opportunity to reach out and directly contribute to saving a life. Please give the gift of life. To make an appointment to give blood on December 21, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code Temple BNai Abraham.



NOV. 17

EVENTS

FILL FR. MATT'S TRUCK

NOV. 25 THANKSGIVING OUTREACH MEALS

DEC. 24

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH MEALS

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

A Parish of the Episcopal Church

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Fr. J. Matthew Tucker, Rector

The Rev. Canon Dr. Alan K. Salmon, Honorary Associate

The Rev. Ryan Paetzold, Associate

Mr. Stephen C. Bearse, Organist and Choirmaster

Mrs. Donna Kirk, Parish Administrator

Mr. Charles Reeder, Sexton



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Vestry

Ms. Kate Williamson, Warden, (609) 291-8052 Miss Mary Ellen Carty, Warden (609) 298-4337

Mr. Ed Ackerman (609) 298-0661 Ms. Donna Hudak (609) 581-4604

Mrs. Loris Johnson (609) 291-5610 Mrs. Anne Lyon (609) 291-8077 Mrs. Debbie Mallard (609) 802-8929 Mr. Dave Mohr (609) 468-4208 Ms. Susan Preston (609) 291-8052 Ms. Colleen Suozzo (609) 947-1304

Schedule for the Week of 20 December

Sunday, 20 December

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m. Low Mass (Facebook)

Monday, 21 December Saint Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday, 22 December Advent Feria

Wednesday, 23 December Advent Feria Thursday, 24 December

The Vigil of the Nativity (Christmas

Eve

10:00 a.m. Low Mass (Facebook)

6:00 p.m. Low Mass (Churchyard and

Facebook)

8:00 p.m. Low Mass (Facebook)

Friday, 25 December

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Low Mass (Facebook)

Saturday, 26 December
Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Sunday, 27 December

The First Sunday after Christmas Day
9:00 a.m. Low Mass (Facebook)