

# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 30, 2025  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM



Christ Church

Woodbury, New Jersey

*A Parish in the Diocese of New Jersey*



## Welcome to Visitors and Guests

We are delighted to have you with us today. The ushers will be glad to assist in any way they can to make your visit more comfortable. Please do take a moment to introduce yourself to the clergy at the door following the service and sign the guest book in the church porch / vestibule.

Child care is available during the 10am service for infants to age 4. Parents are given pagers. An usher will be happy to escort you there. **The nursery is open.**

Sunday School (from age 3 through grade 12) begins after children and young people receive Holy Communion or a Blessing at the Altar Rail during the 10am service, then proceed to their classrooms.

Adult Forum is held in the Upper Assembly Room following the 10am service when Sunday School is in session, and ends at 12 noon when the children are dismissed from their classes. All are welcome to attend!

Adult Bible Study Adult Bible Study continues on Mondays at 8:00 pm via Zoom. We will be studying 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy and Titus. We have a lot of great discussions and would love to have everyone who is able to join!

A Lift is available for those who require assistance in reaching the Upper and Lower Assembly Rooms. The ushers will be glad to help with its operation.

Safety Precaution: Because there is no adult supervision in the parish house, children under the age of 13 leaving the service for any reason need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Exiting and Entering—To avoid unnecessary distractions during the service, please try to exit and enter during a hymn if possible. (But we do understand that when urgent needs arise it may not be possible!)

*Let Reverence and Quietness  
Characterize your Entrance into God's House*

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Holy Eucharist: Rite I - 8:00 am**  
**THE ENTRANCE RITE**

*The congregation stands when the bell is rung.*

Opening Acclamation .....	Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 323
<i>Celebrant</i>	Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
<i>People</i>	<b><i>And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.</i></b>
The Collect for Purity .....	BCP 323
Summary of the Law .....	BCP 324
Kyrie .....	BCP 324
The Collect of the Day (The 1st Sunday of Advent) .....	Bulletin p. 5

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*the people are seated*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5.....	Bulletin p. 6
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*the people remain seated*

Gradual Psalm 122 <i>Lætatus sum</i> .....	Bulletin p. 6
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The Epistle: Romans 13:11-14.....	Bulletin p. 7
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*The people standing*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44 .....	Bulletin p. 8
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*the people are seated*

The Sermon .....	Fr. Civile
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*the people standing*

The Nicene Creed .....	BCP 327
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The Prayers of the People .....	BCP 328
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*the people kneeling*

Confession of Sin .....	BCP 330
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*the people standing*

The Peace .....	BCP 332
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**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Offertory Sentence

*the people are seated until the Offering is brought forward, the people standing*

At the Presentation:

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord.

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

<b>The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I</b> .....	BCP 333
Sursum corda .....	BCP 340
Sanctus et Benedictus qui venit .....	BCP 341
<i>Said by all</i>	
<b><i>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.</i></b>	
<i>the congregation kneels for the canon of the Mass</i>	
The Great Amen .....	BCP 343
The Lord's Prayer .....	BCP 336
Fraction .....	BCP 337
Agnus Dei .....	BCP 337
Prayer of Humble Access .....	BCP 337
Invitation to Communion .....	BCP 338
Behold the Lamb of God; Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.	
<i>Celebrant and People</i>	
<b><i>Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.</i></b>	
<i>All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come to the altar for a blessing, indicated by placing crossed hands over the chest.</i>	
Post Communion Prayer .....	BCP 339
The Blessing .....	BCP 339
<i>the people standing</i>	
Dismissal .....	BCP 340
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
<i>People</i>	<b><i>Thanks be to God.</i></b>



# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Holy Eucharist: Rite I, 10:00 am

### THE ENTRANCE RITE

Prelude “Veni Domine from First Religious Suite: Advent .....Pietro A. Yon (1886-1943)

Processional Hymn 59”Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding”.....*Merton*

Introit .....*Tone VII*

Unto Thee have I lifted my soul; my God, I have put my trust in Thee; O let me not be confounded: neither let mine enemies triumph over me, for all they that wait for thee shall not be ashamed. Show me Thy ways, O Lord: and teach me thy paths. Glory be... Amen

Opening Acclamation S76.....*Ambrosian*

*Celebrant*

Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

*People*

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

The Collect for Purity ..... BCP 323

Summary of the Law ..... BCP 324

Kyrie ..... (see *Fifth Communion Service/Leo Sowerby Music Supplement*)

COLLECT OF THE DAY (First Sunday of Advent):

*Celebrant*           The Lord be with you.

