## September 2025

## THE PARISH POST

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



Church Email hichurch08008@gmail.com Website: www.hiecbh.com Office: 609 492 7571 Parish Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm

## **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,

Many of you have visited Israel when you went on a pilgrimage to visit what some people call "The Fifth Gospel." I recall my own journey to Israel and the memory of the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of the Beatitudes, Mount Tabor, the fields of Bethlehem, and austere deserts surrounding the Dead Sea. This natural beauty contrasted with the urban hustle of Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem where the holy places were discovered side by side with commercial venues selling assorted gifts.

During our celebration of the Season of Creation, perhaps you can recover the natural settings of the Gospels, to recall the smell of the water, the beauty of the Galilee hills or the muddy waters of the Jordan and through the sensual memory of the Gospels rediscover the hidden memories of Jesus as he too was uplifted by those very places. We can identify with the repeated images in Luke's Gospel of Jesus retreating from the hustle of ministry and taking refuge under God's wings as he prayed in the hills or along the water.

Most of you know that peace which comes from the beauty which surrounds us on this island. I have found time to take my prayer book and sit on the dune at the end of Marine Street to pray Evening Prayer with the rhythm of the sea and the immensity of the ocean as an image of the heartbeat and grandeur of God. Perhaps you can steal away and enjoy some time in this beauty. Perhaps you live near a forested area and share the wild fields with deer, rabbits, squirrels, the variety of birds who are our neighbors. We are moving into that in-between-time between the seasons, as well as a time of returning quiet after the rush of our summer visitors. May you find time to enter into the unique peace of this season, may the Spirit open your heart to new dimensions of the peace we experience in the wilderness of sea or forest, may you sense the presence of God whose beauty surrounds us and fills us with joy.

Peace.

Fr. Peter

#### **Inside this Issue!**

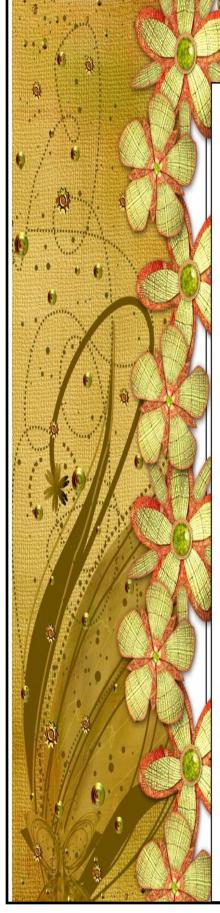
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# You are Invited to Attend the

Cucharistic Service Celebrating
The 40th Anniversary of the
Piaconate
In the Piocese of New Jersey

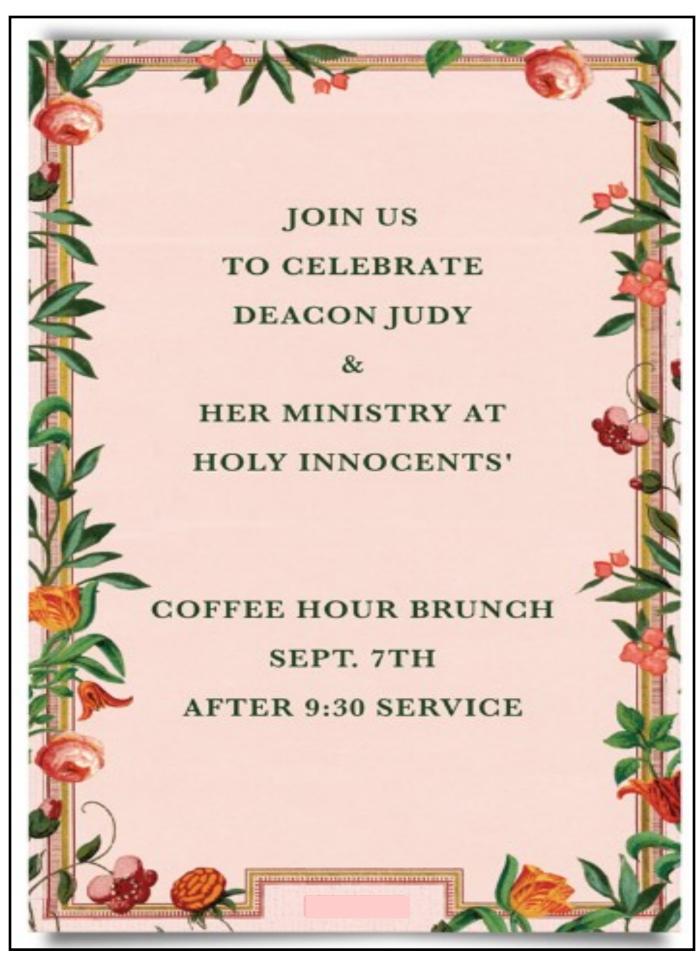
Saturday, September 6, 2025 2:00 pm Trinity Cathedral

Reception follows in Synod Hall

No registration is required

The entire diocesan community; family, friends, parishioners, former parishioners, and clergy, are invited to celebrate 40 years of the vocational diaconate in New Jersey. The first class of vocational deacons in the diocese was ordained in 1985. To date over 115 vocational deacons have been ordained in the Diocese of New Jersey.

Individually they represent a wide variety of ministries as they "serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely."



## **Words From Your Wardens**



Can you feel the quiet of the fall settling over the island? Breathe. Sigh. But how many days until summer? The mixed feelings of calling LBI home.

Quiet does not describe the calendar of Holy Innocents' this fall! September 7<sup>th</sup> is Deacon Judy Day. A bountiful brunch during coffee hour will celebrate her 17 years of ministry with us. Please join us! Stewardship season is upon us as well. Look for your Pledge materials in the mail later this month.

The Auction Team is revving up for our Annual Fundraiser Auction on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available in the Office or from Maggie at coffee hour.

Donations for auction items are being accepted now.

Last but not least, our Search Committee continues their hard work in discernment for a new Rector. Stay tuned for a fall grounds clean up as the Community Garden and Playground portion of our property needs some love and TLC.

Yours in Christ, Pat & Dave



## **Backpack Donation Drive**



Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Backpack/School Supply drive. We collected 130 backpacks along with lots and lots of school supplies.

This generosity allowed us to support 4 organizations in need, and all the communities are in Ocean County. We supplied backpacks to students attending Christ Episcopal Church (Toms River) Summer Camp, two elementary schools, and children in families that benefit from our monthly meal donations to The Nook.

Each receiving organization was so appreciative. Our contact at The Nook was in tears as she exclaimed, "We appreciate your generosity! God bless you all!" ~ *Alexa Fahner* 











## **Minister of Music**



Our Choir has enjoyed their summer break and is getting ready to return!

Choir members will meet on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am to sing for the 9:30 service in celebration of Deacon Judy' ministry with us.

Our choir sings for Sunday services, as well as Holy Week and other special services. You don't need to read music, or have a great voice, but it is helpful to have a great sense of humor, and a strong desire to make music to the Glory of God. That is NOT very complicated or challenging, is it?

If you'd like to join us, or have any questions about joining, please contact me at the email address below.

Ellen Dondero, Minister of Music ejdondero@comcast.net





#### **Musical Events Coming Up!**

Sunday, December 6th at 4pm Messiah Sing Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm Lessons and Carols

## **Holy Innocents' Annual Auction Dinner Tickets On Sale!!**



It is time once again 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 money raised from last year's event was utilized for new air conditioning in the sanctuary and church offices, 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 gift donations *only* is **Sunday, October 5, 2025.** 

On **Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**, 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.

## Parish Prayer List September

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

Lara Sparks Deitz Mary Ann Crewdson Dennis

Christian Balint Christine Hendricks Warren Lamon
Ann White Pierro Family Lovas Family
Debbie & Joe Reising Connie Joe Peg Appleget

Dcn. JudyLynne WeidmannMeg NeffRob MeyerTinoFlorence LamonMelanie HarmanPatKathy Rice

JessieRich CashelCharles SullivanJoAnn KingEllis BarbieriJudy HamiltonCindy WoodDianeRay M.

Gia Jeannine Phil Frank Fran Iozzi Johnny Johnson, Jr.

