

**AGENDA  
for the  
188th ANNUAL MEETING OF  
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH  
Bordentown, New Jersey**

**April 25, 2021**

**THE GREAT HALL**

**+++**

**CALL TO ORDER  
OPENING PRAYERS  
APPOINTMENTS FROM THE CHAIR  
ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO THE AGENDA  
ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE 187th ANNUAL MEETING  
RESOLUTION(S) (if any)  
NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTED OFFICES  
FURTHER NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR  
CLOSING OF NOMINATIONS  
FIRST BALLOT (if required)**

**PRESENTATION OF 2021 BUDGET  
PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS  
FIRST VOTE TALLY: ELECTION RESULTS (if necessary)  
SECOND BALLOT (if needed)  
OLD BUSINESS  
NEW BUSINESS  
SECOND VOTE TALLY: ELECTION RESULTS (if necessary)  
MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE PARISH  
THANKS  
ADJOURNMENT  
CLOSING PRAYER(S) and BLESSING**

## Christ Church Parish Register 2020

### **SERVICE REGISTER**

Holy Communion, Sunday celebrations - 51  
Virtual only Sunday Celebrations - 23  
Holy Communion, weekday celebrations – 40  
Virtual only Thursday celebrations - 13  
Other liturgical / sacramental acts - 150  
Baptisms - 1  
Marriages - 2  
Burials - 8

### **HOLY BAPTISM**

*“We receive you into the household of God...”*

*Ada Maria Revy*

### **HOLY MATRIMONY**

*“...And the two shall become one flesh.”*

*Brian Earl Schmith & Diane Christina Pernie*

*Adam Stephen Collik & Thomas Migliaccio Jr.*

### **BURIALS / DEPARTED**

*“Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them”*

*Christine Bardos (N)*

*Jean E. Fithian (N)*

*Arthur Jukes*

*Gerardo V. Fiabane (N)*

*Ainslie B. Brown*

*Donald Kafer*

*Nancy Walls*

*Sharon Lynn Caffey (N)*

### **HOLY CONFIRMATION and RECEPTION INTO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*“Strengthen, O Lord, Thy servants with Thy Holy Spirit,,,”*

*Ainslie B. Brown*

*Meagan Ashley Rosina*

*Marianne Jackson*

*Jack Magnelli*

*Christine Ann Mallard*

*Donna Lynne Manion*

*Bryce Alexander Marsh*

*Danielle Avery Marsh*

*Marlene Barnhart-Mohr*

*Pamela Marie Murphy*

*The Rev. Ryan Paetzold*

*Joseph Clarence Platt*

*Edward Rosina II*

*Paul Smith*

*Alec Vincent Taylor*

*Danielle McElmoyl*

*Joseph Ryan Brovak*

**TRANSFER IN (Confirmed Members)**

*Ivan J. Sopko from Trinity Cathedral, Trenton NJ*

**TRANSFER OUT (Confirmed Members)**

**TRANSFER IN (Baptized Members)**

*Matthew J. Revy from United Methodist Church, Juliustown, NJ*

*Michelle Revy from Saint Mary's of the Lake, Lakewood NJ*

*Hillary K. Sopko from Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ*

*Hope Adele Sopko from Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ*

*Dr. C. Chase Blanchard Easley from St Peter's Church in Morristown NJ*

*Walter Easley*

*John Walls from Saint Mary's, Bordentown NJ*

*Nancy Walls from Saint Mary's, Bordentown, NJ*

*Chelsey Lynn Walls from Saint Mary's, Bordentown, NJ*

**TRANSFER OUT (Baptized Members)**

**Minutes of the 187th Meeting of  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Bordentown, NJ  
Sunday, February 2, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 A.M. with prayer by The Reverend J. Matthew Tucker, Rector. There were 29 parishioners and friends in attendance.

The minutes of the 186th Annual Meeting were presented in written form in the Annual Report. The minutes were accepted as presented.

The Rector called for any resolutions. None were presented.

The Nominating Committee presented a partial proposed slate of candidates for elected office for 2018. Two openings were filled by parishioners in attendance.

2020 slate of candidates:

**Junior Warden - 2 year term**

Mary Ellen Carty

**Vestry - three 3 year terms**

1. Ed Ackerman
2. Loris Johnson
3. Susan Preston

(1) 2-year unexpired term

1. Ainslie Brown

**Diocesan Convention - 1 year terms**

3 delegates

1. Gayle Carson
2. Dave Mohr
3. Ed Ackerman

3 alternates

1. Doan Tucker
2. Anne Lyon
3. Debbie Mallard

**Convocation - 1 year terms**

1. Karen Sutter
2. Francis Sutter
3. Diane Law
4. Andy Law
5. Dave Mohr
6. Open

There were no additional nominations from the floor. There being no contested offices, the Clerk was requested to cast a single ballot for all the nominees. Father Tucker declared all nominees to be elected to these offices.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by title and passed after comments. Kate Williamson gave a special thanks to treasurer Loris Johnson for her efficient management of funds.