*People*               ***And with thy spirit.***

*Celebrant*           Let us pray.

**A**lmighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The people are seated*

The First Lesson.....Isaiah 2:1-5

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Isaiah

**T**he word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

*The people remain seated.*

Gradual Psalm 122 *Lætatus sum* .....Richard Wodoward (c.1743-77)

*The Psalm is said responsively by verse. (8:00 am Mass only)*

I was glad when they said unto me, \* We will go into the house of the Lord.

***Our feet shall stand in thy gates, \* O Jerusalem.***

Jerusalem is built as a city \* that is at unity in itself.

***For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord, \* to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.***

For there is the seat of judgment, \* even the seat of the house of David.

***O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; \* they shall prosper that love thee.***

Peace be within thy walls, \* and plenteousness within thy palaces.

*For my brethren and companions' sakes, \* I will wish thee prosperity.*

Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God, \* I will seek to do thee good.

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;\* as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen***

The Epistle .....Romans 13:8-14

*Lector*            A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

**O**we no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not kill, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this sentence, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            ***Thanks be to God.***

*The people standing*

Alleluia and Verse ..... *Tone VI*

**A**lleluia. Shew us O Lord thy mercy: and grant us thy salvation Alleluia.

Sequence Hymn 596

“Judge eternal, throned in splendor“.....*Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens*

The Holy Gospel ..... Matthew 24:36-44

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

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

**B**ut of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man. Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left. Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

*People*                    The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*The people are seated*

The Sermon ..... Fr. Civale

*The people standing*

The Nicene Creed .....BCP 327

The Prayers of the People: ..... Form III

*The leader and People pray responsively*

*Intercessor*            Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;

*People*                    **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee;  
**That thy Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern & hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in thy sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise thee for the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all thy saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*


*The people kneeling*

The Confession of Sin ..... BCP 330

The Peace

*All are invited briefly to greet one another with a sign of peace.*

*Celebrant*



The peace of the Lord be al-ways with you.

*People*



And with thy spi - rit.



## **Brotherhood of Saint Andrew Induction Ceremony**

Admission of Samuel Buck into the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

*PRESENTER:* The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is named for Saint Andrew who, according to John's Gospel, after meeting Jesus, went to find his brother Simon, and said to him, "we have found the Messiah." Then he took Simon to Jesus. Emulating Andrew, the first Brothers Andrew reached out to men in rooming houses, giving them Bibles and inviting them to come to church to hear for themselves the witness of scripture to God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. Like Andrew, they brought people to be baptized and confirmed in the church. They established mission churches and expanded Christ's Kingdom. The Brotherhood grew and became international. We know from the cumulative experiences of the past that there is no limit to this ministry. No limit as long as our ministry is one of extending the golden thread of God's love and sharing Jesus Christ with the world.

*PRESENTER:* I recommend that you receive this candidate officially into the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

*INDUCTOR:* The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a ministry to men and youth dedicated to the spread of Christ's kingdom here on earth through the disciplines of regular prayer, study and service.

*SAID BY ALL MEMBERS*

THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER is to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, and for God's blessings upon the labors of the Brotherhood.

THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY is to study the Holy Scriptures regularly and the teachings of the Church, to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom.

THE DISCIPLINE OF SERVICE is to make continuous efforts, day by day, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

*INDUCTOR:* Do you desire to become a member in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?

*CANDIDATE:* I do.

*INDUCTOR:* Do you acknowledge and reaffirm the promise and vows made at your Baptism that pledged you to love and help your neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ until your life's end?

