

October 2025

THE PARISH POST



Holy Innocents'
Episcopal Church
Pearl & Marine Streets
Beach Haven, NJ 08008



A Word from Father Peter

A community of faith, sharing the love of the Holy Spirit, seeking and serving Christ in his creation.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The month of October marks significant celebrations for our Jewish Sisters and Brothers at the Jewish Community Center. On October 1 they celebrate Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, on October 6 Sukkot, the week long Harvest festival is followed by Simchat Torah, the ending of the annual reading of the Torah Scroll and the Dancing with the Torah Scroll begins on October 15. The Jewish custom of reckoning the day begins from sunset to sunset rather than sunrise to sunset so these celebrations begin on the day before what we might consider the day of celebration. We have experienced with our Jewish Sisters and Brothers that they begin the celebration on the Sabbath on Friday after sunset even though they consider Saturday as the Sabbath.

Yom Kippur marks the Day of Atonement when devout Jews will spend most of the day in the synagogue with a fast, confession of sin, amendment not to commit that sin again and wearing white clothing. Yom Kippur comes ten days after Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and together the two days are considered the High Holy Days of Judaism. When the Temple existed in Jerusalem, only on Yom Kippur would the High Priest enter into the Holy of Holies so while it remained a day of penitence it also celebrated the closeness of God with the people.

Sukkot celebrates a week long celebration of the harvest and the protection of God for the Jewish people after they left Egypt. The most distinctive part of Sukkot involves the sukkah, an outdoor structure with at least three walls and a roof of vegetative material such as bamboo, pine boughs or palm branches. During this week, devout Jews will eat all their meals in the Sukkah. During Sukkot, the Four Kinds are used in prayer. The Four Kinds include citron, a palm frond, three myrtle twigs and two willow twigs. The Four Kinds represent the various personalities that comprise the community of Israel, whose intrinsic unity we emphasize on Sukkot.

Simchat Torah marks the end of Sukkot along with the conclusion of the reading of the Torah with Deuteronomy and the beginning of the reading of Genesis, the start of the Torah. Perhaps the most demonstrative of the Jewish Feasts, the members of the community dance with all the Torah scrolls, removing them from the Ark and dancing with them either in the synagogue or even taking them outside the synagogue with dancing in the streets surrounding the gathering place.

For our Jewish Sisters and Brothers, the period from the High Holy Days until Simchat Torah mark the holiest time in the Jewish calendar. If you have Jewish friends or neighbors, ask them about their celebrations during this time. Blessed are You, Eternal One, Creator of the Universe, who has kept us alive and sustained us and enabled us to reach this time. *Peace, Fr. Peter*

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DEACON JUDY KROM DAY!!

A wonderful celebration was had on Sunday, September 7th!! Deacon Judy and her son, Ben, joined us to celebrate her years of ministry at Holy Innocents'. Leila and Kay together read the Proclamation from Beach Haven Boro declaring September 7th as **"Deacon Judy Krom Day"**. Many, many thanks to Leila & Kay for coordinating day, creating the slide show & banner and insuring Deacon Judy was here with us. Our appreciation for Maggie Aftanis, for planning brunch and preparing the delicious breakfast!



Words From Your Wardens

We'd love to hear your feedback on the Season of Creation! Did you like the change in the readings? Do you prefer keeping things the same each week? Please let your Wardens, a Vestryperson or Father Peter know your thoughts: good, bad or indifferent.



*Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope and charity;
and, that we may obtain what you promise,
Make us love what you command;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*

Our Stewardship materials have been simplified this year. You should expect to receive a letter and your Pledge Card in the mail shortly after October 6th, a slight change from what we indicated last month. As always, we ask that you take time to prayerfully consider your gifts and what you can give back to the church for the glory of God.

By the time you read this, we will have recently interviewed another candidate for Rector. Please continue to keep the Search Committee and Vestry in your prayers as we continue to discern for our next Rector. Let's see what God has planned for Holy Innocents' and what that timeline might be! Please reach out if you have any questions, concerns or see or know of something that needs attention.

