

THE CROWN

The Newsletter of Christ Church Shrewsbury
Christ Church is a community committed to exploring the reality of God in today's world



Volume XXIV Issue XI

November 2022



*Prints of this beautiful painting of Christ Church
by artist and parishioner Marie Maber will soon be available for purchase.
Please contact the office for more details.*



Dear Friends,

This year I am missing one of my favorite Festivals at Christ Church; the Holy Triad of days known as All Hallows' Eve, All Saints' Day, and the Commemoration of all Faithful Departed (commonly known as All Souls' Day). Just as Easter is not really complete without Good Friday and Holy Saturday, so our celebration of all the Saints does not mean quite the same thing without the two feasts that are sandwiched in around it.

All Hallows' Eve (you may know it as Halloween) is the day we spook things out. We dress up in scary costumes to challenge the powers of evil, darkness, and even death. We laugh at them, taunt them, and play around with them because we know that they have no real power over those who belong to God in Christ Jesus. That happens on October 31st.

All Saints' Day is traditionally celebrated on November 1st. It is the day when we take off the dark shrouds of Halloween and replace them with the brightness of white and gold. We celebrate the communion of saints: those from every age and generation who have walked with Christ. Who, through the waters of baptism, have been buried in death and risen up out of the waters. It is a time to remember that this Faith we claim is not limited to our own day and age; we belong to a host of believers who faithfully serve our God, transcending time and space as we do so.

All Souls' Day may be my favorite of the three. Traditionally kept on November 2nd, for this quiet service, we focus on those among the dead whom we have personally known. Our "local" saints, you might say. We light candles and read their names. We affirm that they will never be forgotten. We express our hope in the resurrection: we will one day see them again. We leave one candle unlit at the altar. It reminds us that someone else will join that list of names next year. It might even be me. Or you. And that is okay, because as the Apostle Paul reminds us, *"If we live, we live in the Lord and if we die, we die in the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."*

We need such reminders. In a world in which we daily hear of death and destruction, in a world in which evil far too often raises its ugly head: we need to remember that evil and death never have the final word. In the face of all that challenges us in our personal lives, in our society, or on this beautiful planet we now call home, our Faith tells us there is far more than what meets the eye. In the midst of it all there is life and there is Christ.

This year, I will be in Oklahoma visiting my father and sisters, missing out on these beautiful reminders. Oh, I hope to meander over to Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in my hometown and worship with brothers and sisters there. But oh, how I will miss Shrewsbury. I will be missing the wonder and beauty of our 300+ year old graveyard which so deftly surrounds our parish church.

For me, our very church it is a metaphor and daily reminder of the peculiarity of our Faith: in the midst of the shadows of a plethora of gravestones our stately church building rises upward to the heavens. Ever-reminding me that in the midst of life we are in death, and in the midst of death – there is always life.

This year, Christ Church will be celebrating all of this on one day! On Sunday, October 30th, our services will have elements of both All Saints and All Souls Day, with a coffee hour filled with Halloween treats. Reverend

Kathleen Bishop will be presiding, bringing you a delightful day on which to remember, to celebrate, and to count yourself in that number of the Saints.

Peace,

Mother Lisa+

NEWS AND NOTES

Any Changes?

Advise us of any changes in your address or telephone number. Let us know so we can keep our records up to date. Please send us an email or call the Church Office at 732-741-2220

Parish Hours

Monday – closed

Tuesday – 9 am – 2 pm

Wednesday - 9 am – 2 pm

Thursday – 9 am – 2 pm

Friday – 9 am – 2 pm

Congratulations to Andrew and Lauren Brown on the Birth of their daughter, Harper Marie on October 3.

Congratulations to Luis Burgos and Steven Rudolph on their marriage on October 7.

Thank You

To Judi and Stuart Buncher, Halina Nibbling, and Cindy Webster for helping with the polishing of the brass in the Church. You all did a wonderful job!

BASKETS AND BAKED GOODS IS BACK!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and start getting ready! We are once again bringing back a “Mini Christmas Bazaar” to Christ Church on Saturday, December 3rd. We hope to hold this event in our newly renovated Parish Hall, but whatever is going on there -new floors or old – our doors will be open to offer delectable goodies and lovely gift baskets to the public.

Please start putting together your gift basket for the Bazaar. Please keep them at home until we are ready to receive them (we don’t want to interfere with the work being done in the Hall). Please start thinking about what baked goods you and your family will make. We can’t wait to see! And to sample your wares.

We will also be looking for volunteers: for the week before the event, help with setting up, wrapping baskets, all the details of decorating. Volunteers for the day of the event. And of course, volunteers for clean up. Please let the church office know when you are able to volunteer. Thank you.

GATHERING IN CHRIST’S NAME:

Together, we can do all things in Christ Jesus!

We are midway through our Pledge Campaign for 2023. I hope you are enjoying the weekly email reports and updates. ***If you have not already turned in your certificate:*** please do! You can put it in the offering plate on Sunday, send it via USPS or email it to us. Don’t forget to check if you need envelopes or not. And do consider checking the first little box: *I/We intend to remember Christ Church in our will.* It may be a long time before that day comes, but it is good to make the commitment when you are healthy and able to do so. You need not give any amount.

Ingathering will happen on Sunday, November 20th. If the Parish House is finished, we will gather there, bless the space, and share brunch. If the Parish House is still not completed, we will still gather and share brunch – in the nave of the church! So send in your pledges and mark your calendars!



GFS News

In October, Gfsers were welcomed into the home of Cassandra Murphy to make dog biscuits and enjoy a delicious spread of delectable foods. These doggie treats are part of the way our parish celebrates the Feast of St. Francis, and were sent to the Monmouth County SPCA. On October 22nd, we participated in

Beach Sweeps at our favorite location of Maple Cove followed by a delicious brunch at Toast!

To my Christ Church of Shrewsbury family,

October is my birth month, and my birthday is something I always look forward to no matter how busy my schedule gets. As you all know by now, I had a tough childhood. Every day we struggle to put food on our table, and I was malnourished. It wasn't only a period full of financial struggles but also of physical, mental, and emotional distress. Hence, there are birthdays when I don't even receive a single birthday greeting or a letter at least. My childhood memories are full of sorrow, pain, and trauma that only a few of my childhood friends have known because I avoid talking about it now. I bet my new friends would be surprised if they will hear about my past. Not that I am ashamed of it but because there are wounds that time cannot heal.

I am sharing this with you bravely for you have been a wonderful part of my life and I wanted to impart that healing does not mean letting go of everything. Healing begins with acceptance. It may take years or decades just take your time. The important thing is you do not let it ruin your present and future self. You do not let your negative emotions get the best of you. You recover in your own way and at your own pace. You see, I realize, it is not time that can heal you. You don't magically recover just because time is passing, right? Time on its own is not a healer. You only heal in time because you chose to forgive yourself, you made efforts, and you finally opened your heart to accept whatever painful thing you have gone through.

It is not that easy. Thus, telling half-baked advice to someone such as "You should patch things up, it's been a long time.," or "Everyone has moved on except you," is not okay. We need to be careful with our words even to the people we are close with because their experience may have been worse than we thought. Whenever I look back, I could not help but be grateful for the people who have been with me in my darkest times. I often overlooked it before, but my childhood isn't all pain and sorrow. My grandmother did everything she can while my mom is trying to make a living away from us. Despite not having any penny I have always enjoyed swimming at the coast. I would go swimming every after classes and ask fishermen for

For November, we plan to once again serve food on November 25 (the day Thanksgiving) at St. Marks Soup. Please let us if you would like to join us! some fish I can take home. I sincerely enjoyed it a lot.

Grandma would be mad because I sneaked out to watch TV at our neighbor's place but those were the little things that made my childhood memorable. I always say I believe God sent Mr. Walter to save me because my life has been better after playing with him as a kid on that island. He was my father figure, my savior, and our bond has always been like a real father and daughter since I was a kid. I am forever grateful to him. Life indeed gets better. I am now able to celebrate my birthdays. I have received gifts and letters. I feel like there is nothing more I can ask for but good health. I know with hard work and perseverance I can achieve my goals in life.

I celebrated my birthday last October 10 by swimming at the beach with my family. It made me happy that so many people took the time to send their greetings. God indeed listens to our prayers. He watches over us and blesses those who endure.

Prayers from Ph,

Queenie



(A photo taken a day before my birthday)



Friends of Covenant House New Jersey,
Thank you so much for considering Covenant House New Jersey as the recipients of your holiday gifts! Especially during this time where everyone needs some extra holiday cheer. We rely on generous, loving, and mission-driven communities to make Christmas at Covenant House one filled with light and love. Gift cards are the most helpful gift you can give, as it allows our staff to shop for the specific sizes and needs of our youth. We have also created an Amazon Smile wish list for EACH of our sites this year that allows you to purchase wonderful presents for our youth right online and shipped directly to each location. Visit our In-Kind Donation page on our website. With your help, our Covenant House community will overflow with the hope, the promise, and the joy that is Christmas! Our youth will wake up to the light of love on Christmas morning.

Picketing for the Fence

God has been so very good to us, blessing us with three unique buildings and our lovely graveyard. We recently were presented with a wonderful opportunity: the possibility of a matching grant from the DAR to do repair work on our fence. Junior Warden Connie Goddard is spearheading this effort, assisted by Walter Dein, Jeff Veil, and former Mayor (and member of our Graveyard Commission) Don Burden. It was Don who got the ball rolling with this; as the President of the Shrewsbury Historical Society, he seems to know about such things! It seems the DAR recently assisted the Allen House with a new fence for their historic site, and it would be in keeping for ours to be updated too, giving a fresh look to Shrewsbury's Historic Four Corners. The grant application will be submitted by the end of December, and if approval is met, we hope to begin the project in late spring. As this is a matching grant, we will also be looking for contributions for the match: we will keep you informed!

If you would like to celebrate Christmas with Covenant House New Jersey by donating gift cards for our youth, you can collect them and we can pick them up or provide you with a drop off location close to you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Sue Monteiro at 908 377-9481. Thank you so much for your love and support.

Gift cards are valued in ranges of \$25 to \$100. ● Visa/Mastercard/Amex ● Amazon ● ShopRite ● Target ● Walmart ● WaWA ● Marshalls Warmly, Sue Monteiro

Living Chant, Part I

By: Patrick Durek

As made possible by the aid of Christ Church, we recently spent a week up in Orleans, Massachusetts, at the ecumenical Community of Jesus, nestled on the coast of Cape Cod, learning and singing chant with the brothers, sisters, and community members. This month features the first of several articles about our experience studying chant at the retreat, and a look at chant practiced through the earliest days of Christianity through today.

If we weren't sure about how to do liturgical chant when we arrived, we learned fast: soon after we dropped off our luggage in our rooms, we headed over to the church for pre-dinner vespers. Standing and chanting, sitting (flipping to the antiphon page), standing and chanting, sitting (flipping back), standing, bowing—"Gloria Patri"—standing... Women on one side, men on the other, the chants were sung antiphonally (back and forth by verse), with the ending syllables reverberating on the stone and stained-glass walls and ceiling. The notion of chant as historical curiosity, as something studied by dusty hunchbacks in college libraries—that impression faded with the setting evening sun. It struck me that chant is alive; like all music, it is reborn with each performance. And it is music, indeed.

Christian chant was of such importance that a special four-line, square-note music notation was developed for it—the first appearance in history!—with words written carefully below each note, not to be left to the whim of the singer. Chant itself grew out of the Jewish tradition: Bible readings were chanted; psalms were sung by a solo cantor with congregational responses. (This basic practice is more or less retained in most services today.) The earliest days of Christianity featured synagogue-style chants in Aramaic, followed by a shift to Greek (resulting from geographic spread). By the fourth century, Latin was established as the primary language of chant; in large part, due to the work of Roman bishop Ambrose, who in the late 300s, created and established hymn-singing. Another chant practice contributed by the early church was the re-enactment of the Last Supper, later to be known as the Mass.

Let's pause for a moment. All this chanting—first psalmody and biblical chanting, then hymns AND the Mass. What *wasn't* chanted, one might ask? A good question. While we don't know precisely how every church practiced in the first centuries of Christianity, what we do know is that most of them continued the Jewish chant tradition, and then some. On one of the placards at the chant retreat featured a quote from the Talmud (italicized for emphasis, below). It states that the Bible should be "read in public and made understood to the hearers *in a*

musical, sweet tune. He who reads without tune shows disregard for it and the vital value of its laws. A deep understanding can be achieved *only by singing* the Torah." What strikes us is the reality that chanting is not some esoteric skill for those clergy who are "musical," but a way of reading that is as essential to understanding the Bible as the words themselves. Indeed, the early Christians made sure that not just the Bible, but, *every* liturgical text was chanted. It is also profound to consider that Jesus himself chanted. What might he have sounded like? We can wonder. We can also feel and experience living chant by chanting ourselves, in Latin, Greek, Aramaic, or—just plain English, as we do each week during the Our Father, and Eucharist. The language is of lesser importance. It is the holy words themselves, chanted in a "musical, sweet tune" that are the essence of chant.