Bill Bentley Dr. John Scott

Nellie Riley Mike Phillips Adam Baulderstone

Chris Mercer Katie Gillis Frank, III
Will Locovare Pilar Wolfe Ollie
Milt Ben Giannico Eric C.
Bill O'Connell Mary Jane Mannherz Doug Hunter

Family & Friends of Donna Kerrihard Mary K. Glenn Servetah

Family & Friends of John Hunter Tom Serpico Family & Friends of Marie Kleber

Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:

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



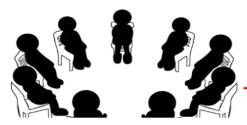
Family & Friends of Alycia Mullin

The **Bible Study/Book Club** continues on Thursdays at 2:00pm, meeting in Martin Hall or via Zoom. For more information or to sign up for notices and the Zoom link, please email or text Leila Sullivan at 919-280-4602.

Next Book: Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard



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.



## "Clam-Diggers"

A Co-ed AA Meeting that gathers weekly on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Meet in the Church Kitchen.



## **STEWARDSHIP**

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Our Annual Stewardship Drive begins Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> and runs through Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> when we will Bless the Pledges and Celebrate! We'd love to add some members to the Stewardship Team. Please reach out to your Wardens, Pat & Dave, if you are interested.

#### What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is the responsible management and care of the resources that God has entrusted to us. It encompasses our time, talents and treasures, recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God. As stewards, we are called to use these gifts wisely, generously and joyfully to further God's work in the world.

Stewardship is a spiritual practice that helps us grow in faith. By giving back a portion of what we have received, we acknowledge God's sovereignty and express our gratitude for His blessings. This act of giving strengthens our relationship with God and deepens our trust in Him.

#### Supporting our Church and Mission at Holy Innocents'

Our mission includes sharing the love of Christ with all, serving our community and nurturing spiritual growth overall. Your giving enables us to offer beautiful and meaningful worship services, pastoral care, support many outreach programs and maintain our church staffing and facilities. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a significant impact on our ability to fulfill this mission.

- *Building Community* Stewardship fosters a sense of belonging and partnership within our congregation. When we come together to share our resources, we create a vibrant and supportive community. Your generosity allows us to host concerts, fellowship events, other styles of liturgies, educational programs and other activities that strengthen our bonds and enrich our spiritual lives.
- Extending Our Reach Through your stewardship, we can extend our reach well beyond Holy Innocents' walls. We support local, national and international initiatives that address critical needs such as hunger relief, disaster response, children's needs, housing, educational support and more. By giving to Holy Innocents' you are part of a larger effort to make a positive difference in the world.
- Where Can I Start? Begin with prayer in advance of our official Fall Stewardship Season. Ask God to guide you in your stewardship journey. Seek God's wisdom in how you can best use your gifts to serve God's kingdom.

*Give* When your Pledge Card arrives, consider pledging an annual financial gift to Holy Innocents'. Your giving provides the foundation for our ministry.

*Serve* Your talents and time are precious resources too! Stewardship season in a great time to reassess your volunteer role in the church—maybe assisting with worship as an usher or setting the altar, joining an outreach project or a committee. Your involvement is invaluable and needed.

**Invite** Share the good work that Holy Innocents' is doing and invite friends, family and neighbors to experience our community and worship with us. *YOU* can help our church grow and thrive--spread the word! Together, we can continue to grow our faith mission.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and commitment to Holy Innocents'.

## **Zucchini Bread Recipe**

#### Make ahead (Recipe from Food & Wine)

Zucchini bread may be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to five days or frozen for up to two months.

#### Ingredients

Cooking spray, for greasing

2 zucchini, coarsely shredded (about 3 cups)

2 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/8 teaspoon baking powder

2 large eggs

1/2 cup canola oil

1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1 cup plus 1 tablespoon granulated sugar, divided



#### **Directions**

Preheat oven to 375°F. Coat an 8 1/2- x 4 1/2-inch loaf pan with cooking spray.

Line a large rimmed baking sheet with a double layer of paper towels. Spread shredded zucchini into an even layer on the baking sheet. Cover with another layer of paper towels, and very gently press to remove excess liquid; set aside.