The Rector's Report was presented by title. Father Matt thanked the Vestry for their service, and Kate Williamson thanked Father Matt for that he and Doan Tucker do for the Parish and the community.

The Church School Report was presented by title. Amber Brovak noted that the church school has experienced an increase in numbers attending and in activities.

The Finance and Fundraising Reports were presented by title. Kate Williamson remarked on how important fundraising and pledging are and on how far we've come in the last ten years. The Parish is much more stable while still needing to draw on principal at times. She said that fewer members are returning the pledge cards and the church has experienced the loss of some longtime members through death or moving away, although there are new younger members. It appears to be a pattern among the younger members to not pledge, even though they do give. Debbie Mallard commented on the fundraising efforts, noting that it is still the same small number of people involved. She would like to have greater involvement and input and quarterly meetings. Father Matt thanked the Fundraising Committee and noted that one new venture this year was Doan's Cooking with Friends.

Susan Preston spoke on the progress of the historic preservation of the churchyard. The Parish is close to meeting the commitment requirement of the grant that has allowed for preservation and repair to the churchyard; with two years to go, only \$1300 more is needed. She highlighted some of the improvements made to the churchyard and thanked everyone who has helped. Father Matt added his thanks and noticed Jack Norcross for having done much unasked for work.

The Music Ministry Report was made by title. Stephen Bearse announced plans for a Hymn Sing in May. He was very happy with the number of youngsters singing in the Christmas pageant.

The Outreach Report was made by title. Kate Williamson remarked on how long the list of outreach has grown and how many of the efforts involve other community groups as well. Debbie Mallard said that people in nearby towns have grown to know of Father Matt and Doan through these activities. Father Matt gave credit to the people of Bordentown City for responding whenever there has been a call for help. He also mentioned that there is an upcoming Jazz Vespers concert to raise funds for the continuation of the Joint Base Dorm Dinners outreach. This will be on March 8 at 4 PM. He invited any and all suggestions for further outreach.

The Property Report was given by title. Kate Williamson noted that Mary Ellen Carty has been the one who coordinated work, found companies, and supervised completion of projects. Jerry Trout asked about the Tolle tree company. Father Matt said that the loss of the owner ended the relationship which has been sorely missed, especially for tasks like leaf removal. Debbie Mallard has been checking around for someone to do this, but no one seems to be interested. Dave Mohr asked when the defibrillator training will take place. Father Matt reported that the program "Till Help Arrives" will be using the Parish facility to conduct training in the near future. He also complimented Mary Ellen Carty for her hard work in getting so many major projects completed this year.

The Worship Report was presented by title. Father Matt was especially pleased with the 8 AM attendance and the number of young people involved. He noted that the average Sunday attendance was up and was above the average for Episcopal churches.

There were no old or new business items.  
Matters for the Good of the Parish  
There were no items brought up.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 P.M. with prayer and blessing by Father Tucker.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Lyon. Clerk

**DECEMBER 31, 2020 - TREASURER'S REPORT**

	<b>BEGINNING CHECKBOOK BALANCE</b>	<b>17,100.35</b>
<b><u>BUDGET INCOME</u></b>		
Plate	3,562.00	
Pledges	74,534.59	
Donations	61,582.10	
Special Donations	10,673.00	
Church School	304.75	
Hall User Donations	1,180.00	
Votive Shrine Donations	635.00	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET INCOME</b>	<b>152,471.44</b>	
<b><u>NON-BUDGET INCOME</u></b>		
Fundraising Projects	1,207.00	
Flower Sales - \$500.00		
Raffles - \$111.50		
Dinners - \$595.50		
Church Yard / Graves	350.00	
Rector Discretionary Fund	9,855.00	
Outreach- Thanksgiving/Christmas/Easter/Laundry	4,531.75	
Outreach- Homefront	3,080.00	
Building Fund	14,255.00	
Candle Fund	165.00	
Forward Day by Day	16.00	
Flowers - Memorial	1,952.15	
Memorial Gift Fund	335.00	
NJHT Cemetery Grant	4,089.01	
<b>TOTAL NON-BUDGET INCOME</b>	<b>39,835.91</b>	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET &amp; NON-BUDGET INCOME</b>		<b>192,307.35</b>
<b><u>WITHDRAWS - INVESTMENT FUNDS</u></b>		
Capital Fund	31,530.00	
Budget Fund (General Expenses/ Shortfall)	4,000.00	
<b>TOTAL WITHDRAWS FROM INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>35,530.00</b>
<b>TRANSFERS FROM ESCROW SAVINGS</b>		<b>457.70</b>
<b><u>BUDGET EXPENSES</u></b>		
Diocesan Voluntary Pledge	6,000.00	
Clergy	100,811.76	
Office	18,251.69	
Property	36,210.71	
Organist/ Organ Maintenance	14,999.92	
Worship	341.50	
Churchyard	-	
Christian Education	391.55	
Fellowship	-	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSE</b>	<b>177,007.13</b>	