God Bless and Peace to All,

Pat Peacock, Sr. Warden 609-709-1240

Dave White, Jr. Warden 609-477-8709

Minister of Music



Save the date for these annual events!

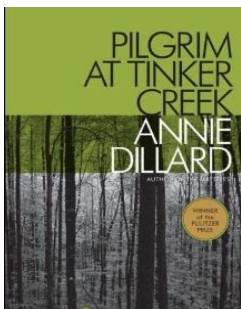
Saturday, December 6th at 4pm Messiah Sing followed by light reception ~ 7pm Beach Haven tree lighting at LBI Museum

Friday, December 12th at 7pm Lessons and Carols

Ellen Dondero
Minister of Music



The Holy Innocent's Stream Team is asking for volunteers to serve as an occasional back-up for streaming Sunday Services on Facebook Live. When our primary and backup team members are unavailable, we rarely, but occasionally need another Team Member to help us out. Contact Vince Contreras: 856-906-6726.



Bible Study Thursdays at 2:00 PM in Martin Hall

Current Book: Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard.

Pulitzer Prize winner Annie Dillard takes us on a journey in nature through the seasons, encouraging us to see with eyes of wonder.

Text or email Leila Sullivan, 919-280-4602, for more info or Zoom link.

Holy Innocents' Annual Auction Dinner!!



It is almost time for our **Annual Silent Bid Auction Dinner!!**

If you have been part of this event in the past, you know how much we accomplish during this great evening of fun and fellowship. The funds raised from last year's event were utilized towards new air conditioning in the sanctuary and church office, as well as, additional improvements to the rectory in preparation for calling our new rector. In addition to the Silent Bid Auction, this year's event will again include a Chance Auction.

Please join us on **Thursday, October 9, 2025, at the Sea Shell in Beach Haven at 6:00 p.m.** Our host is the ever-gracious Hughes family, who annually treat us as royal guests at this event.

Tickets are **\$75.00** per person and include endless hot and cold appetizers, as well as salad, a gourmet buffet dinner, coffee, and homemade desserts. A cash bar is also available. Please respond by calling or visiting the church office or mailing your response card back.

Each year we also solicit gift donations from our parishioners and our business community. Your creativity is welcomed!! Of course, cash donations are always appreciated! If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church with a notation that it's for the Silent Auction, utilize the QR code in our weekly bulletins or our website www.hiecbh.com to donate online. The deadline for tickets and gift donations is **Sunday, October 5, 2025.**

On **Wednesday, October 8th**, Martin Hall will be open from 2:00 pm-6:00pm to give everyone the opportunity to preview the auction items, and buy tickets for the chance auction and the restaurant raffle.

We hope to see you **Thursday, October 9th at the Sea Shell at 6:00pm!!**

ANNUAL PET BLESSING & Observance of the Feast of St. Francis SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4th from 1:00-2:00 PM



Parish Prayer List October

If you need to add or delete a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our Parish Administrator

Lara Sparks Deitz
Christian Balint
Ann White
Debbie & Joe Reising
Peg Appleget
Meg Neff
Florence Lamon
Kathy Rice
Charles Sullivan
Ellis Barbieri
Diane
Jeannine
Fran Iozzi
Dr. John
Mike Phillips
Katie Gillis
Pilar Wolfe
Ben Giannico
Glenn Servetah
George Balch
Barbara
Rick Rosenbaum

Mary Ann Crewdson
Christine Hendricks
Pierro Family
Connie
Dcn. Judy
Rob Meyer
Melanie Harman
Jessie
Doug Hunter
Judy Hamilton
Ray M.
Phil
Johnny Johnson, Jr.
Scott
Adam Baulderstone
Frank, III
Ollie
Mary Jane Mannherz
Mary K.
Barbara Wheeler
Rose Federici
Scotty Camarote

