

**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL**

8:00 AM

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

March 2, 2025



WELCOME

Christ Church is an Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Massachusetts. We welcome and honor the God-given gifts that make us unique as individuals and strong as community. You and your family are welcome regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status or prior religious affiliation.

A Note to Parents and Caregivers with Children in Church

Thank you for bringing your children to church. We are so glad you are here!

We know it can be difficult at times to manage little ones during the service.

For that reason, we have provided some resources which we hope will make it easier for you and your family to enjoy worship together.

You will find books and coloring pages at the back of the Mary Chapel. Please feel free to utilize these at any point during the service.

We have installed a TV in the nursery! You are welcome to visit the nursery with your child during any portion of our service and join us via our livestream.

It is okay to take breaks. If you need to step out with your child, our parish grounds are a great place to get the wiggles out.

Above all, please remember: You and your family are very welcome here!

Though your children may be squirming, talking, or making noise, they are also observing, copying, and learning. Children are a gift and an important part of our community; we are grateful to have them worship with us.

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY AND GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The Celebrant says

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

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

OPENING ANTHEM

The following is said, all standing

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING:

Exodus 34:29-35

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

Remain seated.

¹The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

²The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

⁴“O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

⁶Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

⁷He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

⁸O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING:**2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2***The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL:**Luke 9:28-43a***All stand.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a

cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Melissa Howell

Silence may follow.

THE CREED

All stand.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**
Through him all things were made.
**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Deacon or Celebrant: Led by the Holy Spirit we pray for the church and the world, saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the church in all its guises, in every land and in every language, may your Word be known.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the churches in our diocese, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Julia and Carol our Bishops, Melissa our Priest, James and Natalie our Deacons, and each of us in our vocations and ministries.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all who seek to follow Christ Jesus, that they may be steadfast in their love and faith and that they may work together for greater unity as Christ's body.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For peace in all places and in the hearts of all people throughout the earth.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For our communities, especially for those who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life, that we might find strength and hope together.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the natural world and its abundance, that we might use that abundance wisely and sustainably.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who are suffering, that they might find solace in your presence and wholeness in your love. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the saints in every generation, that their lives might inspire ours and that we might be faithful stewards of their legacy. We pray especially for Jim Stanne, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: God of wisdom and love, hear the prayers of your beloved children in this community of faith. Bring your help to all in need, granting our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

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

THE PEACE

All stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*If you wish to make a gift to support the ministries of Christ Church Parish, you may place your offering in the plate, or scan the QR code to the right to donate online.
Thank you!*



The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

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

INVITATION

The Presider invites the people to Communion with these or similar words:

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

To receive the Sacrament, come forward and hold out your hands. The minister will place the bread in your palm. You may then receive the wine by drinking from the larger cup or intincting (dipping) the bread in the smaller cup. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms as you pass by the cup bearers to return to your seat.

If you would prefer a blessing, come forward, cross your arms across your chest, and the minister will bless you.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

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

If Lay Eucharistic Visitors are being sent out to bring the Sacrament to those who cannot be with us in-person, the following is said as the Visitors are handed the bread and wine:

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread and one cup.**

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the people.

*The people respond: **Thanks be to God.***

Announcements

**Please keep the following people in your prayers during the coming week.
Any names added this week are in bold.**

For the repose of the soul of Alan Watson; Barbara Hulme; Christy Godfrey; Donna Eby; Greta Couter; Jack Willett; **for the repose of the soul of Jim Stanne**; Katharine LiBretto; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Linda Garrone; Norm Zinger; Sharon Steadman; **Skip Nielsen**; Steve Blanchard; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Valerie B. Pflock; William Underhill

We ask your prayers for those serving in the military and their families:
Aidan McKinney, Andrew Barton, Austin Vico, Harry Morini, Joel Carveiro, Josh Zabin

From the Office

In order to have your announcements included in the weekly bulletin and *Keeping Connected*, please send them to the office by 12 Noon on Wednesday. They should include date, time, place, description of event and contact information and should be written exactly the way you want them to appear.

