

Weekly Church Chat from Christ Episcopal Church, Toms River

This email provides events/ deadlines for the upcoming week or so and may not represent all scheduled activities at Christ Church.

Friday, March 31st

DATE CHANGED!!! NOT THIS WEEKEND St. Elisabeth's Chapel-by-the-Sea, Ortley

Beach This Chapel was destroyed by Superstorm Sandy. The entire church was washed away. They have now rebuilt and are going to have a dedication service **Sunday June 4th** at 3:00 PM. A great event to celebrate. The Rt. Rev. Chip Stokes, Bishop of NJ, presiding. You are invited. The address is 5 Third Avenue in Ortley Beach.

Let's Talk— Would you like to meet parishioners of the 12:30 service? Come to the “Let's Talk” table in Disciples Hall on Sundays (except Café Sundays) between 11:45 and 12:20pm. Knowledge of Spanish not required. Bilingual members will be on hand to facilitate conversation.

The Maundy Thursday 7:30PM service will *not* be bilingual this year. Instead we will be holding the service in English in the Church and the service in Spanish in the Chapel. Please make an effort to greet one another prior to the services beginning.

Easter cards for Homebound This is the last weekend, please take a minute to sign the Easter cards for our Homebound. It means so much to them to know they are not forgotten. Please contact Sandy Naiva or Helene Phillips if you have any questions.

Can You Keep Vigil For One Hour? At the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the reserved Sacrament (the Body and Blood of Christ) is processed to a “Garden” at the rear of the church. The main altar is stripped and the congregation leaves in silence. From then until the first service of Good Friday morning, it is tradition at Christ Church that a Vigil is kept at this Garden of the Repose at the rear of the church. People volunteer for one hour at a time, remembering that Jesus asked His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane if they could not watch with Him one hour to pray. There is a schedule of one-hour time slots from Thursday April 13 9PM through Friday April 14 6AM (which ends at 7AM). A total of ten hours - all through the night! Can you sit for one of these hours? Please sign up at Name Tag Table. There can be more than one person per hour. Thank you! Mother Joan+

Gethsemane Garden Help is needed with setting up the Gethsemane Garden, on Maundy Thursday April 13th in the morning at 9:30am at Kelley Bless's home. The plants are moved from Kelley Bless's house to the Church (help at the church is needed at 10-10:30am)... some are heavy! Please email Kelley at harrymom58@yahoo.com if you can help.

Easter Flowers & Special Music - For Easter Services, Easter flowers will be placed in the church and the chapel in celebration of the Resurrection. Special instruments will also perform (10:15am). Donations may be made in Memory or Honor of a loved one. See form attached. All Names must be received by April 9th. Thank you.

Easter Giving Tree is up, please take a tag, to purchase a gift card for our area stores to benefit families in need. Gift cards are due back by Palm Sunday. Any questions please feel free to call or email Kathy Kilfara.732-859-1494. Email klight46@gmail.com.

Decorating Church for Easter helpers are needed to decorate the church Saturday morning at 9:30am April 15th for Easter. Please email Kelley at harrymom58@yahoo.com if you can help

Wednesday Evenings in Lent –We meet Wednesdays (through April 5th) at 6:00PM for Soup and Bread Supper followed by the Lenten Program of small reflection groups, and ending with the short service of Compline by 8:00PM. The Lenten reflections focus on the Gospel readings for Lent 2017.

Lenten Soup Supper Kitchen Volunteers Needed — The Lenten Soup Suppers are on Wednesdays through April 5th. See sign-up Sheet on Name Tag Table to bring soup or bread. Volunteers are also needed to assist with set up, serving, and clean up on these dates. If you can help please email the church office. Thank you.

Lent Morning Prayer- Continue our tradition of praying daily morning prayer during Lent. We will meet in the Chapel at 8 AM on Monday through Thursday. Morning prayer usually last less than 30 minutes. If you are not able to be with us in person, you can join us by phone by calling [641-715-3580](tel:641-715-3580) and using the code **189853** when prompted. On Fridays all are welcome to the Morning Prayer / Holy Eucharist service starting at 7 AM. For any questions, please speak with Deacon Ted.

Stations of the Cross is every Tuesday evening in Lent in the Church at 7:30pm. Come walk Jesus' path toward his death and resurrection.

Lent Madness – Have you been casting your votes each day while learning about the Saints?! Follow the link to play along! <http://www.lentmadness.org> . This is a great and fun way for the whole family to participate in Lent. See the results posted on the chart at the church.

SAVE THE DATE – Farewell to Deacon Emily – Saturday April 22nd at 6:00PM. Many volunteers are needed for different tasks. If you can help or have questions contact Melissa Briggs or Cathy O'Neill.

FOOD PANTRY- is currently low on several much needed items. **Items needed are:** canned carrots, chicken, stew, fruit, pasta meals, sugar, vegetable oil, salt, and microwaved meals. Thank you as always for your support!

Healing Mission On Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 8AM to 3PM, a Healing Mission will be held at Christ Church. This is a joint collaboration of the OSL chapter of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Whiting. The guest speaker is Reverend Gretchen Zimmerman whose message is "All Shall Be Well". Praise music will be provided by Celebrate. Registration is \$10. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Program fliers are available in the Narthex and on the table outside the Chapel. For further information contact Donna Perry at (732) 349- 2705.

A Special Stations of the Cross: Interpretations by 14 Artists will be held at Trinity Church, Asbury Park, NJ on April 21, 2017, 7-9pm. Enjoy the art, meet the artists, and hear their perspectives and inspirations. Our own Suzanne Schleck is one of the participating artists! Refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 732-775-5084.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW - Each month the Sunday school children are learning a new phrase in both English and Spanish. Please join them by learning this month's selection: "Christ has risen" = "Cristo ha resucitado"

DO YOU KNOW? During March, 24 people needed clothes from Your Grandmother's Cupboard.

DO YOU KNOW? That someone on the Altar Guild takes home all the communion linens and washes them and then irons them each week.

DO YOU KNOW? That 16 parishioners have volunteered to be lay Eucharistic Visitors and bring communion to our parish family members that cannot attend Church? Five of the volunteers are new to this ministry.

Weekly Church Chat from Christ Episcopal Church, Toms River

This email provides events/ deadlines for the upcoming week or so and may not represent all scheduled activities at Christ Church.

Friday, March 31st

DATE CHANGED!!! NOT THIS WEEKEND St. Elisabeth's Chapel-by-the-Sea, Ortley

Beach This Chapel was destroyed by Superstorm Sandy. The entire church was washed away. They have now rebuilt and are going to have a dedication service **Sunday June 4th** at 3:00 PM. A great event to celebrate. The Rt. Rev. Chip Stokes, Bishop of NJ, presiding. You are invited. The address is 5 Third Avenue in Ortley Beach.

Let's Talk— Would you like to meet parishioners of the 12:30 service? Come to the “Let’s Talk” table in Disciples Hall on Sundays (except Café Sundays) between 11:45 and 12:20pm. Knowledge of Spanish not required. Bilingual members will be on hand to facilitate conversation.

The Maundy Thursday 7:30PM service will *not* be bilingual this year. Instead we will be holding the service in English in the Church and the service in Spanish in the Chapel. Please make an effort to greet one another prior to the services beginning.

Easter cards for Homebound This is the last weekend, please take a minute to sign the Easter cards for our Homebound. It means so much to them to know they are not forgotten. Please contact Sandy Naiva or Helene Phillips if you have any questions.

Can You Keep Vigil For One Hour? At the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the reserved Sacrament (the Body and Blood of Christ) is processed to a “Garden” at the rear of the church. The main altar is stripped and the congregation leaves in silence. From then until the first service of Good Friday morning, it is tradition at Christ Church that a Vigil is kept at this Garden of the Repose at the rear of the church. People volunteer for one hour at a time, remembering that Jesus asked His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane if they could not watch with Him one hour to pray. There is a schedule of one-hour time slots from Thursday April 13 9PM through Friday April 14 6AM (which ends at 7AM). A total of ten hours - all through the night! Can you sit for one of these hours? Please sign up at Name Tag Table. There can be more than one person per hour. Thank you! Mother Joan+

Gethsemane Garden Help is needed with setting up the Gethsemane Garden, on Maundy Thursday April 13th in the morning at 9:30am at Kelley Bless’s home. The plants are moved from Kelley Bless’s house to the Church (help at the church is needed at 10-10:30am)... some are heavy! Please email Kelley at harrymom58@yahoo.com if you can help.

Easter Flowers & Special Music - For Easter Services, Easter flowers will be placed in the church and the chapel in celebration of the Resurrection. Special instruments will also perform (10:15am). Donations may be made in Memory or Honor of a loved one. See form attached. All Names must be received by April 9th. Thank you.

Easter Giving Tree is up, please take a tag, to purchase a gift card for our area stores to benefit families in need. Gift cards are due back by Palm Sunday. Any questions please feel free to call or email Kathy Kilfara.732-859-1494. Email klight46@gmail.com.

Decorating Church for Easter helpers are needed to decorate the church Saturday morning at 9:30am April 15th for Easter. Please email Kelley at harrymom58@yahoo.com if you can help

Wednesday Evenings in Lent –We meet Wednesdays (through April 5th) at 6:00PM for Soup and Bread Supper followed by the Lenten Program of small reflection groups, and ending with the short service of Compline by 8:00PM. The Lenten reflections focus on the Gospel readings for Lent 2017.

Lenten Soup Supper Kitchen Volunteers Needed — The Lenten Soup Suppers are on Wednesdays through April 5th. See sign-up Sheet on Name Tag Table to bring soup or bread. Volunteers are also needed to assist with set up, serving, and clean up on these dates. If you can help please email the church office. Thank you.

Lent Morning Prayer- Continue our tradition of praying daily morning prayer during Lent. We will meet in the Chapel at 8 AM on Monday through Thursday. Morning prayer usually last less than 30 minutes. If you are not able to be with us in person, you can join us by phone by calling [641-715-3580](tel:641-715-3580) and using the code **189853** when prompted. On Fridays all are welcome to the Morning Prayer / Holy Eucharist service starting at 7 AM. For any questions, please speak with Deacon Ted.

Stations of the Cross is every Tuesday evening in Lent in the Church at 7:30pm. Come walk Jesus' path toward his death and resurrection.

Lent Madness – Have you been casting your votes each day while learning about the Saints?! Follow the link to play along! <http://www.lentmadness.org> . This is a great and fun way for the whole family to participate in Lent. See the results posted on the chart at the church.

SAVE THE DATE – Farewell to Deacon Emily – Saturday April 22nd at 6:00PM. Many volunteers are needed for different tasks. If you can help or have questions contact Melissa Briggs or Cathy O'Neill.

FOOD PANTRY- is currently low on several much needed items. **Items needed are:** canned carrots, chicken, stew, fruit, pasta meals, sugar, vegetable oil, salt, and microwaved meals. Thank you as always for your support!

Healing Mission On Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 8AM to 3PM, a Healing Mission will be held at Christ Church. This is a joint collaboration of the OSL chapter of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Whiting. The guest speaker is Reverend Gretchen Zimmerman whose message is “All Shall Be Well”. Praise music will be provided by Celebrate. Registration is \$10. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Program fliers are available in the Narthex and on the table outside the Chapel. For further information contact Donna Perry at (732) 349- 2705.

A Special Stations of the Cross: Interpretations by 14 Artists will be held at Trinity Church, Asbury Park, NJ on April 21, 2017, 7-9pm. Enjoy the art, meet the artists, and hear their perspectives and inspirations. Our own Suzanne Schleck is one of the participating artists! Refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 732-775-5084.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW - Each month the Sunday school children are learning a new phrase in both English and Spanish. Please join them by learning this month's selection: “Christ has risen” = “Cristo ha resucitado”

DO YOU KNOW? During March, 24 people needed clothes from Your Grandmother's Cupboard.

DO YOU KNOW? That someone on the Altar Guild takes home all the communion linens and washes them and then irons them each week.

DO YOU KNOW? That 16 parishioners have volunteered to be lay Eucharistic Visitors and bring communion to our parish family members that cannot attend Church? Five of the volunteers are new to this ministry.