Whisk flour, cinnamon, salt, baking soda, and baking powder in a large bowl until evenly combined. Whisk together eggs, canola oil, vanilla, and 1 cup sugar in a separate large bowl until smooth; stir in shredded zucchini. Fold zucchini mixture into flour mixture until fully combined.

Pour batter into loaf pan, and sprinkle top evenly with remaining 1 tablespoon sugar.

Bake until golden brown and a wooden pick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean, about one hour and 5 minutes. Let cool in loaf pan for 5 minutes; turn out onto a wire rack and let cool completely, about 1 hour and 30 minutes, before serving.



Sept 6 – Eucharistic Service Celebrating 40th Anniversary of the Diaconate @ Trinity Cathedral-2:00pm

Sept. 7 – Celebration of Dcn. Judy's Ministry during coffee hour

Sept. 21 – Stewardship Kickoff!

Oct. 4-St. Francis Day Annual Blessing of the Animals

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

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



In celebration of Dcn. Judy's ministry here at Holy Innocents', we are reprinting her Deacon Spotlight from 2024. We love you Dcn Judy!!



I was born in Hartford, CT, five weeks after Pearl Harbor, as the oldest of five children, four of whom are still living. My father was working for Pratt and Whitney, a manufacturer of WW II war planes. My mother took care of the five of us.

I have a brother and two sisters and for the most part we are close, although occasionally not so. We lost my brother Ben at age 36. My parents, June and Ben Krom, soon moved to Hurley, NY, to be near my father's parents. He was an only child.

My grandfather was a chef at Mohonk, a Quaker resort in the foothills of the Catskills. My grandmother was head of housekeeping at Mohonk. I was very close to my grandmother, who taught me how to cook, sew, knit, cross stitch, and

embroider. I loved her dearly and miss her even now.



My mother's parents were Salvation Army Officers, and we did not see them very often. They were primarily assigned to the New England area. As I grew up, I became closer to them, and especially to my Aunt Betty, my mother's sister. She and her husband were both Salvation Army Officers. She was like the older sister I wished I had.



"With my sisters celebrating my 80th birthday, and with several generations of family"

I went to the Hurley Elementary School, grades 1-7, as there was no kindergarten yet. By then my mother had five children under the age of 6. I still remember holding onto my mother's hand walking to first grade. I loved Mrs. Goble, my first-grade teacher. I loved school because I loved learning, especially reading. To this day I am a voracious reader, and if you come to my house—and I hope you do-you will see bookshelves filled with the books of two academics, although most of them are mine. My fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Nash, had me working with some of the children who needed help

in developing their reading skills. This was my first experience working in a helping role, and I liked it.

My schooling continued at MJM Junior High School and Kingston High School. By this time, I was in the band, orchestra, and choir; I played saxophone, bass violin, piano, and organ. I was active in ski club, debate club, Christian Endeavor at church, and the church choir. I attended the Old Dutch Church in Kingston because of the range of activities the church had available for teens. This church was also Dutch Reformed, the denomination eventually became known as the Reformed Church in America.

My college choice was Gordon College because it was a Christian College, near Boston. I visited and fell in love with the beautiful setting, its Christian values, and the very nice people I met. I never regretted my choice. Classes were small, and everyone knew everyone.

## **Deacon Spotlight Continued**

Once again, I got involved in many activities on and off campus: choir, philosophy club (I was a psychology major and a philosophy minor), ski club, softball team (we were undefeated for 4 years), Senior Women's Trio (we travelled with the President to various churches in the area), and I was Head Resident in my dorm. Working in the bookstore and the post office kept me busy. I finally made Dean's List my senior year, surprising my parents!

I completed a master's degree in College Student Personnel Administration at Syracuse University and decided I needed to take a break from education for a while. I found a job at the Fairmont School for emotionally disturbed blind children. This where I met the man who was to become my husband several years later; he was a psychiatric consultant to the school.

Following this position, I moved to Boston and worked as the Director of Trainees at the Department of Community Health Action at the Tufts-Columbia Health Center. Following these positions, I moved back to Syracuse and became more involved in higher education through teaching at St. John Fisher College and Upstate Medical Center. I became the Director of Educational Services at the Neighborhood Health Center in Syracuse.