Resources for Families in Church: Just a reminder that there are activities for kids, including a small table and chairs, in the back of the church. We are also providing special bulletins for kids that are aligned with the week's lessons at the front and back entrances. These bulletins have a variety of coloring, brain teasers, puzzles, and other fun activities. For students in grades PreK-1, Su will be available in the nursery to monitor young students who need a separate space during the church service. We hope that these resources will support family attendance at the 10 am service. Please let us know if you have any other ideas for ways to welcome children and families at Christ Church: education@christchurchplymouth.org

Christ Church Thrift Shoppe - The Thrift Shoppe will be closed on Saturday, March 1st to allow volunteers the opportunity to attend funeral services for Jim Stanne.

Our ministry family of volunteers extends prayers and heartfelt condolences to Lynn and the entire Stanne family.

All are welcome to Ash Wednesday services – Wednesday, March 5th, 2025
12p – Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes – a quiet, meditative service with no music
7p – Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes – a service with music and hymns

Evening Women - will be offering a simple soup meal on Ash Wednesday, March 5th between 5pm and 6:30 pm. We will be meeting in the volunteer office, all members of the parish are welcome.

Prayer Chain - Our prayer chain consists of devoted parishioners who, in confidence, pray daily for the needs of our parish family. Our mission is to live up to God the prayers of people in need, in joy, or in thanksgiving.

All prayer requests are said for a period of 2 weeks, and all requests are kept in strict confidence. If you would like a prayer said for yourself, a member of your family or friends, please reach out to Robyn Lench Whittles 781-291-9459 or email to betty02364@gmail.com

Christ Church Food Pantry – All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry! We are open by appointment: Tuesday 4:00-5:15, Thursday 12:00-1:15 and 4:00-5:15, and Saturday 10:00-11:15. Call the pantry message line: 508-746-4959, ext 6, BY 1 PM THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER. Our volunteers check messages and return your call from their homes to ask you what you need.

If you wish to volunteer, contact Eileen Paris at eileenpca@aol.com
For more information, please contact Barbara Wojtkiewicz at 617-291-4634, or by email at barbara.wojtkiewicz@gmail.com

The Food Pantry is looking for someone with grant writing experience to help with occasional funding opportunities. Please contact Barbara Wojtkiewicz at barbara.wojtkiewicz@gmail.com

Week At - A - Glance * March 2, 2025 – March 9, 2025

SUNDAY	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM 5:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany Church School (Adults and Grades Pre-K – 5) Burning of the Palms Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany Coffee Hour Overnights of Hospitality Begin
MONDAY	9:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Fore & Aft
TUESDAY	10:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Companions Group Fore & Aft Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Fore & Aft Ash Wednesday Service Office Closed Parish Nursing Ministry Evening Women's Group Ash Wednesday Service
THURSDAY	10:00 AM 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM 1:00 PM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM 6:00 PM	Bible Study Thrift Shoppe Fore & Aft Food Pantry Book Study Food Pantry Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY	9:00 AM 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Morning Prayer – Facebook Live Thrift Shoppe Fore & Aft
SATURDAY	10:00 AM – 11:15 AM 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM 5:00 PM	Food Pantry Thrift Shoppe Holy Eucharist Rite II – The First Saturday in Lent
SUNDAY	2:00 AM 7:00 AM 8:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM	Daylight Saving Time starts Overnights of Hospitality End Holy Eucharist Rite I – The First Sunday in Lent Church School (Adults and Grades Pre-K – 5) Holy Eucharist Rite II – The First Sunday in Lent Coffee Hour

Christ Church Parish
Seeking Christ in Ourselves * Serving Christ in the World

JESUS CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

MINISTERS

All the people of Christ Church Parish

Staff

The Rev. Melissa Howell, Rector
The Rev. Deacons James & Natalie Thomas
David Tyler, Parish Administrator
Lea Tyler, Choir Director
Su D'Ambrosio, Sunday School Coordinator

Officers and Vestry Representatives

Robb Pflock, Senior Warden
John Steele, Junior Warden
Ray Rogers, Treasurer
Amanda Peterson, Clerk

Wil Bernard, David Greene, Don Hill, Barb Hurney, Kat LiBretto,
Judy Lutz, Makenzie Manchester, Melissa Pechey, and Nancy Ricks

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Scan here to visit our website:

<https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/>



Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM