

# CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

BORDENTOWN, NJ



## THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

24 DECEMBER 2021

# 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 House by way of the side door.

**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.



# VIGIL MASS WITH CAROLS 6PM

*Children who wish to process to the Creche carrying a figure are asked to gather in the Parish House Lobby by no later than 5:55pm.*

*The liturgy of the Mass can be found in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), which is the red book in your pew. Hymns can be found in the Hymnal, which is the blue book.*

**ORGAN** Noël 'Grand Jeu et Duo'

*Louis Claude D'Aquin (1694-1772)*

*The Congregation rises at the ringing of the Bell.*

**HYMN 236** *Once in royal David's city (omit vs. 3-5)*

*Irby*

## **BLESSING OF THE CRIB**

*Celebrant* Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

*Congregation* **Who hath made heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*Congregation* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**A**lmighty and everlasting God, who as on this night didst cause thine only-begotten Son to be born of the blessed and glorious ever-Virgin Mary for our salvation: vouchsafe, we beseech thee, so to hallow ✠ and bless ✠ this Crib, wherein are shown forth the wonders of that sacred birth; that all those who, beholding the same, shall ponder and adore the mystery of this holy incarnation, may be filled with thy benediction unto life eternal. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**HYMN 12** *O come all ye faithful (omit vs. 4 & 5)*

*Adeste Fidelis*

**OPENING SALUTATION**

*BCP 323*

**COLLECT FOR PURITY & SUMMARY OF THE LAW**

*BCP 323*

**KYRIE ELEISON**

*BCP 323*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

*BCP 323*

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*BCP 161*

**READING** *Isaiah 9:2-4,6-7*

*The Congregation stands for the Hymn and the Holy Gospel.*

**HYMN 30** *The First Nowell (vs. 1, 2, & 6)*

*The First Nowell*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** *S. Luke 2:1-20*

**SERMON** Father Matthew Tucker

*The Congregation stands for the Creed.*

**NICENE CREED**

*BCP 327*

*The Congregation kneels for the Prayers and Confession.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*BCP 328*

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*BCP 331*

**COMFORTABLE WORDS**

*BCP 332*

## THE PEACE

BCP 332

## INTENTIONS OF THE MASS

*The Celebrant declares to the Congregation the Intentions of the Mass, and then continues.*

*Celebrant* Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.

*Congregation* **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Celebrant* ☩ May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in the peace. **Amen.**

*The Congregation stands for the Hymn, the Sursum Corda and Sanctus & Benedictus.*

**HYMN 42** *Angels we have heard on high*

*Gloria*

## SURSUM CORDA & PREFACE

BCP 333

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

BCP 334

*The Congregation kneels for the Canon of the Mass*

## CANON OF THE MASS

BCP 334

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 336

## AGNUS DEI

BCP 337

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP 337

*As soon as the Celebrant has finished distributing Holy Communion to the altar party, the members of the Congregation should approach the altar rail. All Christians baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord. Others who instead wish to receive a blessing may also come and kneel at the altar rail. The Celebrant will know to bless those who bow their heads and cross their arms over their chest.*

**HYMN 21** *O little town of Bethlehem (omit v.4)*

*Saint Louis*

*The Congregation kneels for the Collect and the Hymn*

## POST COMMUNION COLLECT

**G**rant to us, we beseech thee, O Lord our God: that we who in these mysteries draw near with gladness unto the Nativity of Jesus Christ our Lord; may by godly conversation be found worthy to attain unto his fellowship: Who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

**HYMN 33** *Silent Night*

*Holy Night*

## THE STORY OF ST. NICHOLAS & THE CANDY CANE

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

BCP 339

*The Congregation stands for the Last Gospel and Hymn*

## THE LAST GOSPEL

**HYMN 27** *Hark! the herald angels sing*

*Mendelssohn*

**POSTLUDE** *Nöel Suisse*

*Louis Claude D'Aquin*

## Advent Letter, 2021

As I've told you all many times, Christmas is my favorite holy day, but part of why I love Christmas so much is because I love the season of Advent. Out come our gorgeous purple vestments and altar frontal, the Advent wreath (more candles!), and the readings turn to prophecy, signs, and portents, to the advent of the Christ Child and to the second advent, His glorious return. And, of course, Advent calendars!

The calendar in the Rectory, as you might imagine, is an Advent calendar made for cats. Trader Joe's sells one with salmon and dried seaweed flavored cat treats. When I looked online to see if they were going to be selling them this year, I stumbled upon a short history of Advent calendars.

The calendars as we know them came out of a mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century tradition in Germany, when families would make chalk marks on doors or light candles each day of Advent. A printed version was produced in a German newspaper; eventually it was attached to cardboard and featured the little doors hiding treats or Bible verses.

Then things got a little, well, sinister. The Nazis weren't real big on Jesus being Jewish, and so they attempted to turn Christmas into a holiday celebrating "the fatherland." In 1943, a full-color calendar was produced by the Third Reich for distribution to German mothers; it included, among other things, designs that incorporated swastikas and other Nazi symbols. It's chilling, as you might imagine.

Following the war, with the war on Christmas defeated with the Nazis and the theme returned to Christmas as we know it, Advent calendars made their way stateside thanks to the boom in production and the GIs who sent them home to their families. They got a boost in popularity when Newsweek published a photograph of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's grandchildren with an Advent calendar in 1953.

Advent calendars are part of the great fun that accompanies the great joy of receiving once again the Christ Child at Christmas. No matter if they are filled with chocolate, Bible verses, or are simple chalk marks on a door, they help us mark time, center our hearts and minds on Jesus, and reminds us, even as the darkness encroaches, that the Light of the World has come, and will come again.

I pray that the Lord will bless you as you mark the time this Advent, and grant you His joy and His peace this Christmas.

Right Onward,

—MT+

## PRAYERS & DEDICATIONS

*The flowers and greens which decorate the church and chapel in celebration of the Nativity are given in memory of the many loved ones listed in the Christmas Memorials brochure, copies of which may be found on the table at the entrance of the church.*



### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

***the sick:*** Marc Mercantini, Harry Vale, James Tucker, Jacob Bonser, Patricia Dixon, Christiana Carty, Joseph Carson III, Darrell Vigh, Karen Kwietnieski-Casais, Earl Reading, Reagon Condron, Russell Childs, Lisa Jones, Patty MacAllister, Scott O'Brien, John Miosz, Mary Koch, Sava Nedic, Aimee Kurtis, Walter Easley, Frank Corbo, Josephine Corbo, Kathy Gabel, Alanna Bellflower, John Haney, Sharon Kedzierski, Marcus Behrsin, Sean Higgins, Howard Dreskin, Kathy Buckland, Daryl Albury, Val Jackson, Bruce Smith, Sarah Talpis, Alexander Ounjian, Dennis Russell, Michele Hartpence, Renee Formica, Alexandra Mckallagat, and Isabelle Adams.

***and those who have long term illnesses:*** Donna Fritz, Carl Hasson, Stephen Vigh, Mark Casais, Dixon Leavers, Dawn Matthews, Lucy Janicelli, Zachary Birnbaum, Shelly Eberhart, Robert Geneski, Maureen Rees, Gary Rutherford, Charles Martin, Alice Ward Carriger, Carla Douglas, Ryan Murray, Justin McCafferty, Zachary McCafferty, Kelly Bergen, Hannah McNinch, The Rev. Ted Anderson, R. Loraine Burke, Mackenzie Sutter, Daniel Applegate, Jennifer Vigh, Jim Tranter, Jonathan Okeson, Mary Dallmann, Bob Bernard, Pat Temple, Danielle Morgan, Jai Autar, Emma Burris, Gloria Jones, Kelley Gilger, Emma Carver, Lori Forenson, Michael Chahanovich, Rita Haney, Sue Kelly, Sister Angela, Sister Gussie, Dee Watkins, Marge Lee, Michael Slaper, Robert Fritz, Lynn Muller, Holly Jones, Irene Fithian, Cheryl Kranz Bach, Brian Nguyen, Brianne Nicosia, Carl Hasson, Susan Sizetz, Frank Clebock, Ron Clebock, Jennifer Millar, Kelly Zsenak, and Robert Burke

***and for 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, and Thomas Feuerstein.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COME CELEBRATE** the manifestation of our Lord to the Gentiles on **Thursday, January 6, at 7pm**. A house blessing packet will be made available to everyone.

