# September 2026

# THE PARISH POST



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

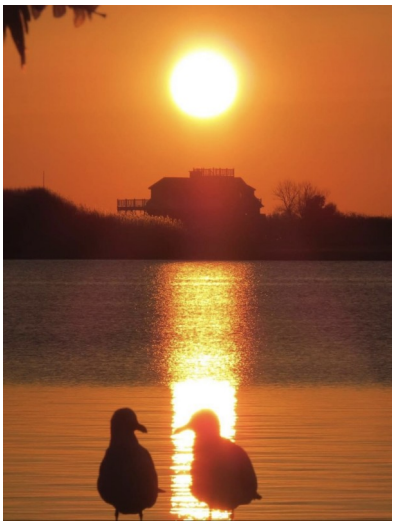

Holy Innocents'
Episcopal Church
Pearl & Marine Streets
Beach Haven, NJ 08008

Church Email
office@hiecbh.com
Website: www.hiecbh.com
Office: 609 492 7571


Parish Office Hours
Monday thru Thursday
9:00am - 2:00pm

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## A Moment with Mother Erin

*Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.* ***Amen****.*
*-Collect for Labor Day, from the Book of Common Prayer*

We are in the home stretch of summer, with only a few days until Labor Day. Then, we will transition into the beloved season of "local summer," until we arrive at the heart of fall. The number of vacationing visitors is falling, especially on weekdays. The days are growing shorter already. Your loved ones may have gone back to school. If you live the rest of the year outside of this area, you may already be preparing to return to your other "home." You may have bid good-bye to visiting friends and family. You may be looking forward to "local summer" with a mix of gratitude, relief, and wistfulness for the long summer days that lay behind (and ahead of) us.

The church encourages us to pause as we commemorate Labor Day, and to remember the value of human labor. We are reminded to work for the common good, and God's Beloved Community. We know that even if we will be traveling elsewhere, the work of the community of Holy Innocents' goes on! Most of all, we know that God continues to be at work in this world, no matter where we are.

In the coming weeks, you will hear more about how you can support the ongoing work of Holy Innocents' at our annual fundraiser, and our stewardship campaign. You also have the opportunity, as we move to a less-hectic season on the Island, to connect more deeply to God's presence through mindful practices such as Bible study, walking our labyrinth, prayer walks, centering prayer, and praying with prayer beads. I encourage you to try out a new practice, or re-connect with an old favorite, during this season!

As always, if you have an idea for something you'd like to see at Holy Innocents', please reach out and let me know. And, I hope you enjoy these final days of our summer season!

# Minister of Music



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

Choir members will meet on Sunday September 13th at 8:30am to sing for the 9:30 service.

Our choir is welcoming new members. We sing for Sunday services, as well as Holy Week and other special services throughout the church year. 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

# Sandwich Ministry

Thank you to everyone that contributed with money, new school supplies, new backpacks, or all of the above. There were over 122 backpacks with supplies collected!! Our most successful effort, yet.

107 were picked up and sent to the Nook in Toms River where they will be given to those in need. Others were given to a group in need requiring clear backpacks with supplies. Again, thank you for helping to make the start of a new school year so special for so many.














# Parish Prayer List September

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

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lara | Connie | Dennis | Debbie | Joe |
| Pat | Warren | Ann | Judy | Meg |
| Rich | Charles | Doug | Ellis | Judy |
| Diane | Jeannine | Nellie | Will | Devin |
| Rick | Scotty | Becka | Karen | Roy |
| Mike | Shirley | Ben | Tim | Mike |
| Karen | Walter | Kathy | Johnny | Matthew |
| James | Sue | Joe | Jack | Dixie |
| Mary | Amy | Charles | Ellen | Oliver |
| Cindy | Jacob | Xavier | Rachel | Pat |
| Eleri | Sherry | Cynthia | Jo-Anne | Susie |
| Connor | Philip | Sean | Ellen | Eileen |
| Charles | Kitty | Greg | John | Alan |
| Rich | Bruce | | | |

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

# Holy Innocents' Annual Silent Bid Auction



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. Funds raised from last year's event were utilized for new air conditioning in the sanctuary, church offices and most recently Martin Hall. This year's funds will be used for the replacement of our church heating system. In addition to the Silent Bid Auction, this year's event will again include a Chance Auction.

Please join us on **Thursday, October 8, 2026, at the Sea Shell in Beach Haven at the new time of 5:30 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 4, 2026.**

On **Wednesday, October 7th**, 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 8th at the Sea Shell at 5:30pm.**

# Christo Rey Picnic & Coffee Social at Compassion Café



Our service, indoor picnic & beach time with Christo Rey parish was joyous and uplifting! Mother Erin and Father Paul did a bilingual service with singing from some Christo Rey parishioners. Did you know that Mother Erin's Spanish is excellent?? Watermelon & pupusas were brought by our friends and Super Grillmaster Jerry South cooked up burgers & dogs which were gobbled up by young & old alike.