**NON-BUDGET EXPENSES**

Homefront	126.54	
Forward Day by Day	44.00	
Rector Discretionary Fund	5,800.00	
Outreach- Thanksgiving/Christmas/Easter/Laundry	1,096.30	
Rectory Repairs	2,984.60	
NJHT Grant	5,870.94	
Plumbing Repairs	1,553.04	
Organ Repairs	20,881.00	
Boiler/ Heater Repairs	534.00	
Parking Lot/ Sidewalks	4,635.00	
Church & Parish Hall Repairs	4,397.82	
LED Lighting Projects	11,558.72	
Churchyard Fund	250.00	
<b>TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSE</b>	<b>59,731.96</b>	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET &amp; NON-BUDGET EXPENSE</b>		<b>236,739.09</b>
<b>ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE</b>		<b>8,656.31</b>

**12/31/2020 - Escrow Savings Account Yearend Balances**

Clergy - Continued Education	1,120.00	
Clergy - Housing Allowance	2,500.00	
Clergy - Sabbatical	800.00	
Music / Choristers	244.45	
Memorial Gift Fund	27,833.99	
Building Fund	8,610.72	
Building Fund - Rectory	16,667.95	
Bequest Fund	79.00	
Church Yard Fund	1,050.00	
NJHT Grant for Cemetery	959.44	
Contingency Fund	374.00	
Rector Discretionary Fund	9,515.68	
Outreach- Thanksgiving/Christmas/Easter/Laundry	12,337.67	
Homefront / Food Pantry	5,613.14	
Candle Fund	127.05	
Youth Group	908.00	
Acolyte Fund	1,365.00	
Children's Choir	1,675.00	
<b>Total Escrow</b>	<b>91,781.09</b>	
<b>Credit/ Debit Card Checking Account</b>	<b>9,045.47</b>	
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>92.54</b>	

## 2020 BUDGET vs 2020 ACTUAL and 2021 BUDGET

	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Plate Offering	8,000.00	3,562.00	6,000.00
Pledges	74,000.00	74,534.59	67,000.00
Donations	55,000.00	61,582.10	55,000.00
Special Envelope Offerings	10,000.00	10,673.00	10,000.00
Church School	300.00	304.75	300.00
Hall User Donations	1,500.00	1,180.00	1,500.00
Votive Shrine Donations	1,000.00	635.00	1,000.00
Total Budget Income	<u>149,800.00</u>	<u>152,471.44</u>	<u>140,800.00</u>
<b><u>Non-Budget Income</u></b>			
Fundraising Projects	12,500.00	1,207.00	12,500.00
Total Budget & Non-Budget Income	<u>162,300.00</u>	<u>153,678.44</u>	<u>153,300.00</u>
<b><u>Shortfall of Income</u></b>			
Budget Shortfall	38,310.00		37,771.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME WITH SHORTFALL</b>	<u>200,610.00</u>		<u>191,071.00</u>
 <b><u>EXPENSE</u></b>			
<b><u>Diocesan Voluntary Pledge</u></b>	<b>6,000.00</b>	6,000.00	<b>6,000.00</b>
 <b><u>Clergy</u></b>			
Salary	49,470.00	49,377.64	49,470.00
SECA - Part of Salary	4,800.00	4,766.36	4,800.00
Monthly Expense Allowance	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Housing Allowance	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Health Insurance	22,705.00	22,794.00	23,736.00
Dental Insurance	1,225.00	1,222.80	1,225.00
Life Insurance	230.00	228.00	230.00
Pension Contributions	14,000.00	13,476.96	14,000.00
Continued Education	1,120.00	0	1,120.00
Sabbatical	800.00	0	800.00
Supply Clergy	2,000.00	446.00	2,000.00
	<u>104,850.00</u>	<u>100,811.76</u>	<u>105,881.00</u>
 <b><u>Office</u></b>			
Administrative Assistant	11,000.00	7,522.50	10,000.00
Office & Computer Supplies/ Printing	1,300.00	214.21	1,000.00
Telephone	1,800.00	1,811.01	1,850.00
Postage	400.00	556.70	500.00
Stewardship Envelopes	400.00	252.37	400.00
Vestry Expense/ Gifts	200.00	200.00	200.00
Service Contract - Copier	1,800.00	1,734.68	1,800.00
Credit & Debit Card Fees (Paysimple)	850.00	1,292.82	1,250.00
Payroll Fees & Year End Fees	1,700.00	1,578.02	1,700.00
Checking Account Service Fees	25.00	4.05	20.00
Payroll FICA Taxes - Employer	2,500.00	2,141.33	2,400.00
Worker Compensation Insurance	925.00	944.00	950.00
Convention Fees	100.00	0	100.00
	<u>23,000.00</u>	<u>18,251.69</u>	<u>22,170.00</u>