At this point it became clear to me that I belonged back in higher education, and I made three changes in my life. First, I knew I needed an advanced degree. Second, I needed to return to higher education for employment. I was accepted in the Ph.D. program in higher education at the University Center at Buffalo. Third, I needed to marry Bernard Braen. I accomplished all three.

Bernard and I started a family in an unusual manner. We adopted my nephew Benson, who was 5 years old, and I became the stepparent of Bernard's two sons from a previous marriage. We also helped other young adults who needed adult attention during difficult times in their lives.

My final professional career change was to move from associate dean, tenured professor of Social Sciences at Nyack College to Dean of the Haven School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Thomas Edison State University. Bernie and I decided to move to New Jersey, so I could take this position. Bernie was already





retired and eager to live by the ocean. My final retirement in education was from this position at Thomas Edison State University. During much of the time that I have detailed above, I was spiritually estranged from my faith. I call it "my time in the desert." I hadn't lost my faith, but I didn't pray, go to church, or make it the center of my life as it had been before. I had left God, but he had not left me. He called me back to him, and I went with great gratitude for his invitation. Because of this, I became involved in Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in Syracuse. What a blessing this church was in my life and such a pleasure to love Jesus again! My desire to serve Him was very strong.

Although I had retired from Thomas Edison State University, I found that retirement was not for me! I felt led to become a Deacon in the Episcopal Church in my retirement. I applied to the Deacon's School for the Diocese of New Jersey in Trenton. I was assigned to Holy Innocents' under the guidance of Father Frank Crumbaugh for my internship.

<sup>&</sup>quot;From my ordination as Deacon in 2009, including being ordained by the Bishop; with our class, our bishop, our preacher, Director of the School for Deacons"; and with husband, Bernie, recognized in the service as a spouse."

## **Deacon Spotlight Continued**



I was ordained on May 16, 2009, and then assigned as Deacon to Holy Innocents'. At last, I had found where I belonged. I have never been happier!

Many varied interests enrich my life. One of my greatest pleasures has been extensive travel. Leila Gonzalez Sullivan has been my regular travel partner, and it was with her that I experienced my best trip ever—to Egypt. Another memorable and meaningful trip was with others from Holy Innocents', to Israel in 2011. I am grateful for all of my travel opportunities.

Some surprising areas of interest for me are cooking—I have learned Chinese, French, and American cooking—and gardening. I have mathematical gardens where I live in Brick because of the way the plot is

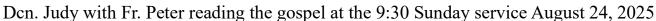
laid out: a square herb garden, a parallelogram bed of perennial flowers, and a square spring and early summer bed. My favorite season is spring when God's earth re-blooms in all his intended glory!

"Collection of photographs from Deacon Judy's 80th birthday celebration







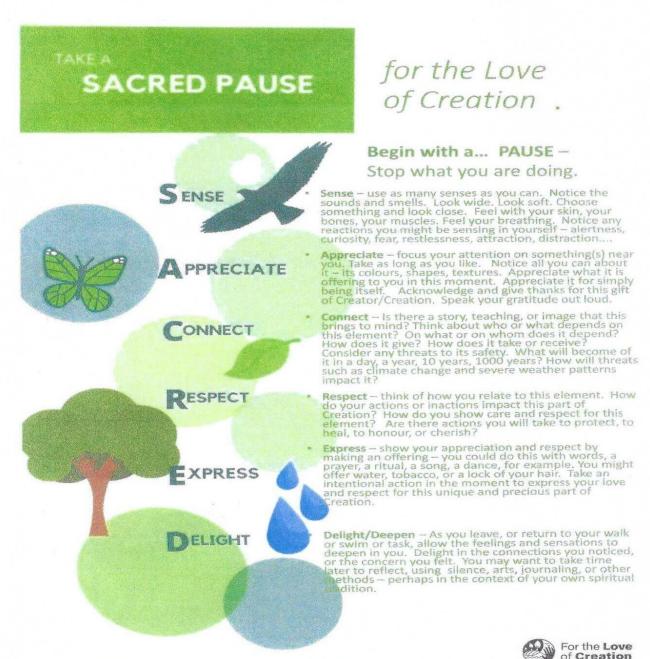




## **Environmental Education & Advocacy Committee**



#### From the Environmental Education and Advocacy Committee



SEPTEMBER 2025								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	1 LABOR DAY Parish Office Closed 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	2 Parish Office Closed 9:15-10:15am LEG	3	4 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book/Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	<b>5</b> Parish Office Closed	6 2:00pm Eucharistic Service Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Diconate @Trinity Cathedral		
7 The Season of Creation Ocean Sunday 8:30 Choir 9:30 Rite II Celebration of Dcn. Judy's Ministry during coffee hour	8 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	9:15-10:15am LEG	9:30am-11:00am Sandwich Ministry	9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book/Bible Study 4:30pm BHCAP Mtg. 7:00pm Vestry Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	12 Parish Office Closed	13		
14 The Season of Creation Fauna Sunday 8:30 Choir 9:30am Rite II	15 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	16 9:15-10:15am LEG	4:00pm Prayer Ministry in the Chapel	18 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book//Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	19 Parish Office Closed	20 11:00am Mullin Memorial Service		
21 The Season of Creation Storm Sunday 9:30am Rite II STEWARDSHIP KICKOFF!	22 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	23 9:15-10:15am LEG	24	25 9:15-10:15am LEG 2:00pm Book/Bible Study 7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers 9:00pm Compline (FB)	26 Parish Office Closed	27		
28 The Season of Creation Cosmos Sunday  9:30am Rite II *Healing service in Chapel  1:00pm Cook Committal Service	29 9:00am MP (FB) 9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga	30 9:15-10:15am LEG						

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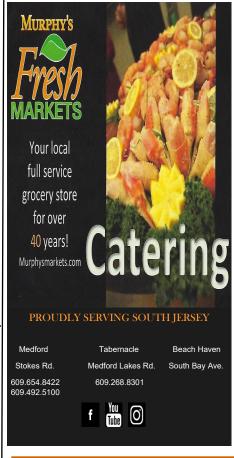
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Engleside Avenue on the Ocean Beach Haven





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for all your Real Estate needs







**Father Peter's Contact Information** 

Phone: 973-886-5104

Email: <u>revpdefranco@gmail.com</u>

Please reach out for pastoral needs or other questions.

#### THANK YOU ALL!!!

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

The Hughes Family

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

These ads greatly help defray our publishing costs!

## **September Birthdays**

Deborah Hunter	03	Melissa Wall	20
Erma Green	06	Linda Beardslee	20
Richard Neff	06	Bill Beardslee	21
Joanne Sencindiver	07	David White	22
Arthur Curtin, III	12	Natalie Aftanis	29
Rich Southwick	14		

#### **Anniversaries**



Richard & Karen Vaughan 09

John & Sherry Johnson 14 Rich & Colette Southwick 20

#### 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 September.

#### SEPTEMBER ALTAR DONATIONS

7<sup>th</sup> -

14<sup>th</sup> -

21st - Deb & Dave Hunter

28<sup>th</sup> -



#### SEPTEMBER FLOWER GUILD

7<sup>th</sup> - Kim Sparks

14<sup>th</sup> - Sherry Johnson

21st - Carol Hammond

28<sup>th</sup> - Joyce Hillyer

#### SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD

7<sup>th</sup> - Jeanne Cashel, Diane Entrikin

14<sup>th</sup> - Jackie Sparks, Chris Burlaga

21st - Carol Hammond, Melissa Wall

28th - Jackie Sparks, Diane Entrikin

#### **SEPTEMBER USHERS & GREETERS**

7<sup>th</sup> - Mike Fahner, Bob Weidmann

14<sup>th</sup> - Pat Peacock, Rob Meyer

21<sup>st</sup> - Bill Kehr, Melissa Wall

28<sup>th</sup> - Mike Fahner, Bob Weidmann





7<sup>th</sup> - Dcn. Judy Day!

14<sup>th</sup> - Vestry Coffee Hour

21st - Bill & Ellen Kehr

28<sup>th</sup> - Mike & Alexa Fahner





Thank you to all who have provided refreshments so far this year! Our Coffee Hour Sign-up Schedule for October-December will be 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



