

2023

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

Inside this Issue!

Stewardship 2 In the Spotlight 6-7 January Calendar 8



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

The Parson's Place

Christmas is HERE so enjoy every moment! These twelve days end on January 6th at The Epiphany, but I challenge you to keep Christmas the entire year. Now, that doesn't mean you shouldn't eventually take down a dry tree bereft of needles...I'm talking about keeping it in your hearts. Since my tree is plastic, I can transform it into a Mardi gras tree, one of New Orleans' many unique traditions I enjoy.

We are also at the new year, a time when we want to wipe the slate clean and begin again. First, that is a completely normal feeling. There is nothing like anticipation and there's nothing like a new beginning. And now we are about to be in 2023. To begin again means that we must give ourselves the gift of permission to stop and simply "be" in the present, to rejoice in the now of Christ.

A couple of things I hope you'll consider for today: First, a bit of a "new tradition" here at HI. Think about what you'd like to let go of for the new year and what you'd like to take on. Write these on a small slip of paper and burn them in your next fire. At church today, I will burn them after our morning service. Those ashes will be mixed into our Ash Wednesday ashes, just like the palms from last Palm Sunday. This first fire of 2023 will symbolize our continuing transformation and purifying hopes for the new year. Next, I am going to offer house blessings during the six weeks of Epiphany so please let

me know if you are interested in having that done. There will also be a video instruction coming of chalking your doors for Epiphany, an old and beautiful custom in many countries. Watch for that on our Church Facebook page as well as after our Epiphany service (6:00 p.m. January 6th.)

The New Year Carol (Music by Benjamin Britten and text from Walter de la Mare.)

A New Year Carol

Here we bring new water from the well so clear,

For to worship God with, this happy New Year.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;

The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,

Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;

The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,

Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;

The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Continued on next page...

The Parson's Place continued

The *New Year Carol* was included by Walter de la Mare in his anthology of poems for children, *Tom Tiddler's Ground* (1931). In 1936, Benjamin Britten composed a tune for it. The "levy dew" in the chorus may be a corruption of either Old English *levedy* ("lady") or French *Levez à Dieu* ("Raise to God"), used for the elevation of the host at communion. The latter also explains the water and the wine in the following words. The "seven bright gold wires" might be the strings of a golden harp.

Waverly Fitzgerald has another explanation in [School of the Seasons: New Year's Carols](#):

Trefor Owen [*Welsh Folk Customs*, St. Fagans, 1974] describes the context for this song in Wales. Very early on New Year's Day about three or four o'clock in the morning, groups of boys came round to the houses in the neighborhood, carrying a vessel of cold spring water, freshly drawn, and twigs of box, holly, myrtle, rosemary or other evergreens. They sprinkled the hands and face of anyone they met for a copper or two. In every house, each room was sprinkled with New Year's water and the residents, who were often still in bed, wished a Happy New Year. For this service and wish they were also gifted with coins. The doors of those houses which were closed to them were sprinkled with the water. The verse was sung during the sprinkling.

In certain parts of Wales this custom is called *dwr newy* (literally, new water). The exact meaning of the phrase, "levy dew" is unknown, although there have been attempts to trace it to *llef I Dduw* (Welsh for "cry to God") and some believe it to mean a partially French exclamation of "Raise to God". This seems to be an imposition of a Christian interpretation on a much older custom. Although the fair maid is now equated with the Virgin, Owen thinks it likely that this custom derives from "an early well-cult made acceptable to medieval Christianity by its association with the Virgin and perpetuated both by the desire to wish one's neighbor well at the beginning of a new year and by the small monetary payment involved."

Caroline+

Stewardship



Our stewardship theme, *Together We Thrive*, highlighted our continued strengthening as the pandemic has receded and the parish has continued to work together. Our logo, with a circle of people holding hands, represents our connections to each other and our collaboration. It was this circle that jumpstarted the idea of building a labyrinth together. We hope you enjoyed participating and celebrating together!

October 30th: Our campaign concluded with pledges blessed on the altar followed by Fellowship & Firepits. A delicious brunch with coffee and hot cider was served outside around the fires. Parishioners had the opportunity to walk the labyrinth that we created and enjoy fellowship on a sunny afternoon.

To date, we have 59 pledging families for 2023; there are likely still a few pledges that will come in. Of these, we have 4 new pledging families and a few that have returned to pledging this year. That is significant good news! Our total pledge is \$177,454. This is a small decrease of 3.5% from last year (2022 total pledge was \$183,861) which we hope to make up with final pledges that may come in. Our congregation continues to be generous in their support to Holy Innocents'!

I'd like to thank my committee: Chris Burlaga, Ellen Dondero, and Bruce Hillyer for their hard work, creative ideas, proofreading, and baking. I am also grateful for those who happily helped collate our mailings, the support of the Wardens, Vestry and Mother Caroline.

God Bless you all with the best the New Year has to offer,
Pat Peacock
Stewardship Chair

From Our Minister of Music



Please give special thanks to our choir members who have given of their time and talent this fall, offering beautiful music to enhance our worship services. We had a very busy and fulfilling end to the year!

The choir will take its annual winter break this January, and rehearsals will resume on February 8th at 6:30pm. Special thanks to Barbara Wheeler for stepping in as organist for the last four Sundays in January while I take some time off. She is a gift!

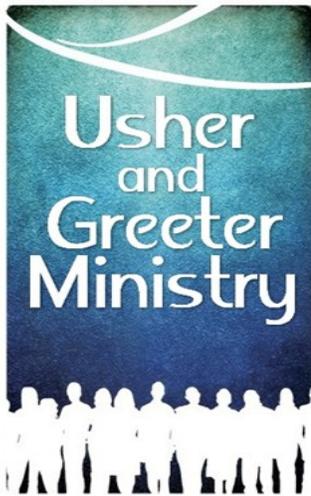
I'm sure most of you have seen a lot of published information that speaks to the benefits of singing, and specifically, singing in a choir. Guess what – it's all true!

The benefits are endless, as anyone in our wonderful choir can tell you. **We love to welcome new members.** The requirements are minimal: sing with all your heart in offering to the Lord, and love to laugh. Yes, we laugh a lot – and we all know that laughing also has its benefits!! If you think you may be interested, pray about it, and please contact me to get the “scoop”. We would love to have you join us. The more, the merrier!!

Happy New Year!

Ellen Dondero, Minister of Music

ejdondero@comcast.net



The ministry of ushering and greeting folks is a **crucial** part of worship because it is one of the most visible ministries in the Church. In Christ, you have received God's unconditional love, and in Christ, you are called to extend that same unconditional love to others. Although an usher's love is no stronger than the love found in the whole congregation of the body of Christ, nevertheless, the usher performs a major role in ensuring that people see and experience that love.

The ushers distribute bulletins, assist latecomers, help lead worshipers up during communion, and point out who might need communion brought to them. They also see worshipers out and tidy up after the service. The greeters can help usher and they greet worshipers both before AND after the service, **making every attempt to make them feel welcomed and at ease.** The ushers should also be available to answer questions of anyone needing assistance.

Please contact Mtr. Caroline+ or Rob



Our Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, 2022 in Martin Hall immediately following worship service.

Parish Prayer List January

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

Alycia	Ellis Barbieri	Charles Bishop
Kevin B. Campbell	Cynthia Clarke	Joan Connolly
Judy Contreras	Mary Ann Crewdson	Art "Jim" Curtin
Jack DiFeo	Roseann Dolan	Dave Elfreth
Elliott	Faith	Faye
Genevieve	Gordon H.	Adam Houser
Jan	Rick Johnson	Joni
Anne Joyce	Julie	Karen & DJ
Gollihur Family	Erma Green	Karen Grossman
Kathy G.	Kevin	Ryan Koehl
Dave Lamon	Barry Longenbach	Lovas Family
Lucas	Walt Luwenduski	The McLaughlin Family
Pat Meyer	Louise Muth	Nicholas Family
Bill O'Connell	Ollie	Sharon Osborn
Brian O'Sullivan	TJ Patton	Peggy
Lucien Picard	Pat Pritchard	Rhonda Pritchard
Marie R.	Cora Raggiucci	Debbie & Joe Reising
Rebecca	Ron & Kenny	Rick Rosenbaum
Elizabeth Mary Schade	The Scheimreif Family	Chloe Snyder
Lara Sparks Deitz	Charles Sullivan	Tantum Family
Bill Todd	Tony	Robert Thomas
Colin Walker	Ann White	Annabelle Vaughan
Jane Enos	Nancy & Gary Acker	Floss Boulden
Wayne Kotter	Scott Frahllich	Eileen Mitchell

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

Dishing with the Deacon

We have completed Advent and Christmas, a time of reflection and preparation for the birth of our Savior. Advent is a time when we think about how we could change our lives and become worthy of the Savior born to us again. It is also a time, as in the start of a New Year, when we think about setting goals for ourselves. These are times when God can talk to us.

And then there are those times when what seems unexpected, an idea leads us to reconsider what we are doing. Do you ever think: "I have to stop eating all that sugar, or my smoking is making me sick, or I know I drink too much, maybe I should be..." These are times when God can talk to us.

He talks to us in lots of ways especially about what he wants us to do. I remember how he told me to become a deacon. I was sitting in Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in Syracuse, NY, 30+ years ago. I was waiting for the service to start. I was reading the bulletin and there was an insert describing the revitalization of the ancient order of deacons in the church. The description of the role and the person who would fit this role was a description of me and what I wanted to do with my life. GOD'S VOICE! I took this to my priest, and he said this constituted a call to the diaconate. It took me 15 years to do it and I have never been happier.

God, through the Holy Spirit, can talk to us in many different ways such as a friend, Scripture, your priest or deacon, a sermon, a spiritual book you may be reading. God's voice is quiet, we need to listen carefully.

May your New Year be full of good things, especially God's voice. Happy New Year!

I love you, Your Deacon, Judy

January Birthdays

Stokes B. Carrigan, IV	04	Margaret Rose Kleber	18
Sydney Stevens	05	Richard Vaughan	18
Caroline Carson	12	Edith Dumhart	21
Justin Dumhart	12	Susan D. Walls	26
Judith Krom	13	Jonathon Goddard	30
Diane Entrikin	17		



January Anniversaries

Barry & Nicole Baxter 22

Jerry & Gail South 22

Howard & Edith Dumhart 30

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 **January**.

JANUARY ALTAR DONATIONS

1st -
 8th - Ruth McLaughlin
 15th - Ruth McLaughlin
 22th -
 29th - Rich & Jeanne Cashel

JANUARY FLOWER GUILD

1st - Joyce Hillyer
 8th - Sherry Johnson
 15th - Caron Hammond
 22th - Kim Sparks
 29th - Artificial Flowers



JANUARY ALTAR GUILD

1st - Jackie Sparks
 8th - Carol Hammond, Diane Entrikin
 15th - Jackie Sparks, Chris Burlaga
 22th - Jeanne Cashel, Carol Hammond
 29th - Diane Entrikin, Jackie Sparks

JANUARY USHERS & GREETERS

1st - Kay DeCicco, Mike DeCicco
 8th - Bill Cowper, Rob Meyer
 15th - Bill Kehr, Bob Weidmann
 22th - Leila Sullivan, Sue Hughes
 29th - Mike Fahner, Dave White

MINISTRY NEEDS – to be filled from THE CONGREGATION

We are always joyfully seeking volunteers for very important ministries such as Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Ushers, Greeters, Readers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Chalice Bearers etc.!

Please take some time to prayerfully consider *active participation in the Holy Innocents' Community* and share some of your time for the glory of God!

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



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! We hope you enjoy getting to know the people of Holy Innocents'!

December Parishioner Spotlight ~ Ellen Kehr



I was born in Phoenixville Hospital in Phoenixville, PA. My mother told me that I was the loudest baby in the nursery. My parents named me Mary Ellen Erskine, but soon after that, the “Mary” was dropped and I became just “Ellen.”

I grew up on a farm in Audubon, PA, about a 15-minute drive from Phoenixville. I loved my childhood living in a three-generations household... grandparents, parents, and my sister and me.



Bill and I almost grew up together since we were in the same home room since 8th grade. We have been married for 52 years. We have three wonderful boys, three delightful daughters in law, and five energetic and talented grandchildren.

We lived and worked in Coudersport, Potter County, PA, for 37 years. The picture taken on the lake was at Lake Arthur in Moraine Park, Butler County, PA.



My career consisted of one job... I taught elementary school for 33 extremely rewarding years.

When we moved permanently to Long Beach Island in 2009, it fulfilled my dream to live here. My great grandmother vacationed here in the early 20th century and that began the next four generations doing the same. My parents owned a seasonal Cape Cod “Shapiro” house, and we enjoyed many happy summers there.

Being a “cradle” Episcopalian, and with Bill joining the Episcopal Church 30 years ago, we naturally attended a morning service at Holy Innocents’ and were introduced to Father Frank... need I say more?!!! We found our forever church home.



Although we live in Holgate, the hub of my community life is in Beach Haven. I’m active at SurfFlight, LBI Museum, Beach Haven Community Arts Program, and, of course, Holy Innocents’.

Although I usually usher at SurfFlight, in 2019, I had a role in *Flashdance* as Ms. Wilde, the administrator of Shipley Academy. I am on the left of the picture here, not one of the dancers.

There are so many things that I love about Holy Innocents’... the choir, the Liturgy, Mother Caroline, Deacon Judy, Bible Study (I’m on sabbatical at the moment) and the people. Some of our dearest friends were introduced to us at a Saints and Sinners dinner party. We should start them up again. They were so much fun!

Continued on next page....

Parishioner Spotlight Continued

The final part of this saga concerns something that you might be surprised to know about me. It involves a history lesson.