Dennis
Warren Lamon
Lovas Family
Joe
Lynne Weidmann
Tino
Pat
Rich Cashel
JoAnn King
Cindy Wood
Gia
Frank
Bill Bentley
Nellie Riley
Chris Mercer
Will Locovare
Milt
Bill O'Connell
Pat Strocchia
Devin Hone

Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:

Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Joseph Alexander, Danny Melega, Andrew Wall, Brandan White

Episcopal Church Women News



Fall has arrived here at Holy Innocents and the ECW women are preparing for our second Annual Antique Appraisal on November 8th. This year we are making some improvements. We will be accepting a limited number of appointments on line and manually. Of course walk-ins are welcome and encouraged. This will help to alleviate the wait people had last time. We will also have hot and cold drinks as well as snacks to purchase while waiting. More information about this will be forthcoming. Be sure to check your attic for hidden treasures and invite your friends and neighbors.

This is one of our big fund raisers. Remember:

ANTIQUÉ APPRAISAL ~ NOVEMBER 8 10:00am - 2:00pm

Mark your calendar for these dates

1. ECW Coffee Hour October 5th. Call Melissa if you can help set up, bring something, or clean up.
2. Next ECW meeting Tuesday October 21. We'll meet in the chapel at 11:30
Don't forget your fabulous ideas and bag lunch!
3. Christmas Luncheon on December 3 at Buckalews. Time TBD
As you can see we have a full plate (Ho Ho Ho) ahead of us. We need you!

If you are an Episcopal woman, you are one of us! ~ *Melissa Wall*



In the Spotlight

Parishioner Spotlight is a regular feature in The Post. The purpose is to provide insights into the background and personalities of our fabulous parishioners!

August Parishioner Spotlight ~ Hank Henninger

I was born in Teaneck, New Jersey, and raised in Montvale, in the same house my mother was born in. Growing up there, I even had three of the same teachers my mother had—one each in second, fourth, and eighth grade. I graduated from Pascack Hills High School in Montvale. I have an older sister, Janice, who now lives in Pennsylvania near her two daughters. Both of my parents have passed away.

When I was 14, I started working with my neighbor on his drag racing cars, which sparked my interest in mechanics. That led to working at his gas station, repairing cars. Over time, I worked at several different gas stations as a mechanic before I was drafted into the Army in 1972.

I served for two years as a fire control operator for the Hawk missile system, stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas.

After the Army, I worked for a landscape contractor, where I repaired trucks and construction equipment, operated machinery, and ran job sites. In the late 1970s, I worked as a mechanic for several trucking companies. In 1981, I began working at Ruscon Truck Service as an emergency vehicle technician, rebuilding and repairing fire trucks. I spent over 41 years there as the head technician, servicing fire apparatus across New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. In 2011, I was honored as the National Emergency Vehicle Technician of the Year. I'm still working part-time for two fire departments, repairing their vehicles. I still have customers call me for advice. The picture with a fire truck is of the first fire truck that I worked on in 1981. A collector now owns it.



I got married in 1979 and had two children with my first wife. We lived in Pearl River, New York. After 13 years, we divorced. I remarried in 1994 to a nurse who had one daughter. We made our home in Tappan, New York. Together, we had a son, and I helped raise her daughter, whom I later adopted. Sadly, my second wife passed away in January 2015, after an 18-year battle with breast cancer. We had been married for over 20 years.



In February 2021, I met another amazing woman, Patty August. We truly enjoy each other's company and have embraced each other's families. I'm a very lucky man to have found a wonderful woman to share my life with. Several pictures with Patty at the beach show our love for the ocean – and each other. *Continued on next page*



I have four children—Kira, Craig, Jamie, and Peter—and four grandchildren. My daughter Kira, 42, is a school psychologist in Massachusetts and was named School Psychologist of the Year for the state. She has 11-year-old twin boys. My son Craig, 39, works in Manhattan. Jamie, also 39, is a special education teacher at Rockland County BOCES in New York and is the mother of two boys, aged four and three. Peter, 30, is a physical education teacher at One School World in Rockland County and also coaches the varsity lacrosse team at Tappan Zee High School. The collage of my family shows not only who is in my family but also that we have fun together.

