

THE ANCHOR

Newsletter



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Dear Friends,

The Church of the Advent is, at its heart, a community. We worship together, care for one another, and share in the life of faith. That sense of community is something we value deeply, and it is something we are called to tend with care.

Being part of a church community is both a gift and a responsibility. We do not always agree, and we do not always respond to difficult situations in the same way. Yet we remain bound together as the Body of Christ.

In moments when the life of a parish feels unsettled, it becomes especially important how we treat one another. Christian community is not simply something we name—it is something we practice. It is built through patience, honesty, and a willingness to listen, even when conversations are difficult. It requires us to speak with care, to avoid assumptions, and to seek understanding rather than drawing conclusions too quickly.

Love, in this context, is not abstract. It is shown in the way we speak about one another, the way we listen, and the way we choose to remain engaged even when it would be easier to step away. It asks us to consider not only our own concerns, but also the impact our words and actions have on others.

We are also called to support one another as members of a shared community. That means reaching out in times of need, offering grace where there is frustration, and trusting that we are stronger when we work through difficulties together rather than apart. Division can take hold quickly if we allow it, but it does not have to define us.

At the same time, we remain a welcoming community. The Church is called to be a place where people can come seeking faith, belonging, and purpose. That includes people who may not think or feel as we do. Our strength as a parish comes, in part, from our ability to make room for one another and to recognize the different gifts each person brings.

In the weeks ahead, I encourage all of us to be intentional about how we live together as a parish—reaching beyond our usual circles, checking in with one another, and continuing to show up for the life of the Church. Community is not something we assume; it is something we build and sustain together.

I am grateful for the many ways you care for one another and for this parish. That care is evident, and it is what will carry us forward.

Faithfully,

Alan+

FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

We are Easter people and Alleluia is our name!! I don't remember the first time I heard that phrase, but it has been in my heart for a very long time. What does it really mean to be Easter people?

Being Easter people to me means that our lives are always going to be bumpy roads but we will always have a companion that has walked that same bumpy road and found the joy of the resurrection at the end of that road.

Does that mean that we must wait until we reach the end of our days to experience the resurrection? I don't think that is true. Each day is a gift and there is so much to see and feel in our world that can cause us to rejoice and be glad and be thankful. It is being alive and aware that we are able to see God everywhere.

There are painful and dark days that we experience, days where we feel like giving up, but there is a still, small voice that lives in our hearts that says we are not alone and that hope lives inside of us. God is present day and night to carry us when we think we can't go any further and we find the courage to keep going.

Watch and wait, for we are soon going to experience the Day of Pentecost! It is on that day that we celebrate the best gift we will ever receive! This day is the day we remember as the day the disciples receive the Holy Spirit and we all have received that same gift.

It is through this gift that we can rejoice, hope, and feel the presence of God in our lives and in the world. It is through that gift that we can say, "We are Easter people and Alleluia is our Name!!"

Blessings,
Deacon Charlene

MAC MUSIC SERIES AT CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

Each spring some of the MAC Music Series presentations are performed at Church of the Advent. Our parishioners are able to attend these at a reduced rate. Following is a listing of the presentations for 2026.

1. Saturday, May 9, The Westminster Choir, 7:00 PM
2. Thursday, June 4, Bay Atlantic Symphony, 7:00 PM
3. Saturday, June 6, New York Chamber Ensemble, 7:00PM
4. Sunday, June 7, Mesterhazy Concert, 7:00 PM
5. Thursday, June 11, New York Chamber Ensemble, 7:00 PM
6. Thursday, June 18, New Jersey Symphony Players, 7:00 PM
7. Saturday, June 20, Bay Atlantic Symphony, 7:00 PM
8. Sunday, June 21, New York Chamber Ensemble, 7:00 PM

ADVENT BOOK CLUB

The Advent Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM at the home of Corbin and Lynda Cogswell. The book for discussion is Slaves in the Family by Edward Ball. For additional information please contact Lynda Cogswell at 609-884-6675.

May Birthday Celebrations

May Anniversary Celebrations

1	Robert Andrzejczak	7	Dennis & Barbara Smith
2	Vincent DePietro	15	Sam and Jane Carol Wilson
2	Nancy Trauger	16	Jack and Lorraine Shaw
11	Barbara Smith		
14	Joanne Price		
15	Fred Obligado		
20	Tara Lilley		
22	Diane DePietro		
22	Karann Murphy		
22	Calvin Stafford		
27	Glenda Unzelmann		

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday: The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
The 10:30 service is also livestreamed on YouTube**
Wednesday: Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday: The Holy Eucharist at 12:00 Noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	CHURCH OF THE ADVENT – MAY 2026				1	2 Spring Outdoor Market – 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM-Church Parking Lot
3 Easter 5 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30	4 No Bible Study-	5	6 Office Closed Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade Morning Prayer- 9:30 AM	7 Holy Eucharist- Noon	8	9 MAC Concert – Westminster Choir- 7:00 PM
10 Easter 6 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30	11 Outreach Comm.- 3:00 PM-Parish Hall Bible Study-7:30- 8:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	12 Men's Breakfast- 8:00 AM-Parish Hall Advent Book Club-7:00 PM- Cogswell's Home	13 Office Closed Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade Morning Prayer- 9:30 AM	14 Holy Eucharist- Noon	15	16
17 Easter 7 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30 Vestry Mtg – Noon	18 Bible Study-7:30- 8:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	19	20 Office Closed Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade Morning Prayer- 9:30 AM	21 Holy Eucharist- Noon	22	23
24 Pentecost Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30	25 Bible Study-7:30- 8:00 PM Zoom link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5312528003 Mtg ID: 531 252 800	26	27 Office Closed Advent Walkers-8 AM-Promenade Morning Prayer- 9:30 AM	28 Holy Eucharist- Noon	29	30
31 Pentecost 1 Holy Eucharist -8:00 & 10:30 AM Youtube.com livestream at 10:30						