Due to the mid-summer date, there were fewer HI parishioners. A huge thank you goes out to Jeanne & Rich Cashel, Vince Contreras, Joan Melega, Pat & Larry Peacock, Melissa & John Wall and Jerry South for their incredible work with set-up, serving and cleanup. The hospitality that we showed our visitors did not go unnoticed and they were so grateful for the opportunity to come visit us again. The unfortunate storm cut their beach time short but we hope to do this again!




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Holy Innocents' Coffee Social on August 24th at the Compassion Café at the Sea Shell Resort & Beach Club! Can't wait to come back next year!!



# Environmental Committee

## Coffee Grounds and Your Garden

Did you know coffee grounds are a great organic addition to your garden? Our Coffee Hours leave us with plenty of used coffee grounds and we have been composting them since the winter, then using them around the property to nourish our plantings. The grounds are nitrogen-rich and can improve the soil, if used properly.

Here are a few tips if you'd like to use your leftover grounds in the garden:

• First, never use freshly ground coffee on your plants, only use spent grounds. The best way to use them is by adding them to your compost pile where they can break down. They act as a nitrogen-rich material and slowly release nitrogen, calcium and magnesium as they decompose.

- If you want to apply them directly to your soil or plants, use them in moderation, sprinkling a thin layer directly onto the soil and rake in. Avoid using with seedlings or young plants.
- Coffee grounds can help to deter slugs, snails and ants, too!
- If you want to begin a compost pile with your coffee grounds, follow this "recipe": 3 parts leaves, 1 part grass clippings, and 1 part *cooled* coffee grounds. (Hot grounds can kill the beneficial organisms!) Turn weekly. Avoid exceeding 20% coffee grounds. Leave the pile outside for a few months or just leave your grounds alone outside, then use them.

For more info on utilizing your coffee grounds or kitchen scraps in the yard, check out the complete The Old Farmer's Almanac or read the Oregon State University Extension guide on soil health.

-HI Environmental Committee

# Holy Innocents' Happenings




### Save the Date: Rector's Open House
### Celebrating the 2027 Stewardship Campaign
### Sunday, September 20, 2026, 3pm - 5pm at the Rectory

Stewardship season is coming - keep an eye out in your email, and postal mail, for more information about how you can support the ongoing ministry of Holy Innocents'. In the meantime, mark your calendar and plan to help kick off our campaign at an open house, hosted by Mother Erin, at the Rectory. We hope you can join us for some food and relaxed fellowship!

## Labyrinth Walk: Monday, September 21 at 10:30am

Join Mother Erin for a time of meditation at Holy Innocents' outdoor labyrinth! Labyrinths are an ancient form of quiet walking meditation, suitable for all ability levels. Prayer beads and hand labyrinths will also be provided for those who prefer seated meditation. **In the event of inclement weather, we will gather in the chapel and use prayer beads.*



**REMINDER: Heifer Breakfast Sunday: September 13 at 10:30am Coffee Hour**

Join us at coffee hour once each month this for a special, home-cooked breakfast to benefit Heifer International. Your free will offering donation supports the mission of ending hunger and poverty in a sustainable way.

# Holy Innocents' Happenings Continued




## Environmental Committee: Creation Care Fall Equinox Walk Tuesday, September 22 at 11am

Join us for our next Prayer Walk on the trail on Cedar Bonnet Island, to celebrate the Fall Equinox and the change of the seasons. Parking is somewhat limited in the lot there, so if you would like to carpool from the church, please let Mother Erin know.

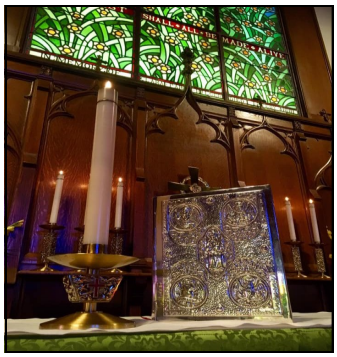
Mother Erin will be leading the hike and has already checked out the route. The trail is a wide, gravel, and relatively flat 1.5 mile loop, and so the walk is suitable for people of various walking abilities. Also, note that dogs are welcome on the trail, so please feel free to bring your furry companion for the walk! If you would like to sign up, or have questions, please email Mother Erin at rector@hiecb

## Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, October 4 at 1pm



Bring your beloved animal companion for a special blessing, celebrating the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. We will meet at the grassy area at the corner of Marine Street and South Beach Avenue.

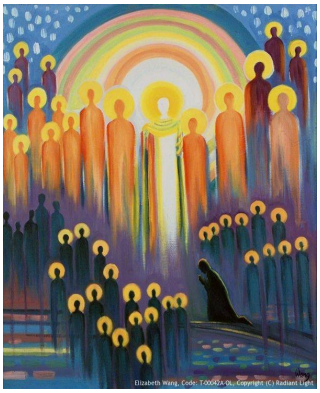
*Also - please know that if your pet is **ever** in need of a blessing at the end of their life, or in a time of life-threatening health issues, please reach out to Mother Erin to arrange a private blessing in your home.*



## Celebration of New Ministry: Saturday, October 17 at 1:30pm

Mark your calendar for Bishop Sally French's visit recognizing Mother's Erin's ministry as Rector of Holy Innocents'!

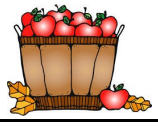
## All Saints' Day: Sunday, October 25, at the 9:30am Service



Each year, the Church celebrates a special feast to remember the lives of the all saints who have gone before us.

Please join us for worship on this special day, when we will commemorate the memory of those we love who have died this year.

# SEPTEMBER 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  | ***1***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:00pm Mah Jongg in MH | ***2***<br>9:30-10:30am Tai Chi Class<br>7:30pm BHCAP Summer Concert: Gypsy Moon | ***3***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:30pm Bible Study<br>7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers<br>9:00pm Compline | ***4***<br>*Parish Office Closed* | ***5***<br>*10:00am Ian Pattison Funeral @ St. Peters* |
| ***6*** *The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*<br>7:30am Rite I<br>9:30am Rite II<br>*Birthdays & Anniversaries* | ***7***<br>*Parish Office Closed*<br>9:00am MP (FB)<br>NO Chair Yoga<br>Mother Erin away | ***8***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:00pm Mah Jongg in MH | ***9***<br>9:30-11:00am Sandwich Min.<br>11:00-12:00pm Tai Chi Class | ***10***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:30pm Bible Study<br>7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers<br>9:00pm Compline | ***11***<br>*Parish Office Closed* | ***12***<br> |
| ***13*** *The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30am Rite II<br>*Heifer Breakfast* | ***14***<br>9:00am MP (FB)<br>9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga<br> | ***15***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:00pm Mah Jongg in MH<br>7:00pm Vestry Mtg. | ***16***<br>9:30-10:30am Tai Chi Class<br>*11:00am William Miller Committal*<br>4:00pm Prayer Ministry in the library | ***17***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:30pm Bible Study<br>4:00pm Dumhart Wedding Rehearsal<br>7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers<br>9:00pm Compline | ***18***<br>*Parish Office Closed*<br>4:00pm Dumhart Wedding<br> | ***19***<br> |
| ***20*** *The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30am Rite II<br>*STEWARDSHIP KICKOFF*<br>*Rector Open House 3-5:00pm* | ***21***<br>9:00am MP (FB)<br>9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga<br>10:30am Labyrinth Walk | ***22*** <br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>11:00am EC Creation Care Fall Equinox Walk<br>1:00pm Mah Jongg in MH | ***23***<br>9:30-10:30am Tai Chi Class<br> | ***24***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:30pm Bible Study<br>7:30pm AA Mtg. Clam-Diggers<br>9:00pm Compline | ***25***<br>*Parish Office Closed* | ***26*** |
| ***27*** *The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>9:30am Rite II<br>*Healing Service in Chapel* | ***28***<br>9:00am MP (FB)<br>9:15-10:15am Chair Yoga<br>10:30am Centering Prayer on the beach | ***29***<br>9:15-10:15am LEG<br>1:00pm Mah Jongg in MH | ***30***<br>9:30-10:30am Tai Chi Class |  | |  |

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**Mother Erin's contact information**
**Email: rector@hiecbh.com**
***For pastoral emergencies call (609)-467-8742***
***Any time***

***On the Fourth Sunday of the Month, Mother Erin will offer prayers and anointing for healing in the chapel immediately after the Holy Eucharist for anyone who would like this ministry. Persons can come into the chapel and request healing prayer for themselves or for others.***

**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 and support our ministries and church operations!

# 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 | | |



# SeptemberAnniversaries

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Philip & Florence Boulden | 08 | 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

6th - Artificial Flowers
13th -
20th -
27th - Debbie Hunter

### SEPTEMBER FLOWER GUILD

6th - Artificial Flowers
13th - Carol Hammond
20th - Joyce Hillyer
27th - Kim Sparks

### SEPTEMBER ALTAR GUILD

6th - Chris Burlaga, Melissa Wall
13th - Jackie Sparks
20th - Jeanne Cashel
27th - Jackie Sparks

### SEPTEMBER USHERS & GREETERS

6th - Bill Kehr, Gail Jacobsen
13th - Leila Sullivan, Mike Fahner
20th - Bob Weidmann, Dave White
27th - Melissa Wall, Sue Hughes



### SEPTEMBER COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

6th -
13th - Maggie Aftanis & Rob Meyer
20th - Pat Peacock
27th -




**Our Coffee Hour Schedule is posted on the bulletin board outside Martin Hall. September 6th & 27th are still available. Please sign up if able. Thank you to all who contributed to coffee hours throughout the summer! Thank you, *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**

Donate your way.
Give one time, anytime or set up a recurring donation.



In My Father's House

# SAVE THE DATE:

## STEWARDSHP KICKOFF IS SEPTEMBER 20TH!
## MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW…