DEC. 2021

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

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THE PARISH POST



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

The Parson's Place

Happy ADVENT! O blessed season of holy preparation, anticipation, and joy! A season that touches the timelessness and eschatologically reaches to the horizon where we meet God in the simple innocence of the infant Christ, the anamnetical beauty of the eucharist, and in the present moments of songs, sighs, and evershifting light of the waning of the year. It's a time of giving thanks, of celebrating, of waiting in hope and expectation, and a season of preparation for our hearts and minds. Yes, it's a busy season too. BUT, what if we resist the negativity of "just one more thing" and the fear of being overwhelmed. You know, in my personal opinion, there is a LOT to be said for the power of positive thinking. For example, if you keep saying how tired you are and how much there is and that you don't have time, then it may act as a sort of "self-fulfilling prophecy" and there is a real danger in conditioning yourself to say "I can't." Granted, there is sometimes a very fine line between blatantly and carelessly overdoing and being unhealthy and being conditioned to assume it is too much and therefore generating a personal aura of avoidance. Saying "I can't" often comes with feeling bad about our choice, even if it is one to protect ourselves and get some rest. As for me, I say that life is short and we have choices to make, but I hope that we can err on the side of positive

thinking and hope and THEN make choices based on our gut. That way, an "I can't" becomes "I choose to sit this one out for my health, but I'll consider doing it another time."

The other thing I am thinking about today as I ponder the coming season is that it is often a time when many people get the blues. It's tough to navigate without family and friends or long lost traditions. I will hold a Blue Christmas Service with Holy Eucharist and a Litany of Remembrance on Saturday, December 18th at 3:00 PM. This will be a quiet service with scripture readings, prayer, reflection, silence, and music.

Here is a wonderful Advent sonnet by Malcolm Guite and you'll see more as I share reflections on the O antiphons on our Facebook page during Advent.

E vidi lume in forme de riviera Paradiso XXX; 61

First light and then first lines along the east To touch and brush a sheen of light on water As though behind the sky itself they traced The shift and shimmer of another river Flowing unbidden from its hidden source; The Day-Spring, the eternal Prima Vera. Blake saw it too. Dante and Beatrice Are bathing in it now, away upstream... So every trace of light begins a grace In me, a beckoning. The smallest gleam Is somehow a beginning and a calling; "Sleeper awake, the darkness was a dream For you will see the Dayspring at your waking, Beyond your long last line the dawn is breaking".

Caroline+

Dishing With The Deacon

How's your late November going? If it's anything like mine, I can't find my elbow from my little toe. Now why is that? It's because there's so much to do, that I am dizzy trying to figure out what direction I should be going in next. This is no way to live and it scares me that it's only going to get worse.

I especially worry that I won't have enough time to really experience Advent, all the lovely events that precede Christmas like Lessons and Carols, and the Messiah sing. Clergy also have a clergy Advent Day, too. So, it's time to stop right now and ask myself how do we worship a new born baby, the Savior of human kind, the giver of eternal life, the one who loves us with a deep never-ending love?

This is the most important question any of us could ask ourselves in this Advent and Christmas season. I have several suggestions.

- 1. Ask God to show you how to make this season really holy.
- 2. Find a devotional you can use every morning to spend some time in God's presence, a daily reading from the Upper Room or another devotional book. You can find them online.
- 3. I can promise you that you will see a quality improvement in your experience of the season, even if you have to go into a closet to find 5 minutes of peace.
- 4. Practice gratitude in every area of your life. Thank God if you find just the right present for someone or if someone finds just the right one for you.
- 5. Love the little baby Jesus with all your heart. Find him a place in your decorations and your heart where he can rest and be with your spirit during the season.
- 6. Share the joy you feel because you are close to Jesus with your family and friends.
- 7. Turn all your cares and worries over to him because he cares for you.

Have a blessed Christmas Season filled with Christ's love. Love from your deacon, Judy

The Giving Tree

This year, we will support eight families with children whose ages range from 3-14.

