

# Soundings

The Newsletter of Christ Church

[www.christchurchpelham.org](http://www.christchurchpelham.org)



October 2016

## Church School



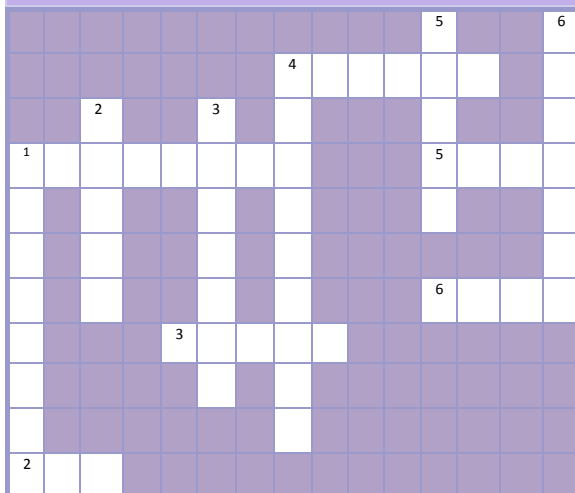
Joy and hope are the words that come to mind as we begin a new year of Sunday School. Joy that we are blessed to work with our parish's children and hope that they will come away with a greater understanding of Jesus and of the Episcopal tradition. More importantly, we try to demonstrate the faith in a meaningful way so that the children have a foundation for their future.

Each Sunday we teach children ranging in age from Pre-k through 7th graders. We started with a group prayer and then broke into classes lead by Eileen Peluso-Hoffer, Maddie Nichols, Julie Pena, Jessica Abrams, Pat O'Byrne, Curtis Chase and Janet Kornfeld. In church school, we create an environment where children can explore our faith, hear the lessons, ask questions and find ways to apply what they have learned to their lives and to the world in which we live today. With one exception, we are not teachers and none of us would claim to be a theologian, but each of us brings a passion to touching the lives of the children of our parish. If you have questions, please reach out to any of the teachers, or Marcie Wiehagen, the director.



For something a little different, we crafted two puzzles that will tell you more about Sunday School and a little something more about our teachers. Have your child try the crossword and the word jumble and bring it in next Sunday for a prize.

### Crossword Puzzle



- 1A The sound we make when having fun  
 1D When we acquire new knowledge  
 2A The father of Jesus  
 2D We hear this as we process into church  
 3A The son of God  
 3D One of the ways Jesus taught was to tell parables and we call them \_\_\_\_\_  
 4A The third member of the Trinity  
 4D The bible is made up of these

### Teacher Name Jumble

Clue	Jumble	Answers
1. Can teach when she doesn't have an open house	S R I C H E E	Ms.
2. Parent of Tiffany	S A A R M B A H S	Ms.
3. Professional Teacher during the week	N P E A	Ms.
4. Teaches and sings in the choir	A H C S E	Mr.
5. Teaching pre-k/k for the 4th year	F H O R F E	Ms.
6. Parent of Audrey and Amelia	E R Y B O N	Ms.
7. Senior at PMHS	L S N O I C H	Ms.
8. Teaching church school for 22nd year	F N O L D R K E	Ms.
9. Senior at PMHS	N E L A L	Mr.

- 5A What we feel when we like someone very much  
 5D The Old Testament together with the New Testament is commonly called this  
 6A We love our \_\_\_\_\_  
 6D Who attends Sunday school

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## A Letter from the Editors

Putting this newsletter together is a rewarding experience because the process provides excellent opportunities for us to interact with fellow parishioners as we discuss issues which concern and interest all of us. We learn many unexpected things through interviews and conversations which are then shared here.

We would like to thank our church community for the contributions to this Newsletter without which it would not exist. We also thank everyone for taking the time to read our modest publication. Hopefully we will continue to engage your interest.

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*Soundings* is published by the Parishioners of Christ Church to teach, provide information, promote events and parish life, pass down the history of the church, and engage us in the life of the community.

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## Soundings

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## CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*  
The Rev. Dn. Katie Lawrence, *Deacon*  
Jeffrey Hoffman, *Organist & Choirmaster*  
Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*  
Walter Roberts, *Verger & Sexton*  
Ed Blue, *Sexton*

## The Vestry

The Rector  
Kari Black, *Senior Warden*  
John Lent, *Junior Warden*  
Jackie Vigil, *Clerk*  
Anne Calder, *Treasurer*  
Jeff Bodenmann  
Curtis Chase  
Alice Dean  
Marie Dumas  
Amy Heese  
Jack Kaufmann  
Gavin Leckie  
Marc Palladino  
Colette Phipps



## Preaching in an Election Year



*With the heat generated by this year's presidential campaigns seemingly at record highs, and the distance between the candidates' positions growing by the hour, **Soundings** sat down with Father Matt in mid-September to talk about the impact of all this on his role as a preacher.*

For openers, Matt stressed his clear vision of the parameters of his responsibilities and the dangers of straying beyond them.

"The job of a preacher is to inspire and encourage people to live out the gospel in their lives, not to tell them how to think or vote. Some people like political sermons, but on Sunday mornings most people don't come to church to be told what to do, or how to vote."

Important issues should be addressed from the pulpit, he believes, but even there care must be exercised. In church he points out he has a captive audience, one that is very different from people crowding in for a political speech. There, the audience can boo or applaud as they see fit. But for those sitting in the pews on Sundays, the only way for them to express themselves is by standing up and walking out, which is a big step.

Nonetheless, Matt confesses that he has not seen the country so divided since the run-up to the invasion of Iraq in 2003 back when he was still in seminary. "The rhetoric is awful right now. It is not just the candidates; it is the way people strike out against the other side so harshly that they refuse to see any good at all in their opponents."

Tellingly, Matt predicts that the parish's greatest need for counsel will likely come in the days and weeks following the election. He points to a recent poll that found that 81% of Americans say they will be seriously

dismayed if their presidential candidate's rival wins.

For Matt it all comes back to Jesus' Summary of the Law. "Some things should be completely self-evident; we know to love your neighbor as yourself, how to treat people who look different from us, and how to welcome refugees. All this is crystal clear in scripture. In the Bible there are a number of themes, but loving everyone right up to and including your enemies is key." He also notes that lesson is every bit as difficult to swallow today as it was in biblical times.

The real challenge the preacher has in times like this, he says, is "...not to exacerbate divisions between people, but to proclaim the love of God and to love our neighbors as ourselves."





## Michael Kurth Takes Uncommon Course



In his Yale School of Divinity class of 150 students, Michael Kurth ranks as something of an oddity. It's not because he hails from the first planned suburb west of the Mississippi River (Kirkwood, MO; founded

1853), or because of his passion for Simon and Garfunkel and J.S. Bach. It's his academic background. At the University of Indiana he majored in sports marketing and management, and aspired to a career cutting deals in what he calls the "high-flying world of sports entertainment."

But late in his college years, Michael says he began "...listening to what God was telling me about where my talents were. I love being with and around people." As the great, great grandson of a 19th century missionary bishop in Kyoto, Japan; not to mention as a long-time chorister (along with his two siblings) in his hometown church, Michael felt drawn to parish life and to the mix of people-centered responsibilities borne by priests.

He confesses his unusual background makes him a bit quieter in class than peers better versed in theology and ecclesiastical subjects, still he reckons that his skills in marketing and management "can be put to good use as a parish administrator." And some might note that an even earthier resume has not hurt the career of Justin Welby, a former oil industry executive and current Archbishop of Canterbury.

After college, Michael worked with Episcopal Service Corps in Washington for a year and then moved to New York. There he worked for four years with Covenant House, a provider of housing and services to homeless youths that works with the Catholic Church.

At Yale, Michael is one of 30 Episcopalians in his class preparing for ordination to the priesthood, and one of just ten in his class at the Institute of Sacred Music. "I'm a big music lover," he admits. But music isn't the only thing he'll be listening to on his car radio as a three-time a week commuter to Pelham; he also listens to lectures he records in class. As our seminarian intern, Michael will deliver one sermon a month, and help with the adult learning, the confirmation class and youth activities.