## **2020 BUDGET vs 2020 ACTUAL and 2021 BUDGET**

	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>
<b><u>Property</u></b>			
Sexton	8,000.00	5,465.67	7,000.00
Property Insurance	16,000.00	14,974.81	16,000.00
Church/Parish House			
Gas	8,000.00	5,816.45	8,000.00
Electric	4,000.00	3,156.65	4,000.00
Water	850.00	854.90	850.00
Sewer	550.00	475.77	550.00
Rectory			
Gas	1,500.00	1,247.98	1,500.00
Electric	1,500.00	1,297.33	1,500.00
Water	500.00	540.56	500.00
Sewer	650.00	710.30	700.00
Service Contract	110.00	119.88	120.00
Yearly Maintenance & Repair	2,500.00	1,295.00	1,500.00
Maintenance & Cleaning Supplies	900.00	255.41	600.00
Snow Removal	1,500.00	0	1,500.00
	<u>46,560.00</u>	<u>36,210.71</u>	<u>44,320.00</u>
<b><u>Music</u></b>			
Organist Salary	15,000.00	14,999.92	7,500.00
Organ Maintenance & Repair	2,500.00	0	2,500.00
	<u>17,500.00</u>	<u>14,999.92</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>
<b><u>Worship</u></b>			
Bread	400.00	118.90	400.00
Wine	500.00	0	500.00
Supplies/ Maintenance	100.00	0	100.00
Candles & Incense	500.00	222.60	500.00
	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>341.50</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
<b><u>Christian Education</u></b>			
Curriculum/Supplies	250.00	284.70	300.00
Gifts & Awards	350.00	106.85	300.00
	<u>600.00</u>	<u>391.55</u>	<u>600.00</u>
<b><u>Churchyard</u></b>			
Maintenance/Supplies/Equipment	500.00	0	500.00
	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>500.00</u>
<b><u>Fellowship</u></b>			
Supplies/Kitchen/Food	100.00	0	100.00
	<u>100.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>100.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>200,610.00</b>	<b>177,007.13</b>	<b>191,071.00</b>

## Annual Clergy Report for 2020

The Feast of St. Aelred, 2021

Despite the challenges we faced in 2020, the parish continued our mission and ministry in Bordentown and beyond. As always, I am thankful for the instruments of those blessings: for our Wardens Kate Williamson and Mary Ellen Carty; for the parish Vestry and Committees; our liturgical guilds and choir; for the continued work of so many on the buildings and grounds; for our benefactors; for Loris Johnston, our Treasurer; for Donna Kirk, who runs the place; for our Sexton, Charles Reeder; to our Organist and Choirmaster, Stephen Bearse and to our choir; to all the members of our parish family who make Christ Church what it is; for the friends of the parish who support us in myriad ways; and to Doan Tucker, who never ceases to work to the benefit of the church and of Bordentown, and who was awarded the Burlington County Woman of the Year Award.

Much like churches around the world, we had to quickly adapt to the new restrictions brought on by Covid-19. When public worship was suspended, we had to find ways of recording and streaming services, and I am grateful for the work Fr. Ryan Paetzold and Doan put in to make that work, as well as to the benefactors who made the purchase of equipment possible. We formed a Reopening Committee do to the work of planning and executing our reopening plan, and I am forever grateful for their efforts. We re-opened on July 12, and the protocols that were put in place kept our parishioners safe. In November, as infection rates soared, the decision was made to once again close to public worship, which we did after the Mass on Thanksgiving morning. Bishop Stokes appointed me to the diocesan task force for Covid-19 and I continue in that work.