I am a descendant of a Quaker named Lewis Walker, a Welsh yeoman, who sailed from Wales to Radner, PA, in 1687. He became the first settler in Tredyffrin Township in 1705. This area would become known as Valley Forge. Many of my Quaker descendants lived in Valley Forge during the 1777-1778 Encampment. They were known as The Society of Friends. Due to their religious beliefs, they did not join the forces to fight in the Revolutionary War, however they were sympathetic to the cause and many offered their homes to several generals and other important figures during the Encampment. They included General La Fayette, General Knox, Baron de Kalb, and Count du Portails, who was Washington's mapmaker.

My DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) connection is a woman named Sarah Walker. "She was a kind, benevolent woman who cared deeply for the plight of the soldiers and persuaded her cousin, General Anthony Wayne, not to have five deserters shot. Because of her pleading voice, he pardoned them." (This passage is quoted from an ancestral book of the Walkers, my ancestors. The person who wrote the quote is unknown.)



Two pictures that reflect some of my church activities – with some of the Choir members as we sang Christmas carols at the hospital and of Bill and me when we dressed for Halloween and church on October 31, 2021.

Kitchen Renovation!!

The Kitchen Committee, Larry & Pat Peacock, Ellen Dondero and myself, have been busy these past few weeks. I'm happy to announce that our Vestry has approved our plans and budget for the kitchen renovation! We have finalized the layout and design details for the kitchen & cabinetry. Larry has met with 3 contractors and has estimates from two of them. We've met with remediation companies for tile floor & asbestos removal and have estimates. We also have estimates for new flooring.

We've ordered our cabinetry and are working with Francie Milano Kitchens, Inc. of Ship Bottom. Delivery date for the cabinetry is middle to end of April at this time.

My hero, our illustrious treasurer, Larry Peacock, has come up with a very realistic budget & cost funding that does allow for Martin Hall and ante rooms to be remediated and tile replaced at the same time as the kitchen! Hooray!

Right now we have received \$109,774 in monies/pledges for the renovation which includes \$31,000 from the Silent Auction/Dinner! If you have yet to donate to this project, please consider doing so as you are able! Even with an approved budget we can still use your help!

This past May I wrote in the kitchen article ~

My hope is to definitely have our beautiful new kitchen by the end of this year!



Ha! A New Year, the same hope...to definitely have our beautiful new kitchen by the end of this year!

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY 930am Holy Eucharist for Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus	2 Parish Office Closed 9am MP (FB)	3 1pm-3pm Knitting Group 5pm EP (FB)	4 7pm Praying the Psalms (online)	5 2pm Book Study @ Rectory 9pm Compline (FB)	6 Parish Office Closed 6pm Feast of the Epiphany Service	7 9:30am-6:15pm Way of St. Paul Training @ Cathedral in Trenton
8 The First Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist ANNUAL MEETING in Martin Hall	9 9am MP (FB) 	10 1pm-3pm Knitting Group 2:30-4:30pm Clergy forum w/Bishop candidates	11 7pm Praying the Psalms (online)	12 <i>MTR.</i> CAROLINE'S BIRTHDAY!! 2pm Book Study @ Rectory 7pm Vestry Mtg. 9pm Compline (FB)	13 Parish Office Closed DCN. JUDY'S BIRTHDAY!! 7-9pm Atlantic Convocation Forum for Bishop Candidates @ St. Marks & All Saints in Galloway	14
15 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist International Ministry Committee Mtg. during coffee hour	16 Parish Office Closed 9am MP (FB) 	17 1pm-3pm Knitting Group 5pm EP (FB)	18 7pm Praying the Psalms (online)	19 2pm Book Study @ Rectory 9pm Compline (FB)	20 Parish Office Closed	21 
22 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist Eucharist Visitor training & assignments after worship	23 9am MP (FB)	24 1pm-3pm Knitting Group 5pm EP (FB)	25 7pm Praying the Psalms (online)	26 2pm Book Study @ Rectory 9pm Compline (FB)	27 Parish Office Closed	28 Diocese of NJ Electing Convention in Trenton (Delegates & Clergy attend)
29 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30am Holy Eucharist	30 9am MP (FB)	31 1pm-3pm Knitting Group 5pm EP (FB) 				

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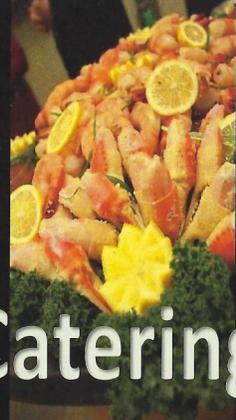
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These ads greatly help defray our publishing costs and support our ministries and church operations!



Happy
 NEW
 Year



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