Glorious Fall Weather Complements a Lively Crop Walk

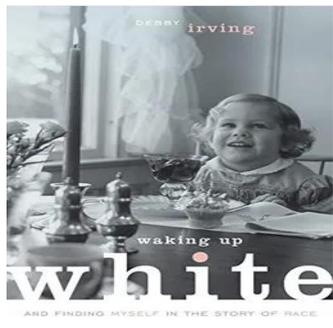
This year, Crop Walk not only returned as a community-wide observation, but Christ Church participated in what might become an annual event – we joined our neighbor the Presbyterian Church of Shrewsbury along with St. John's in Little Silver in a team called Three Churches. Together, we raised over \$3,000, an amount that continues to grow as we tally up generous donations that have come in as checks.

We will surely get up to \$3,500 once these are added. So many, many thanks to all who have contributed.

In addition to cash contributions, we also received several donations of food; in sum: 32 lbs. of rice, 6 lbs. of beans (plus an 8-pack of canned beans), 10 lbs. of peanut butter (and 3 lbs. of grape jelly – not on the list, but who wants PB without the J?), and 120 oz. of soup. In addition, several parishioners dropped off their donations before I could add them to the tally.

And the above does not include donations to our team members.

So, all in all, it was a good day – thanks to all whose generosity helped make it so!



Book Study

Waking up White by Debra Irving
At All Saints Memorial Church
202 Navesink Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ
07716
Monday evenings: November 7, 14 & 21.
Times: 7pm-8:30pm
Zoom Available

Join us as we explore, an understanding for your consideration, the social construct of racism in America and its effects on people of color through Debra Irving's work, *Waking up White*. Irving takes us through her personal awakening of a very privileged life that lead to her becoming an anti-racist. Facilitators Mary-Elise Haug and Suzanne Johansson, members of the Episcopal Church (Diocese of NJ) Anti-Racism Committee, will hold a space for candid conversations on racism. Our process will value all levels of understanding. Lite refreshments will be served. The cost is free, but we ask that you bring a few items for the Atlantic Highlands Food Pantry.

Any questions or to RSVP, please contact Suzanne Johansson at 732-614-2554 or suzjoh@comcast.net.

Copies of the book are available on Amazon in paperback or via Kindle.

The Rev. Debbie Cook
Rector, All Saints' Memorial Church, Navesink NJ
"The Stone Church"
(O) 732-291-0214
(C) 732-492-1943
mother.debbie@comcast.net



Christmas Toy Drive

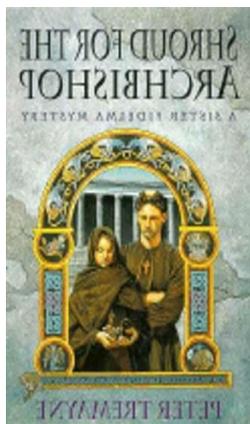
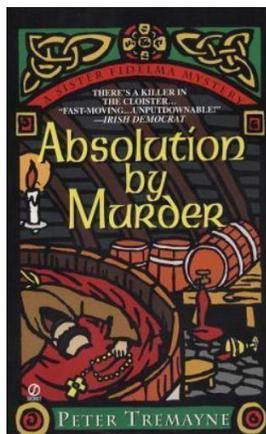
Each year, the parishioners of Christ Church have helped families from Monmouth County fulfill the wishes of children at Christmas. Many families have been hard hit this past year and need our help to provide toys for their children. Many families are out of work and have increased expenses. Please help make a bright Christmas Day for many children again this year. Toys are needed for all age groups – babies to High School students. Suggestions:

- Dolls of all sizes and types
- board games such as Candy Land, Monopoly, Battleship;
- gift cards to Target, Burger King, McDonalds, Movie Theatres, Dunkin Donuts, etc.
- action figures, cars, fire/dump trucks; etc.
- blocks, Lego kits, Nerf toys
- Barbie, Disney Princess items
- Hot Wheels products
- sports items such as basketball, soccer ball;
- Transformers
- dress up clothing
- tea party sets
- Erector Sets; building materials

- play musical instruments
- puzzles
- art products and kits

and just about any other toy you can purchase!

Please **do not wrap the toys**, but include wrapping materials, gift bags and tape. That is helpful to the sorting committee. Please bring your donations to the church or church office (during office hours) any time between **now and December 4th**. Please **enclose them in a plastic bag so we can disinfect by spraying the plastic bag before delivery**. If you have any questions or would like to help with this charitable activity, please contact Elaine Feyereisen at: 732-742-1227.



Peak of the Week

Peak of the Week is going light and fun this month--with a touch of history. We're going to start reading the Sister Fidelma series of mysteries set in Ireland before the Council of Whitby which changed the direction of the Church. We'll start with the first two books--Absolution by Murder and Shroud for the Archbishop by Peter Tremayne. Come join us at Panera Bread at 9:30 Wednesdays. Good food, great company.

Boscov's Update

Many thanks to Sue Napoletano for her work with the Boscov's Fundraiser. Preliminary figures show we raised \$300.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please note: The Prayer List is updated on a continual basis. If you would like a person to be added, simply call the Church Office and leave your name, their first and last name; and when appropriate, who the person is and the nature of their condition.

(*) indicates member of CCS



For the sick and suffering, and those in any need or trouble:

*Mignon Williams, *Cassie Reagan, *John Smalls, Kevin Carroll* *Joan, *Jim Miller, *Beverly Ryser, *Judi Buncher, *Carolyn, *MiMi Brown, *Sarah Schmid, *Susan Van Valkenburg, *Irwin Rapolla, *Lisa Ficarelli-Halpern, *Jonathan Badal, *Bob Van Valkenburgh, *Rosemary, John Veil, Jennifer Turner, Pam, Queeni, Jocelyn, Mariwether Schmid, Julie, Heather Lance, Pat and Bob Rivenes, Cindy and John Jobe, Vivian Hillborn, Lea Gallagher, Judy, Alicia Binn, Peedy, Edie, Marlene, Sherrie, Rico and Liesel Rauschmayer, Joe, Jane Barnes, Jay Curlee, Geraldine Watson, Katie, Michael, Michelle Ten Eyck, Tabitha Shimooka, Marian Bryja, Judy Smith, Ann Hatami, Anthony, Eugene Krikowski, Kenneth Eckerd, Susan Galicki, Tommy, Adrienne Betz, Peter Janosz, Lisa, Sandy, Stuart, Frances, Sam Vaught, Don Birkmire, Reynaldo Jean-Baptiste, Joe Skelly, Jerry, Nick, Tom Simms, Reverend Bill Balmer, Alissa Deakin, Geraldine Busby, Rene Aubry, Arlene Loder, Liz, Frances O'Hara, Robin McKeever, Edgar John, Lennox John, Kathy, Mary Ann, Pam, Ed, Dulce Maber, Timothy Keating, Walter Hutchins, Max Garwig *May they be relieved of their distress.*

For parishioners and friends serving in the armed forces both here and abroad: Traver, Michael, Bo, Travis "TJ" Wilson, Aaron, Jacqueline Brattan. *May they serve in safety and with honor.*

**denotes members of Christ Church*



Second Saturday Workday

November 12th from 10am-4pm

Please lend a hand

With the new month comes the schedule for the next Second Saturday Work Day on November 12. Your help is appreciated for getting a priority of small tasks done. There is always the need for weeding and trimming summer growth in the Church yard. The renovations to the Parish Hall have yet to start, but there are certain things that need to be sorted for what needs to be saved and what needs to be discarded. Just an hour or two of your time can make a difference any time between 10 am and 4 pm



Walter Dein Second Saturday Coordinator



The Heritage Rose Garden

The Heritage Rose Garden which began in 2013 under the guidance of the late Bob Kelly will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year. The Shrewsbury Garden Club, which has been involved with the planting and maintenance of the garden since its inception, is planning a special celebration for June 2023 in recognition of the 10th anniversary. Thanks to Peggy James for obtaining a plaque for the garden stating that the Shrewsbury Garden Club won an award from the National Garden Club for our church garden. As we move into fall the roses have finished blooming, but other perennials and annuals continue to provide color in the garden. Perennial fall blooming Obedient plants are purple at the back of the garden, and Zinnias in the middle and close to the walkway are red, yellow and orange.

Nancy Stewart

Those Who Serve – November

November 6

Celebrant: Reverend Kathleen Bishop
Deacon: Reverend Victoria Cuff
Acolytes: 8 am Edgar John 10 am Dexter & Kody Craven,
Cassandra Murphy
Lectors: 8 am Walter Dein 10 am Dash Cassidy
Ushers: 8 am Judi Buncher 10 am Jim O'Connor, Rod Webster
Choirmaster/Organist Iris Chen
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster
Coffee Hour: TBD

November 13

Celebrant: Reverend Kathleen Bishop
Deacon: Reverend Victoria Cuff
Acolytes: 8 am Judi Buncher 10am Joshua and Matthew Dunford,
Teddy Keating
Lectors: 8 am Peggy James 10 am – Bill Cuff
Ushers: 8 am Peggy James 10 am Elaine Feyereisen, Larry Nibbling
Choirmaster/Organist Iris Chen
Altar Guild: Halina Nibbling
Coffee Hour: TBD

November 20

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell
Deacon: Reverend Victoria Cuff
Acolytes: 8 am Edgar John 10 am Isabel & Isara Chen-Durek Halina Nibbling
Lectors: 8 am Sean Griffith 10 am Robert Honecker
Ushers: 8 am Carl Alfano 10 am Bramley Maber, Christine Maber
Choirmaster/Organist Iris Chen
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher, Colleen Roth
Coffee Hour: TBD

November 27

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell
Deacon: Reverend Victoria Cuff
Acolytes: 8 a.m. Judi Buncher 10 a.m. Dexter & Kody Craven,
Trevor Van Valkenburgh
Lector: 8 am Walter Dein 10 am Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: 8 am John Callaghan 10 am George Edwards, Elaine Feyereisen
Choirmaster/Organist: Iris Chen
Altar Guild: Phyllis Edwards
Coffee Hour: TBD

November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<u>Office Hours:</u> <i>Tue. – Fri.</i> 9AM – 2PM		1	2 <u>9:30-11:15</u> Peak of the Week ML+ away	3 Choir Practice 7:30-9:00 pm ML+ away	4 ML+ away	5 ML+ away
6 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist ML+ away	7 ML+ away	8 ML+ away	9 <u>9:30-11:15</u> Peak of the Week Convocation Meeting ML+ away	10 Choir Practice 7:30-9:00 pm ML+ away	11 ML+ away	12 Second Saturday Work Day 10 – 4 ML+ away
13 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist ML+ away	14 ML+ away	15 ML+ away	16 <u>9:30-11:15</u> Peak of the Week ML+ back	17 Choir Practice 7:30-9:00 pm	18	19
20 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	21 Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.	22	23 <u>9:30-11:15</u> Peak of the Week	24 Thanksgiving Office Closed 	25 Office Closed GFS St. Mark's Keansburg	26
27 8 am and 10 am Service Advent Begins	28	29	30 <u>9:30-11:15</u> Peak of the Week			

Christ Church Shrewsbury

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Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

ChristChurchShrewsbury@verizon.net

The Communications Team reminds you to check the web site for current parish news.

www.christchurchshrewsbury.org



"Be friends with Christ Church Shrewsbury" and then invite your friends to be our friend so we all can be informed and connected to events in our community.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.
BRING SOMEONE TO CHURCH WITH YOU.

The Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell, Rector
The Reverend Victoria Cuff, Deacon
Iris Chen, Organist/Choirmaster
Debbie Roese, Office Administrator
Kevin Carroll, Sexton

VESTRY 2022

Peggy James – Senior Warden, Stewardship
Connie Goddard – Junior Warden
Carl Alfano
Walter Dein – Building and Grounds
Sheila Hatami-Watson
Sue Napoletano- Church School
Larry Nibbling – Finance
Robin Solbach
Martie Viets – Parish Life
Treasurer – Stephen Craven
Asst. Treasurer--Lynn Marengo, Larry Nibbling
Vestry Clerk – Nancy Stewart