Our outreach initiatives have continued make an impact. Some, like the Bordentown Laundry Project and the Blessing of the Firetrucks, had to shut down during the crisis. Others, like our monthly HomeFront meal prep, courageously carried on. New opportunities to be of service came out of the crisis, such as making and distributing masks to local front line workers. We partnered with local churches and organizations to expand our initiatives, particularly in providing meals to those in need. Our Thanksgiving Meal outreach expanded with the help of those new partners, and we provided 540 meals this year. This Christmas, we provided gifts and supplies to 47 kids, 5 other families, and to Providence House. Fill Fr. Matt's Truck for Thanksgiving happened only with the assistance of Bordentown Home for Funerals and our two fire companies, and we collected 4 trucks worth of food. Soles4Souls continues to be successful, thanks to Robin Nosari. Operation Cookie Drop served our service men and women. Those are just the highlights.

I have continued my work on the commission for Congregational Development and Evangelism, the Diocesan Youth Task Force, and the Committee on Deceased Members, as well as being Dean of the Burlington Convocation and the President of the Standing Committee. I have continued to serve as the Chaplain to the city's fire companies, the Burlington County Firefighters Association, the 200 Club of Burlington, and the police forces of the city and township.

I can't tell you how proud I am to be at Christ Church! My thanks to all of you for a wonderful 2019, and I pray that God blesses us all in 2020.

Right Onward,

--MT+

## **Annual Church School Report for 2020**

The Feast of St. Aelred, 2021

I first would like to thank our faithful teachers for another great year: Nici Vigh, Amber Brovak, Erica Richardson, and Mary Drum; thanks also to their helpers and assistants. My thanks also to all our Church School parents and families who value the program and help to make it what it is.

The Church School was prevented from meeting in person from mid-March through the rest of 2020. Christian education continued at home and via Zoom, and we took the approach of meeting on a limited basis, considering the amount of time our children and parents had to spend on Zoom and other digital media.

For the first couple of month of 2020, the Church School continued to be vital and a huge part of the life of the parish. Members of the Church School participated in worship, outreach, and in most other aspects of church life. All indications were that it would be another fabulous year.

The Covid-19 crisis took its toll, but members of the Church School continued their ministries including HomeFront meal prep, Thanksgiving and Christmas outreach, baking cookies for Operation Cookie Drop, and participating in worship when we were together.

I'm proud of what our Church School has been able to do in the midst of a global pandemic. I'm grateful for their work and their inspiration, and I look forward to the time when we can gather together again.

Right Onward,

--MT+

## **2020 Report of The Finance Committee**

We continue to be blessed with faithful parishioners, neighbors and friends of Christ Church that support our Fundraising and Outreach efforts, even despite the pandemic and the restrictions we've all had to adapt to. Throughout the year, volunteers have continued to help to maintain the parish buildings and grounds in ways that allow us to avoid expense, and many of our ministries are funded by volunteer effort and donation of materials, food, supplies and funds. We're grateful for all that God has given us through the faith and ministry of our parish family and friends.

When the pandemic first began, we were concerned that giving would be greatly reduced as we were unable to worship in person. While giving is certainly down, it has remained far stronger than we were afraid it might. That speaks to the deep commitment to Christ Church that so many of our parishioners have, and we are blessed by your faithfulness.

Our Fundraising activities have been curtailed during the pandemic since gatherings have not been possible. Despite this, we have been able to conduct the Mother's Day and Fall plant sales, and these have been very successful. At present, the City expects to be able to hold the Cranbury Festival in October 2021, and many of our usual fundraising projects occur in later in the year, so we're hopeful that we can resume those favorites.

As has been true for many years, a significant part of our operating budget is funded by investment income, so the performance of the financial markets directly and significantly impacts our financial health. The markets saw a sharp downturn last spring that had us worried, but they have since recovered and even gained a bit. We've had very good advice and guidance from our financial advisers at Ventura Wealth Management, and that has helped us weather the effects of the day to day or month to month highs and lows of the financial markets. Our Treasurer, Loris Johnson, does an outstanding job of managing our operating finances and working closely with Ventura Wealth Management.

We were eligible for, and did receive, a small Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP) Loan through the federal government. This helped us cover our payroll expenses for a few months and allowed us to maintain all four of our parish employees throughout the pandemic. We have applied for loan forgiveness and fully expect this to be approved.

I hope that all parishioners will continue support the parish by making and keeping your pledge to the best of your ability, and by volunteering when you can for parish work days and fundraisers. Most importantly, your presence at Mass each week and your discipleship in bringing your friends and family to Christ can only strengthen our worship and our parish in every way.

I am deeply grateful for the faithful service of Loris Johnson, our Treasurer. The job of Treasurer is one of the hardest in any parish, and Loris spends considerable time and care each week in managing our finances. We're truly blessed by her faithful service on the Vestry and as Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Williamson, Sr Warden & Finance Chair

## **2020 Report of Fundraising**

Our Fundraising efforts in 2020, unfortunately, were not what we had expected, due to COVID-19, raising a little less than \$1k. As noted in the Finance report, Fundraising is essential to helping us reach financial sustainability, and hopefully we will be able to resume our normal fundraising efforts for the second half of 2021.

Spaghetti Dinner – We were able to do our Italian dinner and 50/50 at the end of February. It was very successful and we will more than likely add it in to our regularly scheduled annual fundraising efforts.

Flower Sales – Colleen Suozzo was able to coordinate our Fall Mum sale, with our local grower, in October. Since this is a mainly outdoor event, we were able to sell them in a safe manner. Many thanks to Colleen Suozzo for taking the initiative and leading this effort.

Much of our fundraising work occurs later in the year, and we hope to meet soon to see how we can salvage the latter half of 2021. As of now, we hope to do our spring flower event and the Cranberry Festival is scheduled for the first weekend in October. We are looking forward to coordinating with our faithful volunteers to make these successful events. We hope you'll join us and help plan for the year, perhaps run a fundraising project or develop a new idea.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Mallard, Fundraising Chair

# New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund and Capital Preservation Grant Update 2020

Work began on the churchyard Grant Project in June 2018. Keystone Preservation Group, under the supervision of Christopher Frey and associates, addressed the biodegradable growth on the twenty-seven gravestones that were designated in the Grant for rehab/repair. To date, rehab/repairs of seventeen (17) of the twenty-seven (27) designated stones have been completed. Massive clean-up of biodegradable and plant growth was completed in the Hopkinson and Allen areas of the church. The removal of this growth yielded positive information that several of our most significant and heavy gravestones will not require rehab/repair. This allowed us the opportunity to select additional stones that were previously not scheduled. Equipment has been purchased to gently power wash the stones after D2 treatment has been applied. Funds were additionally approved by the Grant to trim a tree that was endangering the Hopkinson area.

The biggest and most visible improvements are in the Allen and Hopkinson areas. The majority of construction, major rehabilitation and biodegradable growth removal have been in these two areas. Additional cleaning has been conducted throughout the churchyard on historic gravestones that did not require rehabilitation and were not part of the Grant. Work has been halted for the winter months and will resume in the Spring. The last area rehabbed will be the Quaker/Farnsworth graveyard.

The Grant requires us to provide Matching Funds in the amount of 12,000. To date we have received \$10,500 in donated funds from parishioners and visitors toward our required Match. We have until 2022 to raise the additional funds to fulfill this requirement. Covid has prevented us from considering any fundraisers for this specific purpose this past year. In the Spring, we will also be asking for assistance in maintaining the ground areas on these sites. If you have not had an opportunity to walk through the churchyard recently, please take a moment to do so and marvel at the positive changes in the Hopkinson and Allen areas.

Please contact Mary Ellen or I if you would like to be involved.

Thank you,

Susan Preston

## **Annual Report Music Ministry 2020**

Happy 2021 to all of you!

As a church musician, I have found myself on the organ bench or behind a conductor's podium on Christmas Eve since I was a junior in high school. Keeping that in perspective, that was 1988. Due to the challenging year that has just past, Christmas for me was very different. I was at home when I would otherwise be putting on S. Nicholas vestments for the family service or gathering at 9.30pm with the adult choir to prepare for Midnight Mass. Missing also on Christmas Eve was the traditional "in the kitchen" choir reception for many years that carried on until the wee hours of the morning. When I arrived in Bordentown in the Fall of 2002, Christ Church became my home for all of the holidays that happened over the years. I look forward to once again celebrate these memories as we continue to forge on in 2021.

With all of this available time during 2020, our long-time chorister and director of Vox Fidelis has coordinated a complete "sprucing up" of the choir hall. This has included moving out unneeded items, cleaning and painting walls and organizing choir music. Also involved was a complete re-design of the space to better serve its needs. Many thanks go out to not only Tim, but Anna Brown and Abby Sander. We will be planning a celebration for its unveiling at some point in the coming year.

My goal is to regroup the music ministry this upcoming Fall. Provided that all moves in the right direction with COVID vaccinations and the pandemic as a whole, I will be preparing music folders, planning services with Fr. Matt and welcoming our choirs back to our parish traditions. Until that time, I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen C. Bearse  
Organist and Choirmaster

15 February 2021  
*Feast of Ss. Faustinus and Jovita*



## 2020 Report of Parish Outreach

With the faithful dedication of so many parishioners and friends of the parish, we continued to witness by word and example the good news of God in Christ through our many Outreach ministries. During 2020, our parish family rose to the many challenges and extraordinary need during the pandemic to:

- Provide several thousand meals through our Homefront ministry, partnership with the Baptist church's weekly meals program, and meals for soldiers housed at Fort Dix.
- Make and distribute masks for healthcare workers and first responders in the early days of the pandemic when basic PPE (personal protective equipment) was simply unavailable.
- Safely gather and deliver hundreds of pairs of shoes for our Soles for Souls ministry.
- Continue to partner with the Bordentown Home for Funerals, Huber-Moore Funeral Home, Bordentown Kiwanis, Bordentown Rotary Club, Whole Hog BBQ, First Baptist Church of Bordentown, First Presbyterian Church of Bordentown, Trinity United Methodist Church of Bordentown, the Joint Base, and others to prepare and distribute holiday meals at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Serve countless individuals through Fr. Matt's discretionary fund to help them avoid homelessness or having utilities turned off, provide food and basic necessities, etc. Meal trains for several families dealing with long term illnesses and other serious issues were supported through the discretionary fund and the commitment of a number of parishioners and friends.
- Provide food and personal care items for the Good Neighbor Community Pantry at St. Mary's throughout the year, including many truckloads-full in the "Fill Fr. Matt's Truck" donation drives.
- Provide personal care items for people in need in the Blessing Box at the entrance to the parking lot.
- Collected countless items for Newborns in Need and Providence House, the Burlington County Animal Shelter, and other agencies.
- Provided Valentine's Day cards and goody bags for our troops, residents of Clare Estates, and others.
- Expanded the Bordentown Laundry Project until it was interrupted by Covid-19.
- Christmas Outreach: Assisted 8 local families with gifts and food, 47 kids with Christmas gifts, and more. Thank you to Sandy Creek Farms' toy drive for Providence House. Several large bags of toys and personal care products were delivered to Providence House. 47 gift bags for kids residing at local motels were delivered with meals through Trinity's Table.
- Assist local bagel shops to donate leftover bagels of the day. Employees from both the Bagel Nook in Princeton, and Bagels & Beyond in Yardville delivered leftover bagels to the Parish for distribution. Doan and several others were able to repack bagels into smaller portions. They were distributed to local families through Trinity's Table at the Methodist Church, social workers in Trenton, the blessing box at the Baptist Church, the Community Pantry at St. Mary's, and through individuals in town providing meals for the hungry.

Bagel Nook, Princeton: 60+ lbs Fresh bagels (200+ bagels), 3 times/week (Jan. - Mar. 2020)  
1,200 bagels distributed from January 2020 - March 2020

Bagels & Beyond, Yardville: 60+ lbs Fresh bagels (250+ bagels), 5 days/week (Sept. - Nov. 2020)  
1,200 bagels distributed from September 2020 - November 2020



- Many other projects both big and small.

I'm very grateful for our Homefront volunteers who have continued our monthly meal ministry and have been so careful in following all safety precautions at all times. The Kelly family has been providing homemade desserts each month, which is such a nice touch. We now deliver meals ourselves most months, and we pray for Val and Greg, the Homefront coordinators with whom we've been working for more than 20 years. Please keep Val in your prayers as she recovers from surgery and treatment for a serious illness.

Special mention must be made of the extraordinary work of Doan Tucker, recognized this year as an Outstanding Woman of Burlington County, and quite rightly. She and Fr. Matt have both worked tirelessly in a year unlike any other to provide the kind of steady leadership in the community and creative problem solving that have kept our outreach efforts focused on what we could do, not what we were unable to do. I have no idea who first said, "Where there's a will, there's a way" but no one has said louder and more consistently this year than Fr. Matt and Doan.

As we begin 2021 with cause for optimism that the pandemic may soon be under control, we must continue to serve those who may be hard to reach, to maintain our good works, and to continue to look for where God needs us to live our faith in good works.

With my deepest gratitude,

Kate Williamson, Sr Warden

## Property Report for 2020

The fine appearance of our building and grounds has always been an important factor in the outreach of our parish. We are most fortunate to have a hardworking sexton and many volunteers who diligently care for our property. We are especially appreciative of Keith Trout, Francis Sutter, Father Matt and Doan Tucker who care for our churchyard and gardens during the growing season. Susan Preston, Kate Williamson, Debbie Mallard, Jim Clark, Donna Lundeen, Cathy Whitener, and Tim Smith have helped with various Churchyard tasks. Boy Scout Troop 13 and their leaders spent two Saturdays shifting leaves and sticks from the Churchyard and parking lot. A scout leader trimmed the winged euonymous shrubs between the sacristy and the parking lot. In December, Chef Matt McElmoyl and Father Matt Tucker worked to clear snow from our many sidewalks. Donna Lundeen has continued to skillfully make necessary repairs to our vestments. Sincere thanks are extended to all the willing parishioners and friends of Christ Church who completed these and many other tasks around our parish during this difficult year of the coronavirus pandemic.

Projects accomplished during 2020 include the continuation of our LED lighting work. McCabe Electric of Hamilton and Eric Lechner, lighting specialist with Franklin-Griffin Electrical Supply Company, installed new LED light fixtures in the three Parish House office and the ladies restroom. LED light bulbs were placed in our Parish Hall as well as new fixtures to provide uplighting. McCabe Electric installed two dedicated circuits from the nearest electrical panel for new receptacles near the office desk to safely supply power to the necessary office equipment. Two outlets in the Treasurer's office were also replaced. Carpenters with Cornerstone Carpentry & Contracting of Hopewell have reinforced and rebuilt the pulpit landing floor, repaired and reset one of the interior Chapel doors to prevent further damage to the floor. Through Cornerstone, the closer for the door connecting the Church and the Parish House has been successfully rebuilt and reinstalled enabling the door to function properly. A new men's room toilet was installed by William Stewart & Son Plumbing of Hamilton. Don Stewart replaced the receiving tubes and drainpipes in the ladies restroom sinks. The old corner sink was removed from the supply closet at the foot of the Parish House staircase. Don then located a salvage company from New York state who purchased the sink from us and took it away. Fox's Locks replaced the Bell Tower door lock and the dead bolt on the Chapel exit door. The Parish Hall kitchen refrigerator compressor was replaced. All the fire extinguishers have been checked and retagged.

The craftsmen of Patrick J. Murphy Organbuilders Workshop of Stowe, PA, maintain and tune our pipe organ. The crew completed the repair/replacement and maintenance of the metal tuning collars and the leather pipe stoppers of our pipe organ. A new swell shade motor and shade operation mechanism were also installed.

Liberty Mechanical Services of Cookstown continue to maintain our steam boiler system which provides heat throughout our Church and Parish House.

Our John Deere riding mower received maintenance at Central Jersey Equipment. Mark Casais worked on the backpack leaf blower. Fran and Karen Sutter provided us with a new walk behind Toro power driven mower. The New Jersey Historic Preservation Grant grave marker rehabilitation work by Chris Frey, conservator, and Vince Iacampo, stone mason, continues with wonderful results. An adjustable power washer has been purchased through the Churchyard Grant project and Susan Preston has been cleaning a number of grave markers. Master Arborist Don Stein raised the limb level of the hemlock tree in the historical area of our Churchyard. Don also removed the lifeless Japanese flowering cherry tree near Church Street entrance to the Churchyard. Father Matt and Doan returned the grave marker of Martha Douglass McKnight to the McKnight area.

Ed Rosina installed a new bead board ceiling over the Rectory back porch. Ed also made several gutter and downspout repairs. Father Matt primed and painted both Rectory porches. Don Stein removed the holly tree from the back corner of the Rectory yard. A new washing machine is in the Rectory.

This year marks the 142<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of our beautiful brownstone Church. We anticipate our 2021 projects to include masonry work to secure the coping stones along the edge of the Chapel roof. Our LED lighting projects will continue. Additional exterior security cameras will be installed. Window replacements will continue in the Rectory.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Carty

Junior Warden

## **Annual Worship Report for 2020**

The Feast of St. Aelred, 2021

My thanks to all those who put in so much effort to make worship at Christ Church such an edifying experience – the Lord is truly in His holy temple. The manner in which we express our gratitude to God for all of His blessings continues to speak to us and to the world, perhaps now more than ever.

Prior to the closure to public worship in March, we were having a good year in terms of worship offerings and attendance, consistent to what we had seen in 2019. Our liturgical guilds were strong, and the choir had added new members.

When we closed to public worship in the middle of March, we had to pivot quickly to provide services online. Thanks to the work of Doan Tucker and Fr. Ryan Paetzold, we were able to record services for a few months and then graduate to streaming them live. We now have more people attending Mass here than in quite some time, even if it is in a different manner. I'm grateful for the benefactors who afforded us the opportunity to purchase video equipment to make this possible.

Details about closures, reopening procedures, and dates are included in the annual clergy report, but I would like to say how grateful I am to our reopening committee, which worked tirelessly to protect the safety of our parishioners when we reopened for public worship. I'm also thankful for the diligence of our parishioners in keeping the protocols that were put in place, and to the Lord for keeping us safe when in our buildings.

I'm grateful also to Mary Ellen Carty for her willingness to serve at each Mass, and for continuing her work of beautifying the parish with flowers at the altars and shrine. My thanks also to all who have assisted Mary Ellen in this work.

Everything we do proceeds from the worship of our Lord, and our worship has inspired us to take what we receive in the Mass out into the world in service to our neighbors. I pray that we will be able to be physically together soon, so that our joy in worship may be complete.

Right Onward,

--MT+