*CANDIDATE:* I do

*INDUCTOR:* Will you work faithfully to fulfill the objectives and disciplines of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?

*CANDIDATE:* I will, with God's help and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

*INDUCTOR:* May Almighty God, who has given you this will to do these things, grant you the strength and power to perform the three disciplines of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew faithfully.

Lord, grant this brother the insight to recognize gifts for ministry Thou hast provided to each and give them the direction of the Holy Spirit in accomplishing thy Great Commission in the daily conduct of their lives. We pray that as a Brother of St Andrew, he may accomplish the work which Thou hast begun in him. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen.

*INDUCTOR:* I receive and admit Samuel into the fellowship of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. You have committed yourself to share all Brotherhood privileges and responsibilities. May God give you the grace to follow the example of Saint Andrew, whose name you bear, in bringing many to the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*MINISTER:* Almighty God, bless this Thy servant Sam who has signified his purpose to faithfully serve thee as a member of this Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Grant them (him) in their (his) ministry and vocation the power and courage to extend your Kingdom by their (his) devoted service. Amen.

Collect for of St Andrew (*ALL*)

Almighty God, who didst give such grace to thine apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of thy Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give unto us, who are called by thy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*MINISTER:* Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, send all of these Brothers out to do the work thou hast given us to do, to love and serve Thee as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to Thee, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence.....*Tone II*

Unto thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; my God; I have put my trust in thee; O let me not be confounded: neither let mine enemies triumph over me; for all they that wait for thee shall not be ashamed.

Offertory Anthem “How Beautiful Upon the Mountains ”.....John Stainer (1840-1901)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! *Isaiah 52:7*

*the people standing*

Offertory Hymn 61 “Sleepers wake! A voice astounds us ..... *Wachet auf*

**Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I** ..... BCP 333

Sursum corda ..... S112 Hymnal

*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

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

Sanctus et Benedictus qui venit ..... (*see Fifth Communion Service/Leo Sowerby Music Supplement*)

*the people kneel for the canon of the Mass*

The Great Amen ..... S118 Hymnal

*Celebrant* *People*  
A-men.

The Lord's Prayer ..... S119 Hymnal  
*The people kneeling.*

## Fraction

*Celebrant*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

*People*

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Agnus Dei..... (*see Fifth Communion Service/Leo Sowerby Music Supplement*)

Prayer of Humble Access ..... BCP 337

Invitation to Communion ..... BCP 338

Behold the Lamb of God; Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

*Celebrant and People*

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come to the altar for a blessing, indicated by placing crossed hands over the chest. the people kneeling*

Communion Sentence.....*Tone I*

**T**he Lord shall show loving kindness: and our land shall give her increase.

Communion Motet “E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come“ .....Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,

For Christ is coming, is coming soon, For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;

They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

*Revelation 22, adapt. Ruth Manz (1919-2008)*

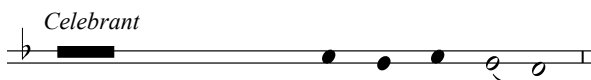
Communion Hymn 53 “Once he came in blessing”.....*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*  
*the people kneeling*

Post Communion Prayer .....BCP 339

The Blessing .....BCP 339

*The people standing*

The Dismissal .....S 174 Hymnal



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Processional Hymn 57 “Lo! He comes, with clouds descending”.....*Helmsley*

Postlude “Overture from 'Messiah’“.....George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)





## **Additional Notes**

**Susan Novalsky & Stacy Yeiter will be hosting Coffee Hour today.**

**Next week Pastoral Care Team will be hosting Coffee Hour**

**2025 is the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nicene Creed. The Creed itself was the culmination of the Ecumenical Council held in Nicaea in 325 AD. It sought to heal division and unify the Church around a common profession of faith, in particular around our understanding of the Holy Trinity and to some extent the nature of Christ. It laid the ground work for the work of future councils. Scott Carr will continue to present a series on the Creed on November 30, December 7 and 14 and January 4 at our Adult Forum.**



