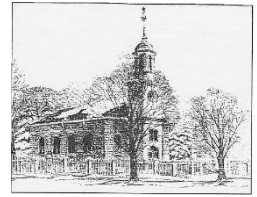


# THE CROWN

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



Volume XXV Issue VII

July 2025



## **Youth Sunday Celebrated on June 1, 2025**

**Congratulations to our Church School, Choir, Acolytes, Lectors, GFSers,  
Our Teachers and their Parents!  
(more pictures inside!)**

***“Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures.” Luke 24.45***

Dear Friends,

As is our custom, on June 1st we celebrated Youth Sunday. That means acknowledging all the things are children and youth are doing in our church. It also means acknowledging everyone who helps to make that happen: the teachers, the staff, and even the people sitting in the pews! For your interaction with our children and your genuine concern for them makes all the difference.

Our Church School Director, Sue Napoletano brought the message that morning, based on the readings for Ascension Sunday. So very appropriate! For when Jesus spoke his final remarks to his disciples and made his last farewells before ascending to heaven – well, it was a little like a graduation for those first followers, who had attended the “School of Jesus” and were now ready to be launched into the world. Not so unlike what we work for with our young ones. Our job and mission, is to get them ready to be active participants in this world in which God has placed them.

Sue spoke some stirring words. But not the ones she had planned! In the busyness of the day, she somehow left a copy of her sermon at home and had to wing it. Fortunately, she had sent me a copy electronically. I thought you might want to read it for yourself. Here it is!

***“Welcome to Youth Sunday. It’s the day at Christ Church we set aside to celebrate our children and Youth, their faith journey and ministries, and the dedication of those adults who set aside their time to guide them on their path. It is fitting that we celebrate this on the Sunday after our Lord Jesus has ascended into heaven. How so, you ask? Let’s consider this –***

***Jesus taught Disciples before and after the resurrection. But then he ascends to the Father and is gone. What happens? How did they carry on when their beloved Teacher is gone from them? Did it all fall apart? It did not. As best they could, the disciples picked up where Jesus left off. They continued to teach others.***

***And, the Word passed along. Among the people themselves and through teachers of the Word. After thousands of years His teachings still reverberate and have meaning in the present world. It is that powerful!***

***We are Christians. We are called to follow Jesus’ teachings. To be an example of them. And, we are also called to spread the Word.***

***Our teachers here before you set aside time to teach the Word among our children and Youth. Other persons in this church minister the Word to adults of our congregation. Our clergy engages each week in their sermons to have us understand scripture and what it means to follow the Christ. Jesus is alive here!***

***In this place we are blessed to have so many parishioners committed to the faith education of our children and Youth. Who support their ministries. We are also a congregation that leads by examples of Godly service.***

***Consider now your part in supporting and encouraging our children and young people. Because after all, aren’t we all teachers and students? Even after thousands of years, we are. It was that powerful!***

***In Church School the children learned Faith Words which emanate from Jesus’s teachings. We now share them with you. Kristen Downs and kids, take it away.”***

Kristen and the Kids did just that, playing a word game that took us through their year of learning. We look forward to another season beginning in September!

Peace,  
Mother Lisa+

## **PARISH NEWS & NOTES**

### **SUNDAY MASS**

This summer there will be only one Sunday service at 10:15.

### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The first week of July, please call the Church office prior to stopping by to ensure someone is in the office.

Beginning July 8<sup>th</sup>, Summer Hours will be Tuesday through Friday from 8 am to 12 pm.

### **ANY CHANGES?**

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

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Blessings to Erwynn Cassidy Beights, son of Rachel and Eric, who was born on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Everett and Elody are happy to welcome their new brother.

