



♣ BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ♣

March/April 2020

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS BEGINNING Friday, February 28 • Noon

Stations of the Cross, in which we retrace Jesus' steps while he is led to the cross and placed in the tomb. Following this time of prayer and reflection, a light lunch will be served in the parish hall. (See Calendar.)

LENTEN POTLUCKS AND STUDY SERIES SIX GATHERINGS BEGIN MARCH 5 • 6:30 PM (Studies based on the life of Jesus. See Calendar.)

ECUMENICAL LENTEN LUNCHEONS BEGINNING MARCH 4 • NOON-1:00 PM

This luncheon and preaching series, "People Around the Cross," begins and continues for five consecutive weeks. Lunches will be held in our parish hall. Every church will take a turn providing lunch.

When Christ Church provides lunch, if you are able to help please speak with Fr Roy. A freewill offering will be taken to support the Ballston Area Clergy Association Community Assistance Fund. (See Calendar for all speakers and programs.)

HELP THE CHURCH DAY

ike Luger is organizing another Help the Church Day on **Saturday, April 25**. This will be our fourth one, and they have been growing in size. Everyone is welcome to help with small projects around the church. We'll start at 8 AM and end with lunch. We have painting, electrical repairs, and some overgrown bushes to tame. Maybe you have a pet project you would like to work on. Mike will have some tools and paintbrushes but if you bring your own then we know we'll have them. We could use help making lunch, too.

Thanks in advance for the help! If you have questions, contact Mike at 518.884.0595 or lugermike@yahoo.com.

♣ News and Notes

PASTOR'S LETTER



The Reverend Derik J. Roy, Jr.

Dear Friends,

ax Lucado tells a story about a man out under a street light looking for something. His neighbor comes along and asks, "What are you looking for?"

"My keys," says the

man. "Where did you lose them"? asks the neighbor. "Well, I lost them over there on the lawn, but I'm looking here because the light is better."

It seems pretty foolish to look for something in one place if you know it is in another, and yet isn't that exactly what we do? We say we want happiness, joy, fulfillment, peace of mind, confidence, purpose, and on and on, yet we so often look in the wrong places.

We are entering the season of Lent. Traditionally, Lent is that time of the year the Church calls us to look in at ourselves to discern the state of our spiritual life. In a very real way, it's the time of year we make sure we're not looking in all the wrong places.

As we enter this Lenten season, I invite and encourage you to consider at least one of the many opportunities our church offers to grow in Christ.

Look over this newsletter carefully and prayerfully consider what you'll do this Lent to be, "Looking in the right place."

Faithfully Yours,

—Father Derik Roy

8 Parish Anniversaries

March—

- John and Theresa Polson
- 24 Richard and Nancy Doud A

April—

- 4 Marissa and Jared Bongo
- 9 Michelle and Joseph Miner
- 11 Paul and Deborah Guilmette
- 12 John and Tammy Boyd
- 29 Jaye Kaye and Jim Van Valkenburg
- 30 Mark and Ann Baker
- 23 John and Judith Bell A

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The annual meeting took place on January 26, with more than 80 adults in attendance. The meeting began with a special time of honoring Beverly Granger for her ministry and service to the church for over 20 years. Gifts were presented from generous donations given by our church family and it was clear that Beverly was very touched. The meeting proceeded with the standard reports of happenings in the life of Christ Church.