Those Who  
Serve Today

**8:00 am**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Lawrence Civalè

**Server & Chalice:** Doreen Mills

**Lector:** Bernie Lasoski

**Ushers:** Mark Hendricks

**10:00 am**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Lawrence Civalè

**Organist:** Luke Staisiunas

**Master of Ceremonies:** Scott Carr

**Thurifer & Boat:** Payton Sims

**Crucifer:** Scott Cranston

**1<sup>st</sup> Server:** Annabella Scales

**2<sup>nd</sup> Server:** Joey Scales

**Torches:** Evan Shomo & CeCe Lyden

**Acolyte Master:** Robertta Shomo

**Chalice Bearers:** Ed Ferrell & Scott Carr

**Lector I & Intercessor:** Jim Bathurst

**Lector II:** Mary Beth Bathurst

**Ushers:** Chris Piskun & Nathan Wishnick

**Nursery:** Jennifer Allbright

**Vestry Lock up:** Laura Erasmus

**Notewriter:** Gwen Simpson

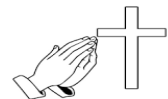
**Food Bank:** Ed Ferrell

**Vestry Counters: Team 2:** Laura Erasmus & Tori Wishnick

**Prayer List**

Pray for those who are sick or in any other adversity.

Pray for those who are in immediate need, especially: Maureen, Louise, Joy, Janet, Krista, Rich, Dottie, Hughie, Larry, Betty, Easton, Mike, Warren, David, Darrah, Rosie, Steve, Fran, Mike, Gloria.



Pray for those with enduring needs: Anne, Doreen, Barbara, Mary Sue, Joseph, Sammy Jo, Jillian, Amanda, Tara, Jackson, Jack, Ed, Jason, Samuel, Michael, Alex, Paul, Baby Rick, Tom, Mary, Bruce, Ivan, Andy, Kathi, Sean, Maya, Miguel, Carl, Linda, Douglas, Alfred, Sally, Ariella, David, Téó and Peter, Pat, Anne, Josephine, Ronald, Tony, Jordan, Mason, David, Sue, Barbara, Michael, Tyler and Laura, Marjorie, Jacob, Michele, Stephanie, Riley, Julia, Susan, June, Amy, Kathleen, Cora, Debbie, Norman, Tracey, Ginger, Candi, Becky, Carter, Rose, Adam, Dick, Daniel, Michael, Brad and Susan, Kathi, Lynn, Ralph, Peggy, Audrey, Sissy, Averil.

Pray for those that are serving in our armed forces: CJ, Jacob

**Please advise the Parish Office of any names that no longer need to be on this list. Thank you.**

## Advent Home Liturgy for Individuals and Families

*If this Liturgy is observed by a household, one member serves as the Officiant.*

*If you (or your family) use an Advent Wreath, the appropriate number of candles on the Wreath are lit. Directions for making an Advent Wreath are on page 4 of this leaflet.*

*Then are said the following versicles and responses (which may be said as an acclamation by one person).*

V. Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. Thanks be to God.

V. Rejoice! The Lord is at hand.

R. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

### The Reading

*The Bible passage appointed for the day is now read. These passages may be found on pages 2-4 of the leaflet.*

Sunday: John 1:9-14,16-17

Monday: John 3:16-21

Tuesday: Isaiah 60:1-3

Wednesday: Psalm 43:3-5

Thursday: Isaiah 58:6-9

Friday: John 2:8-11

Saturday: John 3:1-2, 7-10

### The Prayers

*The Prayers are then offered, beginning with the collect for the Week, found on pages 2-4 of this leaflet. Then, as desired, additional prayers may be offered ... The Prayers are concluded with the Our Father.*

#### First Week (Advent I)

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Liturgy concludes with this benediction.*



## Upcoming Events

<b>Monday</b> <i>Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, 1637</i>	<b>December 1</b>	6:00 PM 8:00 PM	AA Meeting Zoom Bible Study
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>Channing Moore Williams, Missionary Bishop in China and Japan, 1910</i>	<b>December 2</b>	10:00 AM NOON 8:00 PM	NA Meeting AA Meeting AA Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>Francis Xavier, Priest and Missionary to Japan, 1552</i>	<b>December 3</b>	10:00 AM	Mass
<b>Thursday</b> <i>John of Damascus, Priest, c. 760</i>	<b>December 4</b>	10:00 AM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Mass Executive Committee Meeting AA Meeting
<b>Friday</b> <i>Clement of Alexandria, Priest, c.210</i>	<b>December 5</b>	5:30 PM	Evening Prayer
<b>Saturday</b> <i>Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342</i>	<b>December 6</b>		
<b>Sunday</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>December 7</b>	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 8:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Mass Choral Scholar Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal Choral Mass with the seating of the Child Bishop Sunday School Chorister Rehearsal following Sunday School

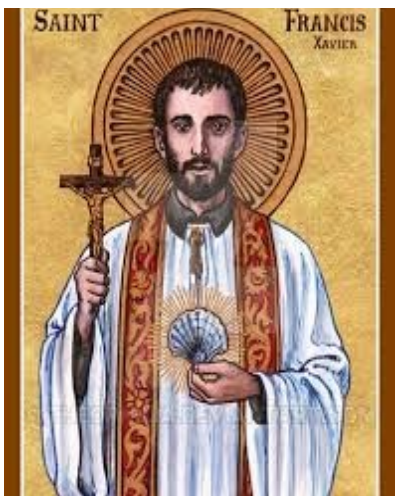


## Weekday Services this Week

### Wednesday, December 3

*Francis Xavier, Priest and Missionary to Japan, 1552*

10:00 am Mass with Prayers for Healing



### Thursday, December 4

*John of Damascus, Priest, c. 760*

6:30 pm Mass

### Friday, December 5

*Clement of Alexandria, Priest, c.210*

5:30 pm Evening Prayer

## **The Sacrament of Penance**

The Sacrament of Penance (Confession) and spiritual counsel are always available by appointment. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Fr. Civale.

## **Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent**

**December 7, 2025**

First Reading: Book of Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Psalm 72

\*Please note Christ Church uses the RSV Bible Translation



## Mark your Calendars

Woodbury Christmas Tree Lighting

December 12, 2025

Lessons & Carols

December 19, 2025

Blood Drive

December 22, 2025

Epiphany Mass & Reception (6:30 pm)

January 6, 2025



### Pastoral Care Team

#### Our Vision Statement

The vision of the Pastoral Care Team is to engage the parish in a ministry to serve God by following the commandment of Jesus to ‘to love thy neighbor as ourselves’ and caring for those in need or transition by establishing a personal relationship with them in the name of the Lord.

Listed below are the ways in which we care for the people of Christ Church.

#### **Parish Pathfinders**

This is a group of people who have volunteered to provide transportation to parishioners who need and request a ride to church services and activities.

#### **Martha’s Meals**

This is a group of parishioners, some who prepare and others who deliver meals to families who are in immediate need due to illness, birth of a child, or death in the family.

#### **Visitation and Caregiving**

This ministry does not require nursing skills. It is a way that we connect with our hospitalized and homebound parishioners and also their families to check on their needs and offer support.

**Pastoral Care Team:** Deb Allbright, Jean Lucas, Doreen Mills, Barbara O’Mealia

If you or someone you know in the parish is in need, please contact the church **(856) 845-0190**.

## A message from our Music Director .....



For those wishing to know, I have a few Christmas organ engagements comin up!

On December 7th, I will be accompanying Part 1 of Handel's "Messiah" at Tindley Temple UMC in Philadelphia, at 3:30pm. The afternoon begins with an organ recital at 3pm. The space and the organ are truly gems of the city, and worth a visit. Details available at [tindleyphl.us/messiah](http://tindleyphl.us/messiah).

I will be appearing at Longwood Gardens, playing live Christmas music from 5-8pm on December 3, 11, 17, 23, 28, and 30! Free with garden admission.

Additionally, I will be playing a free 30 minute noontime recital at Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, on December 9th.

Thanks,

Luke

## Winter Newsletter



We are in the process of compiling information for the 2025 Winter Newsletter. Please start to get pictures and articles together to send to the office. Please use the subject line "Winter Newsletter" when sending things so we can make sure nothing is missed.

**All submissions should be submitted no later than 12/01/2025.**

### Priest-in-Charge

Fr. Lawrence Civale

Email: [frcivale@christchurch.woodburynj.org](mailto:frcivale@christchurch.woodburynj.org)

Cell Phone: (617) 947-3261, in case of a pastoral emergency.

Fr. Civale tries to keep Monday as his Sabbath day.



## Chorister rehearsals

Children in 2nd grade and above are invited to join the Christ Church Choristers. We are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music which provides a framework for choral singers to develop their vocal skills, their musical understanding, and their knowledge of the repertoire. No previous choral/singing experience required! We have a short rehearsal following Sunday school most Sundays, and sing in the service with the adult choir 1-2 times per month. We have a lot of fun and we hope to have more children join us! If your child/grandchild would like to become a chorister, please complete this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/j8StoLfiWrdAHrro9>.

## Calling all Coffee Hour Hosts...

We are in need of some volunteers to serve as Coffee Hour Hosts on many dates from now until the end of the year. The ministry is truly a labor of love. Thank you to all who have signed up to provide some snacks to those who choose to attend our Adult Forum which is held right after 10 AM Mass. Our turnout has been averaging 25-30 persons. It does not have to be elaborate - donut holes and cheese/crackers would suffice. Just a snack to carry us over to when Sunday School ends (noon) and we can all go home for lunch.

Please see Mary Beth or Jim Bathurst if you have any questions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.



## **Stewardship 2026 Following in Faith**



**Thank you to those who have pledged.  
We have received 74 pledges to date totaling \$215,644.**

**If you have not submitted your pledge please do so as soon as possible.  
If you are in need of a pledge card they are available in the ushers area.**

# Thank you to the following families that have already pledged for 2026.

Allbright, Paul & Debra

Atkins, Robin

Baldwin, Kate & Matt

Bathurst, Jim & Mary Beth

Bird, Mary Beth

Brown, Joan

Carrigan, Maureen

Civale, Lawrence

Civalier, Richard

Coleman, Patrick

Cranston, Sarah & Chris

Curtis, Hughie

Daugherty, Fred & Audrey

Dennison, Thomas

Ferrell, Edward Starr & Allene

Fulgham, Francis & Judith May

Gwalthney, Frank & Helen

Hanson, David & Delores

Hay, James & Denise

Hendricks, Mark

Henning, Kim (Wycoff) & Robert

Hill, Douglas & Carol

Howey, Richard & Regina

Johnson, Robert & Kimberly

Jones, Amelia Mimi

Kaback, Susann

Kurtz, Richard & Gloria

Lasoski, Bernie & Beverly

Lewis, Jr., Charles

Lewis, Steven & Jennifer

Lucas, Jean

Lyden, John

Mass, Natalie

Mass, Paul

Mass, Tara

McGeoch, Ellen

McGeoch, Scott & Marilyn

Mills, Doreen

Mitchell, Joan

Nester, Mark

Nichols, Philip

Novalsky, Mark & Susan Jane

Novalsky, Sarah

OMEalia, Barbara

Piskum, Chris

Pleis, Jean

Preole, John & Margaret

Rash, Sarah

Rash, Steve & Debbie

Reiter, Nancy

Rheiner, Cheryl

Rickert, Stephen

Rodano, Annalisa

Rosser, Linda

Sanchez, Mike & Darcie

Sheeky, Dale

Sheets, Barbara

Shomo, Steven & Robertta

Simpson, Gwendolyn

Sims, Dennis & Brandy

Straub, James

Straub, Jim

Straub, Timothy

Sullivan, Robert

Teris, Ben & Leslie

Tillberg, Carol

Viereck, Michael & Kathleen

Wenzel, James & Donna

Whitehead, Bonnie

Wierski, Micheal

Wilgus, Theodore & Dolores

Wishnick, Nathan

Wishnick, Victoria

Wright, Kimberly

Yeiter, Sherm & Stacey

## **Bible Study Now in Session**

Our weekly Bible Study is on **Mondays at 8:00 PM via Zoom.**

**It is a 6 week study 2 Timothy and Titus—letters that shape much of our Sunday worship this season.**

Together, we will reflect on themes of church leadership and faithful teaching using the *N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guide*.