Over the years, I've coached my sons in soccer and baseball, served as a Cub Scout and Girl Scout leader, and have been a volunteer with the South Orangetown Ambulance Corps since 2003. I also volunteered with Computer Outreach, helping refurbish computers for children and families in need.

Auto racing has been a passion of mine since I was a teenager. I follow Formula 1, local dirt tracks, and NASCAR. In the 1970s, I helped friends at the track with their race cars, and by the late 1980s, I began racing myself in modified micro stock cars. I raced at Pinebrook Speedway in Pinebrook, NJ on Friday nights, plus several locations in PA. You earned points each week based on where you finished in each race. I consistently finished near the top every race. In 1989 I won the Modified Micro Stock Car Championship. I raced until 1994. I am in a picture showing my 2007 Mustang at a car show. I received a second place trophy for this in 2025.



Growing up in Northern New Jersey, we only visited Long Beach Island (LBI) a few times, since my family mostly went to Toms River where my uncle lived. I first drove to LBI in 1970 with friends for a day trip. In the 1980s, I visited LBI on weekends with family and friends. Starting in 1994, I began going with my second wife, who had been visiting LBI since she was 11 years old with a family friend. Each summer, we spent a week in Holgate, and by 2003, we extended it to two weeks. In 2019, the house in Holgate we had rented for a few years went up for sale. We made an offer—and it became ours. I love going to Barry's for food and ice cream, and sunsets are my favorite part of LBI. My favorite seasons are fall, winter, and spring. Sitting at the ocean is so peaceful.

When Patty and I started dating, I suggested we attend Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, since my previous church, St. Paul's Episcopal in Montvale, had closed. We started going to Holy Innocents' in the fall of 2021. From the start, we were warmly welcomed by the congregation. We quickly felt at home and decided to continue worshipping there. Mother Caroline and the community provided incredible support to both of us, especially during the illness and passing of Patty's son. When Patty retires, we plan to spend more time at my home in LBI. I especially enjoy the music at Holy Innocents', although I am not a singer.

Birds are on the move now.



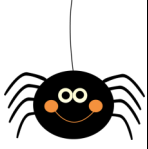


7 Simple Ways to Help Birds

- **1. Make Windows Safer, Day and Night**
Simple adjustments to your windows can save birds' lives.
- **2. Keep Cats Indoors**
Indoor cats live longer, healthier lives. Outdoor cats kill more birds than any other non-native threat.
- **3. Reduce Lawn by Planting Native Species**
The U.S. has 63 million acres of lawn. That's a huge potential for supporting wildlife.
- **4. Avoid Pesticides**
Look for organic food choices and cut out some of the 1 billion pounds of pesticides used in the U.S. each year.
- **5. Drink Coffee That's Good for Birds**
Shade-grown coffees are delicious, economically beneficial to farmers, and help more than 42 species of North American songbirds.
- **6. Protect Our Planet From Plastics**
91% of plastics are not recycled, and they take 400 years to degrade.
- **7. Watch Birds, Share What You See**
Bird watchers are one of science's most vital sources of data on how the ecological world is faring.