- A Power Point presentation was given by Alan Greenspan, chairperson of our Outreach Ministries. Included in his report was a fashion presentation for Noah's Attic by Donna Hatley, Wanda Closson and ther members of their team. Mary Malandrino and Amy Aguda-Tamah our directors, presented the KidsFirst report and Alan updated us on the Food Pantry, Diocesan news, ecumenical ministries, church growth, those in the ordination process (Paul Guilmette) and our missions support over the year. Glen and Laura Face also presented a few slides of our recent mission trip to Belize.
- Paul Cuddihy shared his presentation of our pastoral ministries by thanking the many that participate in worship, children's ministries, education, fellowship, visitation, healing and more. We are blessed with many people included in these ministries.
- Greg Schmidt shared a Power Point presentation of the Resource Ministries, a very thorough presentation of our income and expenditures of 2019, and our 2020 budget. We all rejoiced with the news that at the end of the year all bills, except for our diocesan assessment, were paid.
- Many thanks were also offered to our dedicated deacons and staff; Beverly Granger, treasurer; Kathryn Cook, Assistant Treasurer; Judith Bell, Clerk of the Vestry; Tim Iannon; Wanda Closson director of Noah's Attic; Donna Hatley assistant director; Jeanne Speer; Lois Mitchell for organizing the counters and children's sermons; Mary Malandrino KidsFirst director; and Amy Aguda-Tamah, assistant director. We also thanked the following for their service on the Vestry that had come to an end: Ann Wait and Greg Schmidt.

Those elected were: Warden: Alan Greenspan Vestry members: Bonnie Hall, Christine Osgood, Megan Lovelace

Those continuing include: Andrew Cook, Sr. Warden; Paul Cuddihy, Bet LaRue, Bambi Becker, Dave Bush, John Polson, and Rebecca Grugan

We also elected Convention delegates: Don and Julie Rohr, and Jayne Schmidt

Columbarium committee: Beverly Granger

Father Roy concluded the meeting with his report and thanks for the many blessings of serving Christ Church.



CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bet LaRue Layout: Janet Marie Yeates

Submission Deadline: Noon on Friday, April 10, 2020

Articles and announcements need to be sent as *e-mail attachments* to

Bet LaRue · luvbritlit@gmail.com

Send *high-resolution digital image*s (not web files) to **jmyeates@frontiernet.net**





Please follow us!

Facebook:

Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa

Instagram: @cecbspa

Website:

www.christepiscopal ballstonspa.com

Parish Giving

November average was \$4,950 December average was \$8,873 To meet budget in 2019, \$5,341

January average was \$5,705 To meet budget in 2020, \$5,508

AN INVITATION TO TEA

- Do you know who St. Agnes was? Or where her picture can be found in our church?
- Do you ever wonder who the Daughters of the King are or what the St. Agnes chapter does?
- Did you know that there are Junior Daughters of the King? Or that we are an international order of women?

aughters of the King is hosting a tea on March 14 at 10 AM with an open invitation to all women of Christ Episcopal Church to come and learn more about us. We would love to share with you what we are all about and our vision for the future. We are hoping to undergo a study with women and/or girls who are interested in becoming Daughters of the King later this spring. We welcome your questions and look forward to enjoying a pleasant time of fellowship together.

FOOD PANTRY

Jim and Jan Bornheim thank everyone for all the kind words and accolades they have received for their 20 years of leading our Food Pantry. They have respectfully declined to have any special celebration.

We introduce **John and Theresa Polson** who have agreed to fill the leadership role. They have been members of Christ Church for 8 years and have 3 children. They have been active on Vestry, the KidsFirst board, and many other ministries of the church. To volunteer, contact Theresa at theresapolson@gmail.com or John at johnpolsonjr@gmail.com.



Sunday/Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Friday: 9:30 AM-3:00 PM 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesday/Thursday: Saturday:

9:30 AM-4:00 PM 9:30 AM-2:30 PM

Noah's Attic Telephone 518-885-9455

% Keep in Your Prayers

Janice Baird Elizabeth Byrnes Erin Dumovitz Bert Grandin Tim Iannon Curtis Niemeyer Mabel Siler Gail Vacula Claire Weaver Nancy Wemple

♣ IN MEMORIAM **♣**

Ruth V. Shiebler

Ruth, who was a longtime member of Christ Church and former Mechanicville High School acclaimed music director, died Sunday, January 19, at Gateway House of Peace, at age 92.

CHRIST CHURCH CALENDAR • MARCH/APRIL 2020

Celebration Choir • 8 am service Rehearses in church after 8:00 AM service; will sing first Sundays

Angel Choir • for Children K-6 Rehearses after 10 AM Service

Worship Choir • 10 am service Rehearses in Choir Room on Mondays 7:00–8:00 PM

—Kristin McCabe

Tuesday, March 3 • 6:30 pm

Community of Hope

The Community of Hope classes provide training in lay pastoral caregiving through the teaching of Benedictine spirituality and teachings of listening skills, boundaries, grief counseling, and other compassionate practices. Even if you don't plan to visit people in hospitals or homes, CoH will help you to learn how to be a better friend, co-worker, teacher, etc. The class will begin on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 PM and meet every Tuesday evening until June 2 (except for April 14). The cost is \$100, which includes materials. Partial scholarships are available. Participants need to be interviewed before the class begins, if possible. For more info contact Bet LaRue or Bambi Becker.

Wednesday, March 4 • Noon–1:00 pm

Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon

This luncheon and preaching series, "People Around the Cross," begins and continues for 5 consecutive weeks. Lunches will be held in our parish hall. Every church will take a turn providing the lunch. When Christ Church

provides lunch, if you are able to help please speak with Fr Roy. A freewill offering will be taken to support the Ballston Area Clergy Association Community Assistance Fund.

March 4: Methodist Church— Pastor Kelly Warner – Centurion

March 11: Hope Church— Pastor Nate Thompson – Mary

March 18: Christ Church— Fr Derik Roy – The Thieves

March 25: Presbyterian Church-Pastor Jennifer Legg – Simon

April 1: Baptist ChurchPastor Dave Waldo – Women

Thursday, March 5 • 6:30 pm

Lenten Potluck and Study

We will be using a new DVD study by Max Lucado called "Jesus." For 33 years Jesus felt everything that we have ever felt: weakness, weariness, rejections. He got colds. His feelings got hurt. His feet grew tired. His head ached. He hit his thumb with a hammer.

In this six-session study, bestselling author Max Lucado inspires participants to spend time at the foot of the cross and search the heart of the one who would rather die for them than live without them.

Bring a dish to share and an open heart and mind. Bring a friend as well.

Saturday, March 7 • 10 am

DOK Tea (see article)

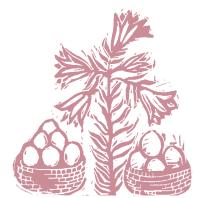
Saturday, March 21 8:30 AM-3:45 PM

Parish Leadership Conference

This year's conference at the Spiritual Life Center will focus on reaching the unchurched using the updated Alpha Program. It is open to all our church family. A sign-up sheet will be in the welcome center as the date approaches. Leading the conference will be Fr Derik Roy and our former assistant priest, Fr Scott Evans, along with other folks from our diocese.

March 22

Mothering Sunday (see article)



Easter Flower Donations

The beautiful Easter flowers that decorate our church during the Eastern season are given In Memory or Thanksgiving by members of our Church. If you wish to have Easter Flowers for someone, please be sure to fill out the flower envelope. These envelopes will be in the pews starting March 22, and must be placed in the collection plate or turned in to the office by April 5 in order to be listed in our Easter bulletin.

♣ News and Notes

♣ HOLY WEEK ♣

THURSDAY, APRIL 9 • 6 PM

Maundy Thursday Seder

We will begin with the Seder, the Passover meal Jesus celebrated with the disciples in the Upper Room the night before He was crucified. At this Last Supper, Jesus instituted the sacrament of Communion and washed the feet of his disciples as a sign that they were to be servants. At this meal, you'll learn about our Jewish roots and how much of the Christian heritage comes from that tradition. Following the Eucharist, we will begin the all-night Prayer Vigil, reminding us of the time Jesus spent in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before his arrest. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center prior to the

vigil; we hope every hour until Noon on Good Friday will be filled.

FRI., APRIL 10 • NOON & 6 PM Good Friday Worship

The Noon service includes the Stations of the Cross, a devotional approach to the 14 events (some Biblical and some traditional) that were part of Jesus' journey from trial to crucifixion. The evening service gives those who work during the day an opportunity to worship and focus on the cross of Christ.

Saturday, April 11 • 8 pm The Great Easter Vigil

The first Eucharist of Easter will begin in the dark as the Paschal

candle is lit. As the congregants light their candles and proclaim "Jesus is the Light of the World," we hear stories from the Old Testament. Then, if there are any to be baptized, we do so, making a commitment to Christ by renewing our own vows. Then, as we turn on the lights and proclaim "Jesus is Risen!" we celebrate the Easter Eucharist

Sunday, April 12 • 8 & 10 Am Easter Services

No Sunday School will be held.

WED., APRIL 22 • 6:30 PM Alpha Marriage and Alpha Parenting

More info to come.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

othering Sunday began as an explicitly religious event of the 16th Century, with no connection to mothers at all. The word "mothering" referred to the "mother church," which is to say the main church or cathedral of the region. Like many traditions and festivities, Mothering Sunday began with a religious purpose. Held on the fourth Sunday of Lent, exactly three weeks before Easter Sunday, it was originally a day to honor and give thanks to the Virgin Mary, also known as Mother Mary. Such celebrations required people to visit their "mother church"—the main church or cathedral in a family's area.

The spread of Christianity throughout Europe in the 16th Century increased the celebrations and firmly put Mothering Sunday on the calendar. The gatherings reunited families and gave children who worked as domestic servants, or as apprentices away from home (from as early as ten years old), the opportunity to have the day off to be with their families. However, the journey home inevitably became an opportunity

An Invitation



Mothering Sunday
March 22 • 3 PM
Parish Hall

for the custom to develop of children picking flowers en route to give as gifts to their mothers. The custom took on a further celebratory air because it was traditionally an occasion for the fasting rules of Lent to be relaxed, allowing revelers a long-awaited feast.

This year Christ Church is going to resurrect this tradition. On the fourth Sunday of Lent, March 22, at 3 PM in our parish hall, we are going to celebrate our "mother church" by gathering together as one large, loving community and have a great celebratory feast. We are asking each family to bring their signature dish or dishes to share.

♣ News and Notes **♣**

We're Home!

leven stalwart soldiers of Christianity traveled to Belize in January. We were from five different churches: Christ Episcopal Church, Greenfield Center Baptist Church, Adirondack Mission Churches, Trinity Church of Lansingburgh in Troy, and Church of the Messiah in Glens Falls. We were there to help the Mt Hope Bible Church and the people of Unitedville, Belize, in Central America. The trip lasted 9 very full days as the team worked on many projects for the people of Mt Hope.

- We built and wired an 8 ft. by 16 ft. addition on a single Mom's house-she previously had two children sleeping with her in her bedroom. We also built a single bed for each child so they had a new bed and mattress in their new, very own room. Some team members constructed a bunk bed that ended up being shared by 4 brothers for another home. Then we built one more single bed for a young girl who was sleeping on a crib mattress on the floor. A couple of team members built a front porch for another home that had mud and water running in a ditch in front of the home. Several of us built and hung three interior doors for a young family building a new home. Many people in Unitedville don't have running water. We purchased and installed a gutter and rain barrel system for another family. This allows them to have water right at their front door, which is almost as good as running water.
- While we were in Belize the team put up wallboard and painted in two Sunday School classrooms. Last year, our mission team insulated, put up wallboard, and painted the Church's Youth Center. This year we were honored to see almost 50 youths using the center on Youth night.
- A teacher friend of Nancy Cairns heard about our trip and the need for school supplies. She organized a pencil and eraser drive in her elementary school and collected more than 2,000 pencils. We delivered school supplies to six schools in Belize. Several team members who are educators spent time visiting classrooms and working with students in need. We also donated money towards several projects for villagers that we didn't have time to do while we were there. Overall, the team made a difference in many lives. We did take one day to play "tourists" and visited the Belize National Zoo and climbed a Mayan ruin.
- Thank you to everyone who supported our efforts to finance the mission trip.
- We are open to organizing two possible mission trips to Belize next year: one in January and a shorter 7 day trip (over school break week in February to accommodate educators who might be interested in joining us. There will be an organizational meeting in April. Please contact Glen Face at 518.441.6396 or glenface@gmail.com if you would like more information. ●

CURSILLO

ursillo is a movement of the church which trains and supports its members to live out their apostolic missions. This ministry is comprised of several small groups and those groups are sometimes brought together internationally. After completing the initial program, participants (Cursillistas) are encouraged to continue their faith journey with the support of other Cursillistas through Ultreya meetings.

The work of the Ultreya at Christ Church Ballston Spa, which has been inactive in recent years, will be resurrected. All Cursillistas in the area are invited to join us! We will gather for our first meeting after the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 25, at 7 PM. Thereafter, we will meet every fourth Tuesday of the month.

For questions please see Lois McGee or Megan Lovelace.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Word. A sponge absorbs what is around it. What is around our children? Their school systems are sometimes hesitant about saying anything about God or teaching children to ask God for help with problems.

Let's look at our day. We wake up. For us, it is a mad rush. Find clothes. Get dressed. Is the homework done? Get the bus. Phew, we made it!

Our kids are in school approximately 30 hours a week. Some have before- and after-school care. Then we come home, and if you are like my family, you are in a mad dash to make dinner, do homework, and then try to get calm for bedtime. Weekends are great, but we are catching up. How much time is given to reading God's word and talking to God?

Can Sunday School be another tool to help our kids learn about Jesus? YES! Please, don't deny our children the possibility to learn more about our God who loves us recklessly and only wants the best for us. Encourage attendance at Sunday School. Support Sunday School. Be part of Sunday School!

♣ OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH **♣**

MS AND HS YOUTH GROUP

I ichelle and Doug have had some changes in their lives. Doug got a new job (praise Jesus!). The downside is that his schedule is not conducive to Sunday meetings and we are trying to figure out where to go from here.

Due to attendance, they were thinking of changing things up anyway. So if you're interested gatherings for middle- and high-schoolers, please go to (https://www.facebook.com/Young-Disciples-of-Ballston-Spa-330283487489370/) to keep up to date. Michelle has ideas....

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

ue to Michelle and Doug's new schedules, we really need volunteers for Children's Church. If you'd like to help, please:

- 1. Write to Michelle at m2mattice@outlook.com and let her know you're interested.
- Get the envelope from Michelle's mailbox in the Choir Room with the date that you're available a week in advance. The activity packets will be done for you beforehand.
- 3. Let Fr Roy know you're there that day.
- 4. Have fun! The Children's Church room is fully stocked, so you should have what you need.

If you are a teen wishing to help an adult, please let Michelle know and she will assign you to an adult. •

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

Plan now to help in July. Be part of this exciting program for young people.



Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway!

On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs.

ROCKY RAILWAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 6-July 10 8:30-11:30 AM

https://vbspro.events/p/events/christepiscopalballston If you would like to volunteer, please contact:

> Melissa Miller 518.772.8598 MillerMe712@gmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT KIDSFIRST?

idsFirst has been enjoying these winter months, but is looking forward to the warmer weather. Over the next few months, the children will continue learning letters, numbers, shapes, colors, and exploring the themes, "Yummy in My Tummy," and "April Showers." Our little ones are excited as we continue Chapel services on Thursday mornings with Fr Roy. The Christian theme this month is "Jonah and the Big Fish." Our Bible verse is: I will always obey your law, forever and ever. Psalm 119:44.



We are looking to hire highly-qualified teachers for the following: School-Age program, Preschool/Pre-K, and infants. Although our enrollment is filling up, we do have a few spots available in our Toddler, Preschool, and Pre-K program. For more information, please call 518.309.3540.

Cheryl Russell, our Pre-K teacher, is still in the process of fighting cancer. She has been out of work and in treatment since December, 2019, but is now back and looking great; please keep her in your prayers as she fully recovers.

Opportunities for ServiceInterested? Call the office, 518,885,1031

Interested? Call the office, 518.885.1031
+ Acolytes Mike Luger
+ Alpha
♣ Altar Guild Julia Duchesne
+ Choir Kristin McCabe
+ Coffee Hour Alan and Carla Greenspan
+ Community of Hope Bet LaRue,
Bambi Becker
Daughters of the King Bambi Becker
♣ Decoration Julie Rohr
♣ Flowers Lois Mitchell
+ Food Pantry
♣ Foyers Bambi Becker
Healing Ministry Deacon Lynne Crimi
Hunger for Healing Bonnie Hall
♣ Junior Church Michelle Mattice
♣ Little Saints Fr Roy, Kelley Howell, Josh Bush
* Men's Breakfast Fellowship Noel Drindak
♣ MS/HS Youth Group <i>Michelle Mattice</i>
Missions Glen Face
♣ Newsletter Bet LaRue
♣ Noah's Attic Wanda Closson
♣ Nursery Melissa Miller
+ Prayer Chain Christine Martin
🖶 Prayer Quilts Margaret Cook, Joyce Reed
♣ Sunday School Corey Ott
♣ Vacation Bible School Melissa Miller

Ongoing Programs

- **♣** ADULTS, Year-round Eucharist Wednesdays, 9:15 AM
- # ADULTS, September to June Eucharist Friday, NOON
- # ADULTS, September through June Men's Breakfast Fellowship Wed, 6:30 AM Adult Sunday School Sundays, 9 AM Study Group Wednesdays, 10 AM, FIRESIDE

₱ Visitations Deacon Lynne Crimi

- # CHILDREN, September through June Children's Sunday School 9-9:50 AM Children's Church Sundays during
- # CHILDREN, September through May Little Saints 1st & 3rd Tuesday 4:00-5:30 PM
- ♣ Middle School/High SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, Noon to 2 PM, FIRESIDE



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

15 West High Street Ballston Spa NY 12020

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE 518.885.1031 ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Friday, April 10 • Noon



Parish Birthdays

March—

- 1 Holden Popkoski Aubrey Thomas
- Alex Guilmette
- Rachel Montalbaro
- Patrick Campbell
- Robert Bonanno Julia Duchesne Faith King Phoebe Lanning
- 6 Rich McCabe Paul Sausville
- Marcy Melander Elaine Pearson
- Brian Horrocks Anne Walsh
- Alexandra Bruno
- Bruce Uhlinger 10
- Geoffrey Wood 11
- 12 Gracelyn Guynup
- 13 Donna Thomas Ashley Ponessa
- Barbara Sutherland

- Kathy DeMartino
- Alex Dumovitz
- Angeline Dorman
- Connor Doud
- 23 Nathan Bonanno Paul Cuddihy Bailey Reynolds
- John Perreault
- Amber Sleight
- 26 Mike Carson Chris Elliott
- 28 James Van Valkenburg
- 30 Diane Iannon
- Scott Lutgens A



April-

- 2 Grayson Keefe Alita Rossen
- Sydney Carson
- Eve Lansing Melanie Speer

- Matt Willey Matthew King
- John Bell
- Shannon Rich
- Rob Mancini
- 10 Peter Loyola Jay Thomas
- 13 Angeline King
- 14 Angelica Bretz-Aguirre Bonnie Horrocks Bert Grandin
- 17 Greg Howell Kyle Newton Jacob Polson Amy LaLonde-Paley
- 18 Lorraine McPherson
- Anthony Polson
- Angela Roy
- Madalynn Bush
- Brody Kubas
- 30 Beverly Granger Karl Newton Byron Norsworthy A