## Buffing up Our Buildings

Over the summer a number of projects moved ahead smartly in the hands of Parish Property Management, the firm we hired in the spring to inspect and manage buildings and grounds, do minor building repairs, and help set project priorities. Here are some recent highlights:

PPM's Fridays-only handyman took advantage of the quiet summer weeks and tackled long-overdue projects including painting much of the Church School/Montessori area and the Parish Administrator's office.

In June, PPM brought in a roofing company to replace missing and

damaged slates atop the church and parish hall. Nearly 100 slates were replaced, but we were able to save money by using 40 left over from previous projects.

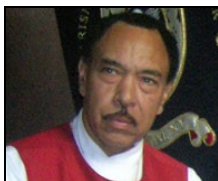
- After the church air conditioner balked in the early July heat, PPM quickly had it fixed.
- Reasonably handsome black cyclone fencing was installed around the small drainage field by the playground. In rainy periods, an exterminator will treat any standing water there to keep mosquitoes at bay.
- The Grounds Committee is looking into the cost of cleaning up the

area around the playground, and replacing its border of deteriorating railroad ties.

- PPM is looking into the cost of repairing the dumb waiter linking the parish hall to the undercroft.
- As of September, the garbage and recycling-storage area has been moved from its long-time spot in the undercroft to the small vacant building on Shore Road. The hope is that the move will alleviate occasional odors and pests in the main church buildings.

Kari Black

## Verger's Corner



Hello, I am Walter Roberts, the Verger of the Parish of Christ the Redeemer.

Many people see me on Sundays dressed in my cassock but don't know exactly what I do. So, let me tell you.

I am a layperson appointed by the rector to perform a variety of roles that fall under the heading of a ministry of service and welcome. On Sundays, for example, I prepare the church for worship, tending to everything from heat to candles. During services I must think a few minutes ahead to make sure that everything that is planned is indeed set to occur. A good vergers never rushes, and does everything with a quiet conviction.

About 90% of what I do is behind the scenes. That includes assigning, training and checking in lectors, chalice bearers, acolytes and prayer intercessors.



My most visible role is in the procession that opens each service. As I proceed up the aisle with the cross, which I have done here at Christ Church for 13 years now, much goes through my head. It is very humbling. Services can get complex, but I am comfortable with that. I have a pretty technical background. I was a mainframe resource manager and production control analyst for many years at IBM, and Deutsche Bank. I have taken many of the lessons I learned there and applied them here. I strongly believe planning and preparation are critical to achieve the best outcome.

I am a lifelong Episcopalian. At Trinity Episcopal, in Mount Vernon where I grew up, I served as an acolyte and choir member. Since coming to Pelham, I have completed a four year course in Education for Ministry. As part of my ongoing learning, each year I attend the Vergers Guild Conference. This year

it took place at the Cathedral in Spokane, Washington in late September.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fresh faces: This fall we welcome three new faces to the front of the church: acolyte Aedan Pearl, Eucharistic minister Sandra Rivera, and lector, Aurelia Rivera. All will serve at the 10 a.m. service.

What's a vergers anyway? Officially, we "clear the way for the Cross". In the Early Church the procession often moved through crowds of people and animals, and the vergers made a pathway through them all with his virge (mace or "Staff of Office"). These days, that part of the job is much easier.



## Oktoberfest Prep Work: The Sausage Making





## Oktoberfest and the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels

Weeks of preparation involving over a dozen parishioners paid off deliciously at 6 p.m. on the final Thursday in September when over 100 people gathered in the Parish hall to celebrate Oktoberfest and the feast of St. Michael and All Angels with a major feast.

The dinner featured mountains of grilled sausages that had been ground out, seasoned and encased by a team headed by Organist and Choirmaster turned Master Chef Jeffrey Hoffman and Fr. Matt in the

undercroft kitchen weeks earlier. In addition, Jeffrey also supplied several mustards he'd made up from scratch. Father Matt, meanwhile, roasted an entire pig, and numerous parishioners provided an array of side dishes. In keeping with the traditions of Oktoberfest, there was lots of beer not to mention a highly festive atmosphere. And leaving no stone unturned, doggie bags were provided for leftovers.

The service in the Church that followed the meal was highlighted

by beautiful music from the choir, including a solo from alto section leader Jan Degnan, and a thought provoking sermon delivered by Bishop Mary Glasspool making the connection between our imagination and our faith. Using the scriptures for the day as examples, she said that if we can imagine something, we can do it.



## Bible Study Perspectives

Every Thursday at 10 a.m., the Christ Church Bible Study group meets in the Library to preview Bible readings for the following Sunday. Led by Michael Moynihan, the dozen or more members engage in a lively discussion on how the Bible reflects so much on contemporary lives and concerns. Here's what some members have to say.

~ The Prayer of St. Francis has always been one of my favorites. However, I shorten it to simply pray: 'Lord make me an instrument...!'

That's how I view the wonderful opportunity that I have each Thursday to lead our Parish Bible Study. I pray that I can be an instrument for the Lord and His Holy Work. We try to see how God's word speaks to us today and challenges and strengthens us as well.

We are an open group that shares not just God's Word, but also the stories of our own lives as the scriptures speak to us. We jokingly say, "What happens at Bible Study stays at Bible Study". Our group feels comfortable enough to share some of the challenges and joys of trying to let the scripture truly become a part of us, and we, more a part of Jesus and His mission.

We do not see our scripture study as an opportunity to beat up others with the Bible, but rather to lift up ourselves and others – closer to the Lord. Lord, make me an instrument.

*Michael Moynihan*

~ It has been important for me to

re-discover the Bible, and its amazing relevance to questions we have about life today. *Anne Cooper*

~ There's a lovely human connection of people I probably would not have gotten to know otherwise, and for that I am grateful. Each person brings



his/her own experiences, and it's fun. *Sandy Schultz*

~ I came to Bible study because my dear friend Angela said, 'Try it; if you don't like it, don't come back.' Well, I tried it and I loved it. I will never forget the support and love I received when my husband, Joe, died.

*Marge DeLillo*

~ I enjoy the intellectual give and take, and I like being somewhat prepared for the sermon on the following Sunday. The camaraderie of a lovely group of people is very comforting, interesting and enlightening. *Pat DeBlasio*

~ I joined Bible Study to learn more about the Bible. I get a lot not only from the readings, but also from the fellowship with others, and their interpretations as well.

*Lorraine Collins*

~ I started coming a long time ago when I thought it would be a good idea to read the Bible. I now come because I like the new format of studying the scriptures for the

upcoming Sunday. The group shares their interpretations, and Michael is a wonderful facilitator. The expanded knowledge of the Sunday readings gives me greater insight into the sermons. *Emily Kane*

~I'm retired, so I had time to come. I wanted to learn more about the Bible, and my understanding and discernment of the scripture is growing. I feel very comfortable with the group and closer to my church family. I enjoy taking time to reflect solely on God's word, and not the other 'normal stuff' going on. *Marilyn Leone*

~ Since I recently retired, I am now available to attend Bible Study on Thursday mornings. 2016 has been the saddest and most challenging year of my life, so I needed and wanted to come to Bible Study as one way to strengthen my faith and understanding of our Lord and Savior. The group is very supportive, the discussions are very thought-provoking, and I am learning from the insights of others.

Michael Moynihan is an excellent facilitator and discussion leader. He is knowledgeable about the scriptures, and is able to relate them to life as both a lay person and a cleric. He encourages trust and candor so that participants are comfortable in sharing, yet he keeps us from going too far afield so that the week's lessons are completed. I'm learning a lot about the Bible, my faith and my new friends in Bible Study, and I find that I am now getting much more out of the scripture readings and the Rector's sermon on Sunday mornings. *Cherrie Greenhalgh*



## Art Meets Mildred



In an art class at the Pelham Art Center over a decade ago, Patrice Fitzpatrick did several pastel drawings of an interesting model she had never met. She only recently rediscovered those drawings and one Sunday Patrice brought them in to show to her subject, someone she's grown to know well in recent years as a fellow Christ Church parishioner, Mildred Johnson.

Onlookers to the reunion at the 8 a.m. coffee hour on September 4 agreed that the likenesses were quite good. More importantly, Mildred seemed pleased as well.

## Prepping for the Pageant



If you work with children or music, I believe it's never too early to start thinking about Christmas. This year's Christmas Pageant won't be presented until December 18th, but even as of this writing on September 15th, the Pageant has been brewing in my head for weeks.

Some of you have older children, who participated in the Pageant for years, and you're probably thinking: "Been there, done that." Others with younger children may think this is the same presentation you've been seeing for several years and may not feel inspired. Trust me: This year's pageant will be different, and I encourage you all to participate or, at least, to come and see it.

When I was asked to direct the Pageant two years ago, I knew it contained many elements of long-standing, lovingly created by other parishioners: everything from costumes and script, to backdrop and props. My goal was to honor all that tradition while creating something new that the entire Parish can enjoy and take pride in sharing with the community for years to come.

I've always loved costumes, both making and wearing them. They

play a big role in creating character and generating excitement onstage. So naturally, making new costumes for the Christ Church Pageant brought me great joy. In addition, I wanted to make the script more fun and relevant to young participants. Of



course, we tell the beautiful Nativity story, but we've added a few things.

Inspired by a Christmas Eve service that Michael Moynihan held in the stable at Bronx Equestrian Center several years ago, and by his sermon on the three kings going home "a different way" after seeing the Christ child, I wrote a short play casting the spirit of Christmas in a slightly different light. This allows some of our young performers an opportunity to show their thespian skills without requiring that "everyone have a line."

Last year when Fr. Matt asked if I'd

like to present the Pageant as its own event in Hoag Hall, I didn't have to think twice. This shift allows us to expand the presentation and to give our participants an experience they will not be anxious to age out of. Last year's Pageant took us a big step in that direction. Most memorably, it featured the late, beloved parishioner Jim Greenhalgh sharing a touching story with the children.

With the expert assistance of Music Director Jeffrey Hoffman and Assistant Director Carla Carroll, we hope to dazzle the senses and warm hearts even more this year.

If you have children up to and including teens able to follow simple staging directions and learn a few songs, please encourage them to participate. Everyone will rehearse on Wednesday evenings in November and December and some may have additional Saturday rehearsals. We will be as understanding and flexible as possible in scheduling, but full participation in rehearsals is a necessity. Watch the Church bulletin and e-blast for further details as to dates and times.

Christmas is closer than you think.

Michael Fawcett



## Newcomer Profiles

The Rivera Family



Sandra and partner, Aurelia Rivera, reside in the Bronx, New York, as does Sandra's mother, Palmyra.

Sandra was born in Patterson, New Jersey and her mother was born in Wales, Great Britain. Aurelia was born in the Bronx.

Aurelia and Sandra have been together for 25 years. Their daughter, Tara, and son-in-law, George, both graduated from The College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, where they both majored in English. Tara also majored in

Writing. Tara is now a writer/publisher, and George is a college administrator.

Sandra said when they drove by Christ Church in May of last year, they thought the church looked like a beautiful cottage and that they had to visit. Sandra, Aurelia and Palmyra have all continued to worship here since that first visit. They view our church as a spiritually healing place thanks to Father Matt, Deacon Katie and the staff at Christ Church. They also love the parishioners. Sandra commented that they were all cradle Roman Catholics prior to worshipping at Christ Church.

Presently, Sandra serves on the Altar Guild and the Fellowship Committee at Christ Church.

Amie Carter



It was after visiting a friend in Pelham that Amie Carter happened to drive past Christ Church for the first time. Just after Easter the Riverdale, Bronx resident and Long Island native began worshipping here. Amie says that she was drawn to our church initially by its location and history, and has kept coming back because of the congregation. What helped a lot, was discovering early on that Michael Moynihan, her former college chaplain at SUNY Maritime College in the Bronx, also worships here. When she saw him, she literally was brought to tears.

Happily, Amie also finds that the services at Christ Church remind her of those she attended at St. Lawrence of Canterbury Episcopal Church in Dix Hills, New York when she was growing up. Back then she and her sister served as acolytes, her mother was a Sunday School teacher, and her father sat on the Vestry.

At Christ Church, she is a member of the Grounds Committee and the Fellowship Committee.

Currently, Amie is a Plant Operations Manager at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. Her hobbies include reading and drawing.

### Adult Christian Learning Ministry Program

On Tuesday, October 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Library, Father Matt will offer an overview of Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans. We will explore the historical background of how the letter fits into what we know of Paul's life, the likely date the letter was written, the community to which the letter was written, and discuss the letter's text. This is the first of a two-part class. At a later date in 2017, Father Matt will lead a more in-depth look at the content and theological themes of Romans.



The time in between will allow participants to carefully read the Letter.

### Concerts at Christ Church

Our concert series, a community outreach of the parish, will resume this season with a concert at the Huguenot Memorial Church on Sunday, November 6 at 4 p.m. Plans are being made for additional concerts throughout the season, which will be announced at a later date. Anyone interested in serving on the Concerts at Christ Church Steering Committee is invited to speak to Jeffrey Hoffman after the 10 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday morning or by email or telephone at:  
[jeffrey@christchurchpelham.org](mailto:jeffrey@christchurchpelham.org) or  
 (914) 738-5512, ext. 102

# October 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 1 p.m. Blessing of Animals	3 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	4 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting	5 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	6 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	7	8
9 Prayers for healing at Bolton Altar	<b>10 Columbus Day</b> Parish Office Closed	11 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	12 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	13 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	14	15
16 10 a.m. Family Eucharist	17 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting	<b>18 St. Luke</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist 6:30 p.m. Family Dinner & Youth Connection	19 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	20 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	21	22 9 a.m. Acolyte Festival
<b>23 St. James of Jerusalem</b> 4 p.m. confirmation class 5 p.m. Come as you are 6 p.m. confirmation class	24 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	25 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. Adult Christian Learning - Intro Letter to Romans the Romans	26 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	27 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	<b>28 Simon &amp; Jude</b> 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	29
30 9 a.m. Buildings Meeting 11:45 a.m. Outreach meeting Stewardship Leadership Dinner in Parish Hall	31 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 					

# November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1 All Saints' Day</b> 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. Eucharist followed by dessert	<b>2 All Souls Day</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist with Blessing of the Garden	3 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	4  Diocesan Convention	5
<b>6 All Saints' Sunday.</b> Daylight Savings Ends New Consecration Sunday, Guest Preacher and celeb brunch 4 p.m. Choir Concert	7 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	8 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	9 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	10 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	11	12
<b>13 Remembrance Sunday.</b> 9 a.m. Confirmation Class. 10 a.m. Reading of names of the departed. Prayers for healing. 5 p.m. Come as you are	14 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30pm Vestry Meeting	15 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	16 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	17 10am Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist 6pm Thanksgiving Dinner and Silent Auction 	18 Annual ministry reports due to Parish Administrator	19
<b>20 Christ the King</b> 10 a.m. Church School Advent wreath making. 4 p.m. Pelham Interfaith Service at Huguenot	21 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	22 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	23 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Parish office closed 10 a.m. Eucharist 	25 Parish Office Closed	26
<b>27 Advent 1</b> No Church School 	28 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	29 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	<b>30 St. Andrew's Day</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist			