**OUTREACH REPORT:** Thanks to your generosity, six families had wish lists fulfilled this Christmas. Several deliveries were also made this week to Providence House, WomanSpace, the Burlington County Animal Shelter, Souls4 Soles, and to other charitable partners.

**CHURCH ENVELOPES FOR 2022** are available for pickup on the front table outside the church office. If you don't find a box with your name on it and would like envelopes, please call the church office at 298-2348 or email - [office@ccbtown.com](mailto:office@ccbtown.com).

**THE ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PACKET AND FINANCIAL INTENTION CARD** for our support of Christ Church in 2022 was distributed to all households on our mailing list. Please return the card as soon as possible, as the Vestry is charged with creating and approving an operating budget for 2022. Extra pledge cards are located on the table at the back entrance of the church.

**PROPERTY NEWS:** McCabe Electric has installed LED lighting in the two Parish House first floor classrooms, the accessible restroom, and our choir room. The Chapel altar window may now be illuminated from the outside. The lenses have been replaced in the ten parking lot lamps providing more light in the area. Two LED fixtures now give dusk to dawn light to our lychgate creating a safer environment. These projects have been supported in part by a bequest from the estate of Richard P. Knott to Christ Episcopal Church. Mr. Knott, 93, passed away in Florida. Before his retirement, he had worked with Rue Insurance Company in Hamilton, NJ. Mr. Knott attended services during the 1980s and early 1990s and was a friend of Father Benedict. The balance of funding for the LED projects, including some updated lighting in the Rectory, is supported by our non-budget Building Fund. We sincerely appreciate Mr. Knott's generous bequest to Christ Church. We thank our parishioners and friends of Christ Church who contribute to our Building Fund. This is an important way to directly help with the upkeep of our Parish.

**BLESSING BOX:** Donations of travel-sized items such as toothpaste, deodorant, baby powder, razors and shaving cream, soap, hand sanitizer, and the like are always needed and can be placed in the basket in the back of the church. Please contact Donna Kirk at the Parish office 298-2348 or email [office@ccbtown.com](mailto:office@ccbtown.com) with any questions.

**PROJECTS PAGE:** A page has been set up on our website with examples of projects that would beautify our churchyard and contribute to its ease of use. Please let Fr. Matt or Mary Ellen Carty know if you would like to take on a project or donate towards its completion. The page can be found at [www.ccbtown.com/projects.html](http://www.ccbtown.com/projects.html).

**SOLES4SOULS:** Our shoe drive continues to bring in a wonderful amount of shoes for those in need. Keep this in mind during your fall cleaning of unwanted/unused shoes you may want to donate. Thank you!

# 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* (856) 577-1334 Miss Mary Ellen Carty, *Warden* (609) 298-4337

Mr. Ed Ackerman (609) 298-0661 Ms. Donna Hudak (609) 581-4604 Ms. Marianne Jackson (609) 298-4606

Mr. James Johnson, (609) 291-5610 Mrs. Loris Johnson (609) 291-5610 Mrs. Anne Lyon (609) 291-8077

Mrs. Debbie Mallard (609) 802-8929 Ms. Susan Preston (856) 341-6215 Ms. Colleen Suozzo (609) 947-1304

## Schedule for the Week following 24 December

### Friday, 24 December

#### *The Vigil of the Nativity*

6:00 p.m. Family Mass

11:00 p.m. Solemn Mass of the  
Nativity

### Wednesday, 29 December

#### *Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury*

7:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting

### Saturday, 25 December

#### *Christmas Day*

10:00 a.m. Said Mass w. Carols

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass of St. Stephen

### Thursday, 30 December

#### *Josephine Butler, 1906*

10:00 a.m. Low Mass w. Anointing

### Sunday, 26 December

#### *Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Low Mass

10:00 a.m. Sung Mass

7:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting

### Friday, 31 December

#### *Sylvester, Bishop of Rome, 355*

### Saturday, 1 January

#### *The Most Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ*

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

### Monday, 27 December

#### *Saint John the Apostle and Evangelist*

*Church office closed*

### Sunday, 2 January

#### *The Second Sunday after Christmas*

8:00 a.m. Low Mass

10:00 a.m. Sung Mass

7:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting

### Tuesday, 28 December

#### *The Holy Innocents*