More about the 7 Simple actions

<https://www.birds.cornell.edu/home/seven-simple-actions-to-help-birds/>

OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book//Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	3 <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	4 1:00pm-2:00pm Blessing of the Animals 4:00pm BHFD Blessing of Apparatus
5 <i>The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 Choir 9:30 Rite II	6 9:00am MP (FB) NO Chair Yoga <i>MH Reserved</i>	7 NO LEG 7:00pm Vestry Meeting	8 9:30am-11:00am Sandwich Ministry 2:00pm-6:00pm Auction Preview in MH	9 NO LEG 2:00pm Book//Bible Study 6pm Annual Silent Auction at the Sea Shell 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	10 <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	11
12 <i>The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 Choir 9:30am Rite II <i>Rev. Karin Mitchell</i>	13 <i>Indigenous Peoples Day</i> <i>Parish Office Closed</i> 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	14 9:15-10:15am LEG	15 11:00am-2:30pm Choir Rehearsal w/lunch break 4:00pm Prayer Ministry in the Chapel 4:30pm BHCAP Meeting in MH	16 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book//Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	17 <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	18
19 <i>The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 Choir 9:30am Rite II	20 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	21 9:15-10:15am LEG 11:30am ECW Chapel/Meeting/ Lunch in MH	22 	23 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book//Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	24 <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	25 11:00am Robert & Donna Lutrell Committal Service
26 <i>The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 Choir 9:30am Rite II <i>Blessing of the Pledges & Brunch Celebration</i> <i>*Healing service in Chapel</i>	27 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	28 9:15-10:15am LEG	29	30 9:15-10:15am LEG NO Book//Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	31 <i>Parish Office Closed</i> 	

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Please be sure to patronize
& thank the businesses
that so very generously
purchased ads for
this Parish Post year!

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~ The Hillman Family
~ Larry & Pat Peacock
Murphy's Family of Stores
~ The Surflight Theatre

These ads greatly help defray
our publishing costs!



Father Peter's Contact Information

Phone: 973-886-5104

Email: revpdefranco@gmail.com

*Please reach out for pastoral needs or
other questions.*

October Birthdays

Jane Enos	06	Katherine A. Wymbs	20
Robert Romanowski	07	Joseph Culley	20
Sherry Hughes	15	Michael J. Wymbs	21
Danelle Dumhart	20	Mike Melega	27



Anniversaries

Larry & Patricia Peacock	08	David & Karin Mitchell	20
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WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

The following parishioners have graciously volunteered to assist with our worship and/or have donated either candles or flowers for the altar for the month of October.

OCTOBER ALTAR DONATIONS

5th -
12th -
19th -
26th -



OCTOBER FLOWER GUILD

5th - Kim Sparks
12th - Sherry Johnson
19th - Carol Hammond
26th - Joyce Hillyer

OCTOBER ALTAR GUILD

5th - Diane Entrikin, Carol Hammond
12th - Jeanne Cashel, Chris Hammond
19th - Melissa Wall, Jeanne Cashel
26th - Jackie Sparks, Diane Entrikin

OCTOBER USHERS & GREETERS

5th - Rob Meyer, Kay DeCicco
12th - Bill Kehr, Mike DeCicco
19th - Dave White, Bob Weidman
26th - Bob Weidmann, Leila Sullivan

OCTOBER COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

5th - ECW
12th - Vestry (Larry Peacock)
19th - TBD
26th - TBD



Thank you to all who have provided refreshments so far this year! Our Coffee Hour Sign-up Schedule for October-December will be posted outside is posted on the bulletin board outside Martin Hall. Your participation is greatly appreciated!! ~ Ellen Kehr



Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church
Pearl and Marine Streets
Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008

Sunday Morning ~9:30 a.m.
Rite II Worship Service with music
609-492-7571



Oct. 8 – Auction Preview Day in Martin Hall 2:00pm-6:00pm
Oct. 9 – Annual Silent Bid Auction at Sea Shell at 6:00 p.m.
Oct. 26th – Blessing of the Pledges & Brunch Celebration
Nov. 2 – All Saints' Sunday
Nov. 8 – Antiques Appraisal Day, hosted by the ECW 10:00am-2:00pm
Nov. 22 – Diocese of NJ Annual Convention (delegates attend)
Dec. 3 – ECW Christmas Luncheon at Buckalew's-Time TBD
Dec. 6 – Messiah Sing at 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 12 – Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 7:00pm