We've had wonderful discussions in the past and would love for you to join us!

**Zoom Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81627384062?wd=PTpGtBPt7ZdyhgauivzCreJFsn0vwM.1>

### **Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries News**

Thank you all for your dedication to this ministry. Bringing one item of food to church is a simple but powerful way to help our community. Between the main pantry and Colonial Manor, GWCM served 915 families (3,562 people) in October.

#### **Thank You**

Thank you to our parish family! Because of you Christ Church was able to send a \$1000 donation to Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries!

#### **Christmas**

This year the pantry will be giving each family a hygiene bag for Christmas. I volunteered our Christ Church Family to turn in 50 bags. I know we can do this!

Each bag will be a gallon ziplock that includes: soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors, and dental floss. (No mouthwash please). These items are easily purchased at a dollar store. I was able to fill two bags for \$22. We are hoping each Christ Church family will be able to contribute a bag or two. If your children need service hours this is a great project for them to work on – we can give them a service hours receipt. The last Sunday to collect the hygiene bags is December 14<sup>th</sup>. There are two baskets at the back of Fellowship Hall to collect the Hygiene bags.

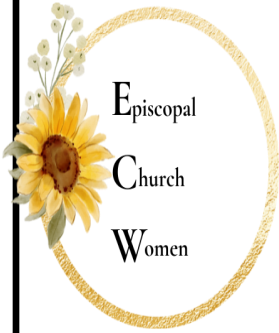
GWCM is also collecting new unwrapped toys to benefit the children of clients. Look for the flyer in the service sheet with the drop-off locations.

If you have any questions, please contact Darcie Sanchez at 856-906-8800

Information about online monetary donations and events can be found at **GWCM.org**



## ECW (Episcopal Church Women)



The ECW at Christ Church meets the third (3rd) Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. There is no December meeting. The Holiday Tea will be January 10th, 1pm to 3pm. The next regular meeting is January 21st at 7:00pm. All women who attend Christ Church are considered members of the ECW. Since 1871, the National Episcopal Church Women, ECW, have championed women's rights and the Christian foundation of God and family. They are a ministry of the Episcopal Church and celebrate that Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## Brotherhood of St. Andrew



The Brotherhood at Christ Church meets the third (3rd) Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm. The next meeting will be in January. Join The Brotherhood of St. Andrew for prayer, study, and service. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is an international ministry of men within the Anglican Communion with the commission of spreading Christ's kingdom among men and youth.



# Give the Gift of Life This Holiday Season

## Christmas Blood Drive

### Event Details

**Date:** Monday, December 22, 2025  
**Time:** 2:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Christ Church

### Schedule Your Donation

Make a difference this Christmas by donating blood! Your contribution can help save lives during the holiday season, when blood supplies are often critically low.

To reserve your spot, please go online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and schedule your donation or see Jim or Mary Beth Bathurst

Every donation counts. Join us in spreading hope and compassion to those in need. We look forward to seeing you at Christ Church's Christmas Blood Drive!

Thank You for Your Generosity!



## Winter Coat Drive

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is sponsoring a winter coat drive for the month of November. This drive is being done to assist Jeanette's Closet, an arm of the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministry. Coats for men, women and children of all sizes are needed for those who have been going without during the cold winter months. Coats for men and teenage girls are most needed but all are welcomed. These coats should be in relatively good condition, clean and do not need repair. New coats are always accepted and often are used for Christmas gifts. Coats can be brought into Church on Sundays November 2 through November 30, and left with the ushers or in the Upper Assembly Hall. For more information see Steve Shomo, Ed Ferrell or Jim Bathurst



Please be on the look out for our Advent and Christmas postcard that will show all of the important dates and masses for the upcoming weeks.

It was mailed out this week.



- Sunday, November 30 (1 Advent) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass**
- Sunday, December 7 (2 Advent) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass & Child Bishop**
- Friday, December 12 ~ Woodbury Christmas Tree Lighting 6:00 pm**
- Sunday, December 14 (3 Advent) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass**
- Friday, December 19 ~ A Service of Lessons and Carols 6:30 pm**
- Sunday, December 21 (4 Advent) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass**
- Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) ~ 5:00 pm & 11:00 pm Choral Mass**
- Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day) ~ 10:00 am Mass with organ**
- Sunday, December 28 (1st Christmas) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass**
- Thursday, January 1 (Feast of the Holy Name) ~ 10:00 am Mass**
- Sunday, January 4 (2nd Christmas) ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am Mass**
- Tuesday, January 6 ~ (Feast of the Epiphany) 6:30 pm Choral Mass with Reception**



**AT CHRIST CHURCH WOODBURY**

*A Service of*  
**LESSONS and CAROLS**  
*at Christ Church in Woodbury*



Virgin and Child in an Apse, Copy after Robert Campin (Netherlandish, ca. 1480)

Friday,  
December 19th  
at 6:30 in the evening

*Christ Church*  
62 Delaware Street  
Woodbury, New Jersey



GREATER WOODBURY COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES

# TOY DRIVE



**Please join us as we collect new, unwrapped toys to benefit the children of the clients of the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries Food Bank. Gift accepted for ages 3 months - 17 years.**

Accepting Donations Through  
**DECEMBER 8**

## DROP OFF LOCATIONS

102 N. Girard St. (residential home)  
Central Baptist Church  
The Woodbury Public Library

## **Honor Special Moments & Loved Ones**

Would you like to remember a departed loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or express your gratitude? You can do so by requesting Altar Flowers. Simply use the envelopes found in the pews - there's space on the back for you to share your information. Your offering will help beautify our worship and make your occasion even more meaningful.



## **Parish Office Hours**

Monday	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Thursday	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 3:00 pm



# **Christmas Mass Remembrances**

**It's not too late to honor a loved one at our  
Christmas Mass on December 25, 2025.**

**Please reach out to the Parish Office and we would be  
more than happy to assist you.**



## Stay Connected – Update Your Email!



Christ Church sends out a weekly e-newsletter every Friday, filled with helpful updates including *Those Who Serve*, the Sunday bulletin, weekly readings, and upcoming events.

If you're not receiving it, be sure to check your spam or junk folder. To update your email address or be added to the mailing list, please contact Jackie at [office@christchurch.woodburynj.org](mailto:office@christchurch.woodburynj.org).

## Share your pictures!



If you attend a Christ Church event, please take some pictures and email them to the office:

[office@christchurch.woodburynj.org](mailto:office@christchurch.woodburynj.org).

We will try to include them in our Quarterly Newsletter, website, social media and Annual Report.  
Thank you!



# Christ Church

62 Delaware Street,  
Woodbury, NJ 08096  
(856) 845-0190

[www.christchurch.woodburynj.org](http://www.christchurch.woodburynj.org)

*A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey  
and the worldwide Anglican Communion*

## Service Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM  
Wednesday: 10:00 AM Healing Mass  
Thursday: 6:30 PM Mass  
Friday: 5:30 PM Evening Prayer  
Sacrament of Penance (Confession)  
by appointment

## *Priest-in-Charge*

The Rev. Lawrence Civale

## Our Vestry

Wardens: Tori Wishnick & Steve Lewis

Treasurer: Mark Novalsky

Clerk: Gwen Simpson

### Class of 2026

Doreen Mills  
Gwen Simpson  
Sherm Yeiter

### Class of 2027

Jim Bathurst  
Charles Lewis  
Tori Wishnick

### Class of 2028

Laura Erasmus  
Robertta Shomo  
Nathan Wishnick

