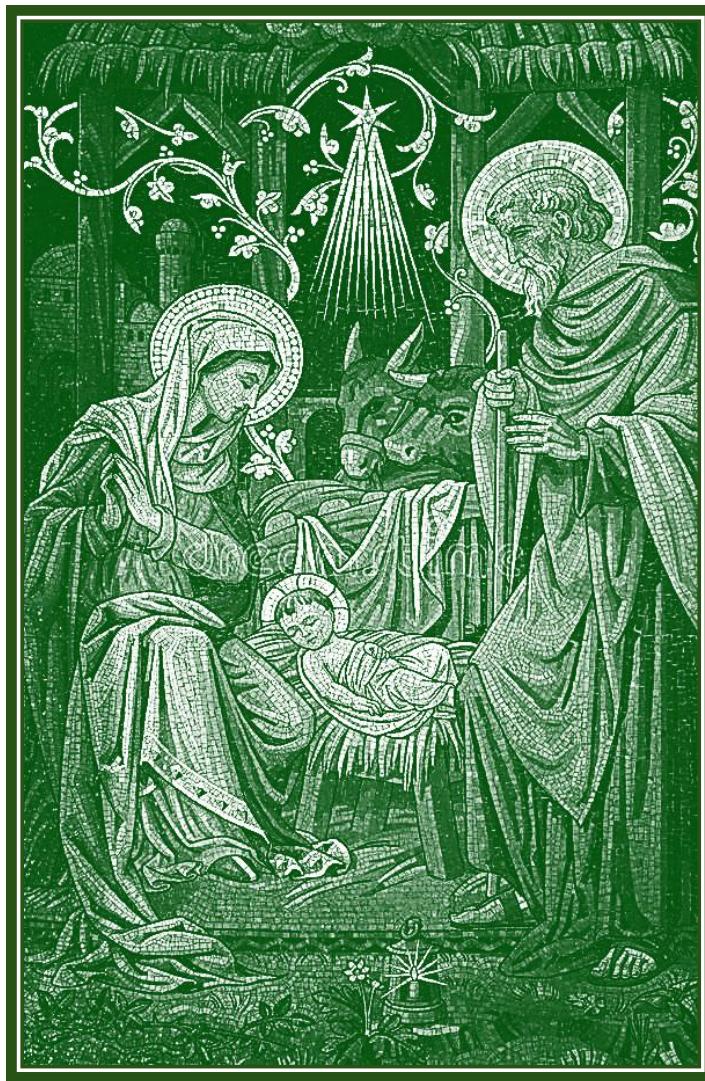


CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

BORDENTOWN, NJ



THE FEAST OF
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Vigil Mass

24 DECEMBER 2025

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We extend a welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us to-day. 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 in English and Latin. The Rood shows our Saviour, robed as a Priest, with the right hand in Blessing. The Chapel forms a quiet, restful place, where, before the Blessed Sacrament, one may kneel in supplication and reverence. We are proud of our worshipful Church and invite you to share in its benefit. Come in, rest, and 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, and 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 the main doors and entering the Parish House by way of the side office door. A **Baby Changing Station** is located in the accessible bathroom in the Parish House. A **restroom for small children** is located in the nursery at the far end of the Parish House.

Pastoral Emergencies such as sickness, hospitalization, or the death of a loved one, should be directed to Fr. Tucker – 732.859.5823. Father is happy to respond to your needs even if you are not a parishioner. Please do not hesitate to call. The **AED** is located to the left of the parish office door.

The Five Traditional Precepts of the Church

1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
2. Confession of serious sin at least once a year.
3. Reception of the Blessed Sacrament at least once a year.
4. Observance of the days of fasting and abstinence.
5. Providing for the needs of the Church.

At Christ Church

1. Share the joy and strength in Christ with others.
2. Be present at the Mass unless prevented by travel, illness, or condition.
3. Support the Parish with time, talent and treasure.
4. Find community in the mission and ministry of the Parish.
5. Show Christ in the world by being of service to others.

VIGIL MASS W. CAROLS

6.00 pm

Children who wish to process to the Creche carrying a figure are asked to gather in the Parish House Lobby no later than 5.55 pm.

ORGAN – “Nöel sur les flûtes”
1772)

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-

HYMN 236 – “Once in Royal David’s City” (Omit v. 3-5)

Irby

THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB

℣. Our help is in the Name of the Lord. ℟. Who hath made heaven and earth.

℣. The Lord be with you. ℟. And with thy spirit.

ALMIGHTY 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 v. 4 & 5)

Adeste

Fideles

OPENING SALUTATION & RESPONSE

p. 323

COLLECT FOR PURITY & SUMMARY OF THE LAW

p. 323-24

KYRIE

p. 324

GLORIA

p. 324

COLLECT

℣. The Lord be with you. ℟. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

OGOD, who has caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Ghost he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

§ *The Congregation may be seated for the Lesson.*

THE LESSON *Isaiah 9, 2-4 & 6-7*

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

HYMN 30 – “The First Nowell” (v. 1,2, & 6)
Nowell

The First

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2, 1-20*

SERMON

Fr. Tucker

S *The Congregation stands for the Creed.*

NICENE CREED

p. 327

S *The Congregation kneels for the Prayers and Confession.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

p. 328

CONFESSiON & ABSOLUTION

p. 331

THE PEACE *The Congregation may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

p. 332

INTENSIONS OF THE MASS

℣. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

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

℣. ☩ May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

℟. **Amen.**

S *The Congregation stands for the Offertory Hymn.*

HYMN 42 – “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Gloria

SURSUM CORDA & PREFACE

p. 333

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

p. 334

S *The Congregation kneels for the Canon of the Mass.*

CANON OF THE MASS

p. 334

THE LORD’S PRAYER

p. 336

AGNUS DEI

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

p. 337

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All those baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and who discern the substantial Presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, 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 Priest 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

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

GRANT 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 unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

HYMN 33 – “Silent Night”

Stille Nacht

THE STORY OF S. NICHOLAS AND THE CANDY CANE

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

p. 339

¶ *The Congregation stands for the Last Gospel and Hymn.*

THE LAST GOSPEL *John 1, 1-14*

¶. The Lord be with you. R. **And with thy spirit.**

¶. ¶ The beginning of the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

R. **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 anything 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.

(Here Genuflect)

AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH,

(Arise)

and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

R. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 27 – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

ORGAN – “Nöel Suisse”

Daquin



PRAYERS & DEDICATIONS

The flowers and greens that decorate the church this Christmastide are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of those listed in the Christmas Memorial Flowers.



The Fritz-Weitzel Sacramental Candle in the Lady Chapel is given in loving memory of Thomas Fisher II.

Of your charity, please remember in your prayers...

the sick: Grayson Porter, Robert J. Law, Bob Iero, Cindy Nahill, Alannah Aldea, Suzette Mansell, Amelia Sciortino, Fran Sutter, Christine Fritz, Bruce Kwietnieski-Casais, Reagon Condron, Russell Childs, Patty MacAllister, Scott O'Brien, John Miosz, Sharon Kedzierski, Daryl Albury, and Alexander Ounjian.

and those who have long term illnesses: Richard Hebron, Anna McDuff, James Ferrell, Kevin Nelson, Marlene Barnhart, Vicky Barbos, The Rev. Donald Muller, Wendy Goldstein, Mark Goldstein Ryan Wiese Theresa Abitz, Robert Abitz, Walt Fell, Lisa Jones, Kathy Buckland, Ellen Murphy, Kimberlee McCafferty, Joseph Carson III, Sava Nedic Marlene Barnhart, Scott Evans, Tess Santos, Beatrix Kwiatkowski, Elaine Morrissey, Rick Sibley, Dennis Russell, Jeffrey McCafferty, Christiana Carty, Dawn Applegate, Barbara Sury, Paul Sootkoos, James Tucker, Caroline Tucker, Donna Fritz, Mark Casais, Christine Nicosia, Kevin Kintner, Anna Sury, Earl Reading, Dixon Leavers, Zachary Birnbaum, Shelly Eberhart, Gary Rutherford, Alice Ward Carriger, Ryan Murray, Justin McCafferty, Zachary McCafferty, Kelly Bergen, Hannah McNinch, Mackenzie Sutter, Daniel Applegate, Jennifer Vigh, Jonathan Okeson, Mary Dallmann, Bob Bernard, Pat Temple, Danielle Morgan, Jai Autar, Emma Burris, Gloria Jones, Kelley Gilger, Lori Forenson, Michael Chahanovich, Sister Angela, Dee Watkins, Marge Lee, Robert Fritz, Lynn Muller, Irene Fithian, Brianne Nicosia, Kathy Gabel, Sean Higgins, and Kelly Zsenak.

and for those in military service: Cara Bradley, USN; Ben Skarzynski, USMC; Chris Neal, USN; Jacob Foerter, USAFR; Nickolas George, USMC; Kevin Preston, USAR.

celebrating a birthday this week: Lawrence Nosari, Riley Fleming, Robert Bauer, Thomas Feuerstein, Riley Woodrick, and Dennis Brown.

celebrating an anniversary of their nuptials: Joseph and Gayle Carson.

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.

If you would like to remember a loved one in the Altar Flower or Sacramental Candle dedications, please contact the Church Office. The donation for flowers is \$50; the donation for the Sacramental Candle is \$10.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 24 – 6pm: Christmas Eve Family Mass
Dec 24 – 11pm: Sung Mass of the Nativity
Dec 25 – 10am: Christmas Day Mass w. Carols
Dec 28 – 7pm: Christmas Lessons & Carols
Jan 6 – 6pm: Sung Mass for the Epiphany
Jan 11 – 12pm: Luncheon for Donna Kirk
Jan 18 – 8.45am: HomeFront Meal Prep
Jan 25 – 11.30am: Parish Annual Meeting

Make your Offering online using this QR Code:



Vestry

Ms. Kate Williamson, *Warden* (856.577.1334) ~ Miss Mary Ellen Carty, *Warden* (609.298.4337)

Mrs. Loris Johnson (609.291.5610) Mrs. Anne Lyon (609.291.8077)

Mrs. Debbie Mallard (609.802.8929) Mr. Dean Perry (609.758.3115)

Mr. Glenn Perry (609.758.3115) Mr. Paul Smith (215.806.6687)

Ms. Colleen Suozzo (609.947.1304)

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Canon J. Matthew Tucker, *Rector*

The Rev. David Snyder, *Pastoral Associate*

Mr. Greg Geehern, *Seminarian*

Mr. Stephen C. Bearse, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Mrs. Donna Kirk, *Parish Administrator*

Mrs. SueAnne Jones, *Treasurer*

Mr. Charles Reeder, *Sexton*

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH...

Wednesday, 24 December – *Christmas Eve*

{Church Office Closed}

- ❖ A.A. Meeting – 6.00 pm
- ❖ Family Mass – 6.00 pm
- ❖ Sung Mass of the Nativity – 11.00 pm

Thursday, 25 December – *Christmas Day*

{Church Office Closed}

- ❖ Low Mass w. Carols – 10.00 am

Friday, 26 December – *S. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr*

{Church Office Closed}

Saturday, 27 December – *S. John the Apostle & Evangelist*

- ❖ Vigil Mass – 5.30 pm

Sunday, 28 December – *The First Sunday After Christmas Day (Holy Innocents)*

- ❖ Low Mass – 8.00 am
- ❖ Sung Mass – 10.00 am
- ❖ Coffee Hour – 11.00 am
- ❖ Christmas Lessons & Carols – 7.00 pm
- ❖ A.A. Meeting – 7.00 pm

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
A Parish of the Episcopal Church

130 Prince Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Office Phone: 609.298.2348 / Email: office@ccbtown.com

Pastoral Emergencies: 732.859.5823