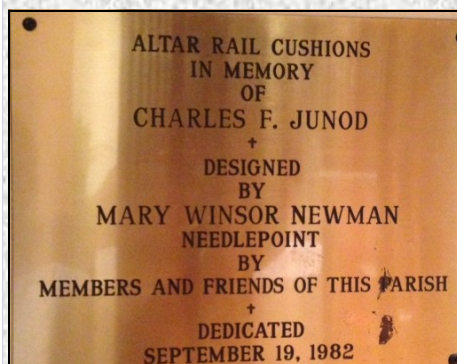
# December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	2	3
4 <b>Advent 2</b> 4 p.m. Greening of church 5 p.m. Come as you are 6 p.m. Greening of church/ Potluck	5 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	6 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	7 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	8 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	9 Women's Connection Cookie Exchange	10
11 <b>Advent 3</b> 9 a.m. Confirmation Class Prayers for healing at Bolton Altar 5 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols	12 10 a.m. Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting	13 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	14 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	15 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	16	17
18 <b>Advent 4</b> 4 p.m. Christmas Pageant Potluck Dinner	19 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	20 10 a.m. Morning Prayer	21 <b>St. Thomas' Day</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist 	22 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15pm Said Eucharist	23	24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 3:40 p.m. Carols 4 p.m. Family Eucharist 10 p.m. Carols 10:30 p.m. Midnight Mass
25 <b>Christmas Day!</b> <b>No 8 a.m. service today</b> 10 a.m. Eucharist with Hymns No Church School 11 a.m. Bagels & Champagne 	26 Christmas Holiday observed. Parish office closed.	27 <b>St. John's Day</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist	28 <b>Holy Innocents' Day</b> 10 a.m. Said Eucharist	29 10 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Said Eucharist	30	31

Many parishioners likely have little idea about the important role that the Altar Guild plays at Christ Church. Co-chaired by Paige Lavengood and Jackie Kraft, the members of the guild are responsible for arranging and caring for all the ornaments and furnishings on and around the Altar. Their work includes polishing silver and wood; stitching, ironing, and storing linens; as well as prayerfully placing all the necessary elements of worship for each service.

They were dedicated 34 years ago in memory of long-time parishioner Charles F. Junod, who died in 1975.

The 21 hand-made cushions were designed by Mary Winsor Newman, and depict the life and ministry of Christ. The needlepoint was done



**Plaque on column behind the pulpit**

by hand by members and friends of this parish, including: Mary Newman, Martha Winsor, Ellen Colton, Louise Parker, Jean Gray, Ann Brown, Betty Junod, Pat Weigel, Maggie Jenkins, Barbara Wohlwend, Seton O'Reilly and Philip C. Ogden. Assisted by: Sallie Mackie, Marcia Konrad, Peg Armistead, Jean McLeod, Jane Hart, Mary Hoag, Pam Hunnicut, Midge Stulberg, Joanna Schoff and Victoria Junod.

First, we will focus on the three kneelers farthest to the left as you face the altar: The Lamb, The Annunciation and The Shepherds.

**The Lamb** - with reference to St. John 1: 29-36. In this passage John the Baptist speaks of recognizing



Jesus as the Christ, when the Holy Spirit lands on his shoulder in the form of a dove. John baptizes Jesus and refers to him for the first time as "the Lamb of God."

## The Annunciation - the Angel Gabriel's visit to the young Virgin Mary, announcing that she will bear the Son of God.



**The Shepherds** - watching their sheep in the fields near Bethlehem, more commonly depicted as a night scene.

[illegible]

**Word Jumble Answers** 1. Ms. Reische 2. Ms. Abrahams  
3. Ms. Pena 4. Mr. Chase 5. Ms. Hoffer 6. Ms. O'Byrne  
7. Ms. Nichols 8. Ms. Kornfeld 9. Mr. Allen

Did You Know that the middle part of Christ Church, housing the Choir Room, Acolytes' robing room, women's robing room and Music Library is officially called the Nanette Bolton Memorial? Built in 1884 and 1885, and consecrated in 1887, it was added in memory of our founding rector's second child and eldest daughter, Nanette.

After completing only one year of formal education, Nanette had to turn her attention to helping care for her 12 younger siblings. Nonetheless, she dedicated most of her life to education and mission work. She helped establish and run the first public school in Pelham, in what is now known as the Old Parish House, helped establish missions at City Island and Pelhamville, and cared for the wounded during the Civil War.