- Choose a tag that Maggie Aftanis has set up in MARTIN HALL
- Match it with the color, name, and item number on the clipboard
- Write your phone number on the opposite line
- Sign Your name on the clip board next to your choice
- Please return the gift **unwrapped**
- Tape your tag to your gift
- If you would like to include a gift bag, wrap, ribbon, and/or tape....that is greatly appreciated
- If you are shopping online, please MAKE SURE your delivery date is BEFORE the due date of

DECEMBER 12th!

CHNJ Mission Statement

"Saving Children's Lives and Building Healthy Families since 1864"

The children they support are mainly foster children, children in protective services, low income, and homeless children.

Wow, 37 Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes collected to be sent overseas. Your thoughtful generosity is wonderful, a blessing for a child, who doesn't know about Christmas gifts and the love put in the boxes. THANK YOU, THANK YOU! ~ *Ruth McLaughlin*



From Our Minister of Music

Messiah Sing & Lessons and Carols are BACK!!

All are welcome to join us for these community events.

Registration is required, and all attending are required to wear a mask.

Please call Lisa in the church office to register 609.492.7571 A free will offering will be taken. Unfortunately, there will be no reception after.

Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 4 P.M. for our Annual Community Messiah Sing.

Messiah Sing

Our guest choir and soloists will be The New Jersey Chamber Singers (NJCS), with Artistic Director Matthew Zabiegala and organist Karen Miske. The program will include holiday selections by NJCS.

If you are a singer, you are invited to bring a score (if you don't have one, you may borrow one from us!), and sing along. If you would rather not sing, please join us to listen!

On Friday, December 17th at 7pm we will be having a traditional service of **Lessons and Carols**. Together, we will sing many traditional Christmas Carols, and the Choir of Holy Innocents' will create choral music of a traditional nature as well as some carols in more contemporary settings. Special guest musicians are sure to enhance this already beautiful service. I hope to see you all there!

Music in the air on Christmas Eve

Whatever service you choose to attend on Christmas Eve, you can be sure you will be making, and listening to, some wonderful music! During our family service, special choral and instrumental musical offerings will be made.

Our evening traditional service will begin at 7:30 with carol singing by both the congregation and the choir. The service begins at 8:00 with special music by our wonderful choir.

Ellen Dondero, Minister of Music ejdondero@comcast.net

Business of the Church

MINISTRY AREA REPORTS DUE DECEMBER 16th!!!

ANNUAL MEETING

- January 9th following our morning worship service.

- Food and Business

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Melissa Wall has volunteered to be the Nomination Committee Chair! Please contact her or Mtr. Caroline+ or any current Vestry member if you are interested in running for Vestry or being a delegate to either convention or convocation.

Vestry Members and Delegates to both Atlantic Convocation and Diocesan Convention are sought. If interested, please contact Melissa Wall, Mtr. Caroline+, or another Vestry member!





Parish Prayer List December

Matt Adams Beverlee Marie Bregler Lynn Cowper Dennis Fave Jan Joan, Susan & Bob Johnny Karen & DJ Chester Krom Dave L. Arlene LeConey Cecily Lovas Mary Ann Virginia Nicholas Sharon Osborn Lucien Picard Rick R. Ron Bill Todd Ann White Karen D.

Beth C. Eddie Boll Joan Connolly Mary Ann Crewdson **Carol Dobbins** Katie Gallaher Janet Claire Johns Karen D. Marie & Carl Keller Cyndi Lamon Alan Lee Lindsey Lucas Mary Jane Brian O. Sherry Marie R. Debbie & Joe Reising Lara Sparks Deitz **Robert Thomas** Charles A. Sister Suzanne Elizabeth Diane Babbi Jackson Brackett Judy Contreras Marie Elena D. Meg Dougher Shirley Hickey Jeannine John Johnson, Jr. Karen G. Robin Koch Lauren L. Diane Lee Melody Long Kurt Martin Scott Mitchell Maryanne O. TJ Patton Rachel Kathy Rice Marie Stasik Colin Walker Anne J.

Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions: Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Danny Melega, Andrew Wall, Brandan White

Winter Solstice Holy Hike



Presented by the Education & Advocacy Committee, and hosted by Gail & Tom Jacobsen, we will take a Holy Hike on the afternoon of "the longest day", **Tuesday, December 21st at 3:00 PM.** Join us as we walk in the woods, pausing briefly at various intervals to observe nature and to pray - and then enjoy some hot chocolate and fellowship while watching the sunset afterwards. Please RSVP by emailing **Rob Meyer at rmeyer1394@aol.com** (*There is actually a NJ branch of the official Holy Hike program, but this is our own unaffiliated walk!*)

Advent Retreat



Please join us **Saturday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m.** for our annual **Advent Retreat**. This year we will be taking a train to Bethlehem and visiting some famous sites on our way. Going with Mary and Joseph should make this an interesting trip. Coffee and pastries will be available. We will meet at Kay and Mike DeCicco's home at 26 Strathmere Street, Waretown, NJ. This location is in Greenbriar Oceanaire Community. Do not follow GPS directions. Take GSP to Waretown Exit and turn right on Rt. 532. Entrance to Greenbrier is at the first light. Please let Lisa or Judy know if you are coming. Judy: 732.330.4949 Lisa: 609.492.7571.

Call for Recipes!!

The two cookbooks that we have in the office are from 1977 and then 1998. The COVID-19 pandemic surely has made for some new recipes and by now we also have lots of folks who possibly did not contribute to the older cookbooks. This is simply an invitation to participate if you would like to do so. There will soon be a form provided to print out and submit your recipe or you can simply EMAIL your recipe to Mtr. Caroline+ at theparsoncarson@gmail.com or to Lisa Halpin in the Parish Office at hichurch08008@gmail.com.

<u>Here are the categories!</u> Appetizers & Beverages; Breads; Soups; Salads and Dressings; Casseroles; Seafood; Pastas, Potatoes, and Rice dishes; Meats, Poultry, Pork, and Game; Fruits and Vegetables; Cakes, Pies, Cookies, and Desserts and OTHER.

Holy Innocents' Holiday Season Services



Holy Eucharist: Sundays 9:30 AM Advent Sundays Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19 Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Family Service Christmas Eve 7:30 PM Carol-sing followed by 8:00 PM service Christmas Day 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist



Christmas Pizza!!!

Ingredients

1 ball Pizza Dough (or Food Processor Dough or Thin Crust Dough)
1 red pepper
1/2 red onion
1/2 cup basil pesto (purchased, homemade or vegan pesto)
2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
Kosher salt



Instructions

Follow the Best Pizza Dough recipe to prepare the dough. (This takes about 15 minutes to make and 45 minutes to rest.) Or you can use prepared pizza dough from your local grocery store.

Place a pizza stone in the oven and preheat to 500°F. OR preheat your pizza oven

Prepare the toppings: Dice the red pepper. Thinly slice the red onion, then rinse it under cool water and pat it dry (which removes some of the bite).

Place the dough on the pizza peel: When the oven is ready, dust a pizza peel with cornmeal or semolina flour. (If you don't have a pizza peel, you can use a rimless baking sheet or the back of a rimmed baking sheet. But a pizza peel is well worth the investment! In this case, a conveyor pizza peel works very well for larger trees like the one pictured. If using a standard peel or a baking sheet, smaller trees are easier to slide onto the stone.) Roll out the dough into a triangle shape, adding a small rectangle for a trunk. Place the dough on the pizza peel.

Quickly top the pizza: Spread a thin layer of pesto, then sprinkle with cheese. Add the "decorations" of red onions and peppers. Sprinkle with kosher salt.

Bake the pizza: Transfer the pizza to the pizza stone using the pizza peel, and bake until the cheese is melted, about 5 to 7 minutes. Allow to cool slightly, then serve.

