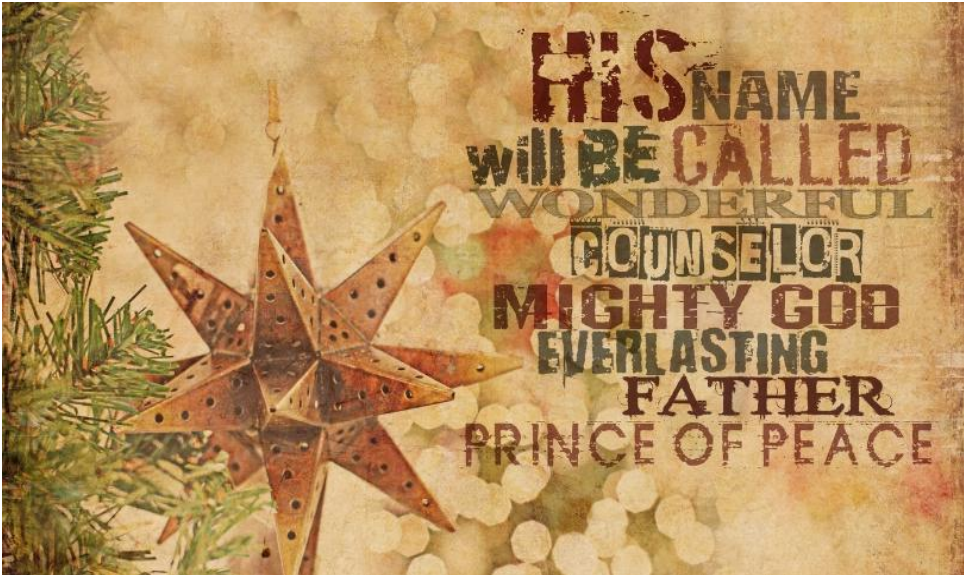


The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

*The Second Sunday
of
Christmas*



*The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents
in the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey
5 January, 2025 ~ 9:30 AM*

Welcome! In The Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. BCP means The Book of Common Prayer (Red Book).

** Indicates to stand as you are able*

Prelude

Christmases Remembered

James Mansfield

The Parish Notices

THE WORD OF GOD

***Entrance Hymn #84**

Love Came Down at Christmas

GARTAN

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father Son and Holy Spirit

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. *Amen*

The Collect for Purity

Hymn #96 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (vv. 1&4)

GLORIA

The Collect of the Day:

BCP, p. 214

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry, I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84:1-8 (*Read alternating by whole verse*)

BCP, p. 707

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

***Sequence Hymn #128** *We Three Kings*

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** (*All are seated*)

The Sermon

The Rev. Peter De Franco

***The Prayers of the People: Form III**

BCP, p. 387

(The people may stand or kneel)

Celebrant In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church in Wales. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Sally our Bishop and for Peter, our supply priest; We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader For Nancy our Mayor, Philip our Governor, Joseph our President and Donald our President-elect. We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially remembering all victims of climate change, and for the poor. We also remember all those mentioned in our Parish Prayer List, the sick, the shut-in, and the grieving; those serving in the military and other dangerous professions, and for our enemies, that all hearts may be turned to peace. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
(The People may add their own petitions.)

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Confession

BCP, p. 360

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

Absolution

BCP, p. 360

***The Peace** (*All stand*)

Offertory Hymn #105 *God Rest You, Merry Gentlemen* GOD REST YOU, MERRY

***The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP, p. 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-129 (*all sing*) *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*
(*The People may stand or kneel*)

Robert Powell

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh,

Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *All: AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead

us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem: S-154 (*all sing*) *Christ Our Passover* David Hurd

(All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.)

***Postcommunion Prayer** (*Please stand*) **BCP, p. 365**

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Hymn #93 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

Dismissal **BCP, p. 366**

Postlude *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* Felix Mendelssohn/Anna Laura Page

Coffee Hour is held EVERY SUNDAY and we would LOVE IT if you would join us in Martin Hall following the service!

Serving Today

Crucifer ~ TBD **Lector** ~ Kay DeCicco

Ushers ~ Gail Jacobsen, Mike DeCicco **Chalice Bearer** ~ Vince Contreras

Thank you to Barbara Wheeler for playing organ for us while Ellen is away!

Parish Prayer List – January 5, 2025

PLEASE NOTE: If you need to add or remove a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our Parish Administrator by Wednesday, January 8th.

Lara Sparks Deitz	Joan Connolly	Mary Ann Crewdson
Dennis	Connie Anderson	Christian Balint
Bob Hendricks	Christine Hendricks	Kathy & Walter
Ron & Kenny	Jeannine	Judy & Al
Joan & Linda Kelly	Chris C.	David D'Ambrosia
Barry Longenbach	Warren Lamon	Teri Keller
Gia	Cora	Frank M.
Ray M.	Joey	Sue P.
Ann White	George & Linda Huggler	Cindy Wood
Pierro Family	Lovas Family	Debbie & Joe Reising
Connie	Joe	Peg Appleget
Dcn. Judy	Jim Hanley	Fran
Lynne Weidmann	Alicia Magarelli	Jennifer
Keith Moore	Alycia Mullin	Diane
Florence Welharticky	Meg Neff	Rob Meyer
Chuck Hall	Leila Sullivan	Rob Greer
Tino	Florence Lamon	Melanie Harman
Shirley	Pat	Joe
Kathy Rice	Jessie	Bob & Barb Senst
Vince Contreras	Rich	Charles Sullivan
Doug Hunter	Marie Kleber	
Family & Friends of Gerry Lutz		Family & Friends of Jim Sanders
Family & Friends of Cynthia Clarke		Family & Friends of Louise Muth
Family & Friends of Mimi Dodson		Family & Friends of Suzette Whiting

Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:

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

Altar Flowers: This week's Altar Flowers are given in memory of Marcello & Frank Gallo's wedding anniversary, by their children and grandchildren and also to the Glory of God.

WEEKLY CALENDAR January 6 - 11

06 – Mon	Morning Prayer (FB)	9:00 AM
	Yoga in MH	9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
07 – Tues		
08 – Wed	Sandwich Ministry	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
09 – Thurs	Vestry Meeting	7:00 PM
	“Clam-Diggers” AA Group	7:30 PM
	Compline (FB)	9:00 PM
10 – Fri	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>	
11 – Sat	Joyce Vitulli Committal	11:00 AM

SAVE THE DATE: Jan. 12th – Annual Meeting of the Parish immediately following worship service.

THE BISHOP IS COMING!! VISITATION DATE HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED TO FEBRUARY 23RD

Anyone interested in being confirmed or received into the church,
please get in touch with a Warden or see Lisa in the office.

The canonical purposes of a visitation are for the bishop to examine the condition of the congregation, oversee the clergy, preach, confirm, preside at the eucharist, and examine parochial records





Donate your way.

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

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Pearl & Marine Streets, Beach Haven, New Jersey 08008

609-492-7571 www.hiecbh.com

OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM

STAFF & CLERGY

Rev. Peter De Franco, Supply Priest ~ revpdefranco@gmail.com

Mrs. Lisa Halpin, Parish Administrator ~ hichurch08008@gmail.com

Mrs. Ellen J. Dondero, Minister of Music & Organist ~ ejdondero@comcast.net

VESTRY & WARDENS

Dave White, Senior Warden

Pat Peacock, Junior Warden

Vestry Class of 2024

Diane Carter

Vince Contreras

Matt Starr

Vestry Class of 2025

Judy Contreras

Bruce Hillyer

Bill Kehr

Vestry Class of 2026

Larry Peacock

Barbara Wheeler

Leila Sullivan