December Birthdays

Marjorie Anderson	02	Jo-Ann Bray	17
Ruth McLaughlin	10	Colette Southwick	17
U	- •		17
Francis W. Kleber, IV	13	Florence Boulden	26
Bruce Hillyer	14	Curtis Logan	26
Richard Cashel	15	Carol Kirby	29
Meg Neff	16	Carol Hammond	29

December Anniversaries

Thomas & Gail Jacobsen 09

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 **December**.

DECEMBER ALTAR DONATIONS 5^{th} - Thomas & Gail Jacobsen 12^{th} - Jeanne Cashel 19^{th} - 24^{th} - 25^{th} - 26^{th} -	DECEMBER FLOWER GUILD 5^{th} - 12^{th} - 12^{th} - 23^{rd} - 23^{rd} - 23^{rd} - 25^{th} - 26^{th} - 26^{th} -Carol Hammond
DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD 5 th - Melissa Wall, Diane Entrikin 12 th - Chris Burlaga, Diane Entrikin 19 th - Chris Burlaga , Jeanne Cashel 24 th - Melissa Wall, Jackie Sparks 25 th - Melissa Wall 26 th - Melissa Wall	DECEMBER USHERS & GREETERS5th - Kay DeCicco, Mike DeCicco12th - Bill Kehr, Mike Fahner19th - Leila Sullivan, Gail Jacobsen24th - TBD25th - TBD26th - Bob Weidmann, Bill Cowper

Fun Things to Do...

If you are interested in reading a children's book for Kid's Korner, please contact Leila Sullivan at lygs27@gmail.com

If you are able to volunteer as an usher at anytime during the upcoming months please contact Rob Meyer at 609 618-3914 or rmeyer1394@aol.com





Parishioner Spotlight is a regular feature in The Post. The purpose is to provide insights into the background and personalities of our fabulous parishioners! We hope you enjoy getting to know the people of Holy Innocents'!

Mike and Alexa have been happily married for over 31 years. In fact, they celebrated their union the day after they wedded, at a beach party on LBI with over 100 of their friends and family. It was there that they vowed to one day retire to LBI. The romance began in 1981, when Alexa was transferred from Detroit to Philadelphia with Westin Hotels to take over the Bellevue Stratford. Two new friends took her to a party hosted by Mike. For their second date, Mike took her to a late September party on LBI. The rest, as they say, was history.

It was nine years before they married, with fast moving careers taking precedence. Marriott moved Mike from Philadelphia to Boston. Alexa moved to the opening team for the Four Seasons in Philadelphia, and a few years later they moved her to DC. When Marriott moved Mike to DC, Four Seasons relocated Alexa to NYC. In 1990, they were married in a small Episcopal Church in Radnor PA (St. Martin's), with a promise to the priest that they would become grounded in an Episcopal parish once they got to the same city. So the commuting continued between the NYC co-op and the DC townhouse for another 2 years. Four Seasons moved Alexa back to DC just before the birth of their first daughter, and, as promised, they became very involved with St. Francis Episcopal church in Potomac, Maryland.

When their two daughters (Micki and Daryl) were 9 and 7, Mike's career moved them back to the Philadelphia area. Alexa retired from Four Seasons and went back to school for her elementary teaching certification. They became very involved in the church where they married and enjoyed 18 fabulous years in Berwyn, PA. They sold their Berwyn home, moved full time to Brant Beach, and retired at the end of 2020. Both daughters live in NYC and, having spent at least part of every summer on LBI, are thrilled with their parents' decision.

The isolation brought on by Covid really had them missing church. In January of this year, they met with Mother Caroline and felt very comfortable with the Covid protocols the church had in place. They began attending in February and have felt welcomed by everyone they've met. Mike is a real "people person" so has always loved greeting and ushering. Alexa loves to read and talk, so truly enjoys doing Sunday readings. They are looking forward to continuing their spiritual path with the Holy Innocents' family. Some other things about Mike and Alexa include:

Music - Mike - Billy Joel, Springsteen, Paul McCartney, Rock; Alexa is a Motown girl Education - Mike graduated from Trenton State (now TCNJ); Alexa, Syracuse Food - Alexa loves all seafood and Mike loves steak and ice cream Travel - They both love to travel anywhere, but Paris is a special favorite Beverage - They both love oaky Chardonnay's Favorite thing to do - Spend time with their daughters, which they do often

December Parishioner Spotlight ~ Mike & Alexa Fahner



Environmental Education and Advocacy Committee

Thank you to the National Audubon Society for offering these Holiday projects The holidays are often a busy time in the kitchen. Make time to whip up tasty treats for birds, too. These festive goodies will attract an array of avian visitors outside your home.

SUET WREATH

<u>Materials:</u>

Bundt pan Large pot Wide ribbon 3 blocks rendered suet (available at garden centers)

1/2 cup additive-free nut butter

9 cups bird seed

Dried fruits and berries

<u>Steps:</u>

- 1. Over low heat, melt three blocks of suet in the pot. Stir consistently and do not boil.
- 2. Once the suet melts, add nut butter and stir until fully melted. Remove from heat.
- 3. Add the bird seed to the melted suet.
- 4. Spray the bundt pan with cooking spray, sprinkle the bottom with berries and fruit, and fill with liquid suet.
- 5. Refrigerate overnight to harden, and then remove the mold from the pan.
- 6. Tie a ribbon around the wreath and hang outside three feet or less from a window to prevent deadly post-meal collisions.

BIRD SEED ORNAMENTS

<u>Materials:</u>

2 cups birdseed, such as Audubon's cherry wild mix 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin

2 tablespoons cold water 1/3 cup boiling water

12 cookie cutters

Needle & Thread

<u>Steps:</u>

- 1. Combine gelatin and cold water and let sit one minute.
- 2. Add boiling water and stir until the gelatin is dissolved.
- 3. Add birdseed and stir the mixture thoroughly to combine.
- 4. Fill cookie cutters with the seed mixture; press firmly to fill the mold completely. Refrigerate overnight.
- 5. Let ornaments come to room temperature and gently remove from molds.
- 6. Use a needle to pull the thread through the ornament, at least a half-inch from the edge, and tie knot.
- 7. Hang the ornaments from tree branches or your fire escape (if allowed).

SCRUMPTIOUS GARLAND

<u>Materials:</u>

Air-popped popcorn (unsalted and unbuttered, and preferably stale)

Whole peanuts in the shell (unsalted, preferably raw)

Cranberries (dried or fresh)

Apple slices (dried)

Orange slices (fresh)

Thread & Needle

<u>Steps:</u>

1. Unspool a 4-foot-long section of thread; tie a knot or two a couple of inches from one end, and thread and secure a needle at the other.

2. Thread the ingredients one at a time. Consider starting with an orange or apple slice to provide a secure anchor to build upon, and create your own alternating pattern of ingredients.

3. When only a few inches of thread remain, tie a double knot close to the final item.

4. Repeat steps 1-3 to obtain desired length.

5. Starting at the top of the tree, drape the garland on the branches in a downward spiral, tying on new strands as you go.



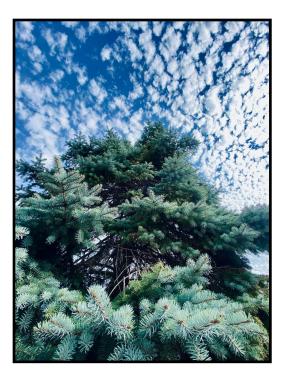
Message from the Building & Grounds Committee

Below is a very important message from Larry Peacock and Rich Cashel and the Building & Grounds committee. Please know that the decision below was not a fast one and has been fully researched and presented to the Vestry and discussed. It is very hard for me personally, because I adore trees, but I do believe the decision is sound. I ask you to take some time and prayerfully consider the good gifts that these trees have been for Holy Innocents'.

The Church will soon look different!

Recently the cracked concrete at the base of the church entry steps was replaced with brick. The cause of the crack was a large root some 5" in diameter from one of the Blue Spruce trees. It soon became clear that other large roots are posing a threat of damage to the foundation of our building. The Wardens and Vestry have determined that we must replace these iconic trees. To many of you the concept is abhorrent (or substitute "To many of you they are sacrosanct."), as it was to some members of the Vestry, since these trees have stood for over 40 years. Change in itself is often hard, but we also think of this step as renewal. Yes, we will miss the trees, however, we will be able to watch the growth of new Blue Spruces in the years to come, plus the soaring roof lines and stained-glass façade of our treasured Mid-Century Modern church will once again be prominently displayed rather than obstructed by the trees. The scale of the trees will be reminiscent of earlier pictures of the church.

O Great Designer and Sustainer of Life, we pray for the mighty old trees that live and die around the world. These great elders have given us so much through the gift of their breath, the bounties of their beauty, their shelter and homes for birds and other animals, *the food provided by their* foliage, fruits, flowers, and nectar, their recycling of soil nutrients, and their role in the flow of water through the ecosystem. Bless these trees and all their gifts to us and our world. We honor in this prayer all the mighty trees that have been and that have yet to be. *We honor the blue spruces* that frame our entry into your house. We are grateful for their presence and their influence on each of us. Bless the trees that have given us so much and bless the new trees which we will love and watch. Amen.



Please talk to me and to any member of the Vestry with any questions and concerns.

Mtr. Caroline+

DECEMBER 2021							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			<i>1</i> 7:30-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2 2pm Book Study 9pm Compline (FB)	3 Parish Office Closed 7pm Kids Korner (FB)	4 9:30-12:30 pm Advent Retreat 1pm Christmas Parade 7pm Beach Haven Tree Lighting 7pm Praying the Psalms (FB)	
5 Advent II 9:30am Rite II Coffee Hour/Tree Planting 4pm MESSIAH SING	6 9am MP (FB)	7 12pm ECW Luncheon at Smithville 6pm EP (FB)	8 7:30-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9 2pm Book Study 7pm Vestry Meeting 9pm Compline (FB)	10 Parish Office Closed 7pm Kids Korner (FB)	11 7pm Praying the Psalms (FB)	
12 Advent III (Gaudete Sunday) 9:30am Rite II Coffee Hour/ Tree Trimming	13 9am MP (FB) 6pm-9pm Advent Celebration & Carol Sing @ Parsonage	14	15 3pm Choir Caroling	16 Ministry Area Annual Reports DUE TODAY!! 9pm Compline (FB)	17 Parish Office Closed 7pm Kids Korner (FB) 7pm LESSONS & CAROLS	18 <i>3pm Blue</i> <i>Christmas</i> <i>Service</i> 7pm Praying the Psalms (FB)	
19 Advent IV 9:30am Rite II Coffee Hour/Advent Series Advent Food Drive Ends	20 9am MP (FB)	21 6pm EP (FB) 3pm Winter Solstice Holy Hike	22	23 9am Altar Guild to prepare for Christmas 9pm Compline (FB)	24 Parish Office Closed 4:00pm Christmas Eve Service I 7:30pm Carol Sing 8pm Christmas Eve Service II 7pm Kids Korner (FB)	25 10am Christmas Day Service	
26 1st Sunday of Christmas 9:30am Rite II	27 Parish Office Closed 9am MP (FB)	28 6pm EP <i>The Feast of the</i> <i>Holy Innocents</i> (FB Live)	29	<i>30</i> 9pm Compline (FB)	31 Parish Office Closed 7pm Kids Korner (FB)		





Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church Pearl and Marine Streets Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008 609-492-7571

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





Advent Food Drive

There is increased and intense need this season for food and basics. We have been in touch with several local organizations and spoken with their leadership about how to help. St. Francis Community Center is providing help for at least 30 families per day and has asked for help. They mentioned that anything is helpful.

Each Sunday in Advent (Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19), please bring items to church. During **Christmas Week**, fresh hams, turkeys, or vegetables may be brought directly to St. Francis on Tuesday, Dec. 21 between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

ITEMS - non-perishable food items, toiletries, feminine products. ~ Thank you ~