### **IN REQUIEM**

Kathy Hynes, 63, sister of John Callaghan (sister-in-law of Peggy James) passed away peacefully at home in Toms River on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

*May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon them. Amen*

### **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED**



**For the sick and suffering, and those in any need or trouble:** \*Anderson Pedalino, \*Bill Balmer, \*Carolyn, \*Cassie Reagan, \*Dianne Regiec, \*Halina Nibbling, \*Jim Miller, \*Joan, \*John Smalls, \*Judi Buncher, \*Julia Walsh, \*Larry Nibbling, \*Mimi Brown, \*Pam Diamond, \*Brother Richard Biernacki, \*Richard Brugger, \*Rod Webster, \*Sarah Schmid, \*Tia LaPiana, Victoria Cuff, Bob Bark, Diane Smith, Doris, Greg Shaljian,

Heather Forrest, Jack Sauber, Jocelyn, John Veil, Kathy Hynes, Linda Forrest, Lynn McKittrick, Meriwether Schmid, Mignon Williams, Pam, Pat & Bob Rivenes, Peddy, Roger Cuthbert, Todd Diamond.

*\*Denotes members of Christ Church*

### **SUMMER BIBLE STUDY: POSTPONED UNTIL THE FALL!**



### **AN IMORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR DEACON**

I am excited to share the *good news* that I have been accepted to Princeton Theological Seminary with the support of the Vestry and our Parish family. I will begin my studies in early September, and you may be interested to know that I chose Princeton because it offers a rigorous education, has a renowned faculty, and boasts the most extensive theological library in the United States, second only to the Vatican in the world. This graduate program will deepen my understanding of theological texts and topics relevant to my ministry. It will also provide a strong foundation for the discernment and formation process for ordination as a priest in the Diocese, which is my ultimate goal. My wife Jane and I will live in campus housing during the week and plan to return home every weekend to remain active at Christ Church. I look forward to continuing to preach regularly and working with our seminarian, Denzel, and others to build on our efforts this year to establish and grow a vibrant men's ministry through the Men's Breakfast Group. Deacon Bill

### **Shrewsbury Borough 4<sup>th</sup> Graders Peacefully Invade Church**

Early on a rainy Monday morning, June 9, some 50 Shrewsbury Borough School fourth graders and their half-dozen minders marched up Route 35 directly onto the church steps, where they were greeted by William Leeds (Jamie Green), born 1678. Mr. Leeds, one of the major benefactors of Christ Church along with the first Royal Governor

of New Jersey, Lewis Morris, was sprightly despite the weather and his advanced age, as he explained the history and the architecture of the church, focusing on Christ Church in the American Revolution.

Among the artwork and artifacts on display inside the church was the original orb which graced the 1774 church spire. He also asked the well-behaved visitors what the main material was of our 1904 ceiling. Among the imaginative guesses were marble and concrete (correct answer: several different metals, including tin). In a lively Q&A with Mr. Leeds, one serious-looking boy asked if the church chandeliers were really made of crystal. Mr. Leeds answered yes, though he admitted to this reporter that he guessed himself.

The highlight of the gathering took place when Florence Hazard (Magdalena Aders, reprising her long-standing role), appeared as the wife of the Shrewsbury Ketchup King, E.C. Hazard, dressed up in her early 20<sup>th</sup> century finery. Among the pearls of history she shared with the visitors was that one of her and E.C.'s sons founded the first hospital in the area, in Long Branch, and that one of her daughters married an Austrian prince who, alas, was penniless.

Following Mrs. Hazard's presentation, Mr. Leeds made sure to disabuse the visitors that he was a pirate in league with the infamous Captain Kidd, pointing out that it was the long-time Shrewsbury Borough School teacher (and founder of the Shrewsbury Historical Society) Louise Jost whose research acquitted Mr. Leeds of the piracy rumor. The students then were guided through some of the notable gravestones in the churchyard, including those of Florence Hazard and the Ketchup King, before recrossing Rte. 35 to visit the Shrewsbury Historical Society building.—*Jamie Green, Parish Historian*

## Need Your Pledge!

It may be summer, but don't forget your pledge! Since many of you are not up to date, we don't have the money to pay our bills. Please make every effort to get that pledge in!  
Peggy James, Stewardship

## URGENT: Special Appeal for Wheels!

We need your help. So that we can help a couple that has gotten stranded on our property. Their car broke down. We called in a mechanic to fix it. It was old and beyond repair. As they had been living in the car, they now have neither car nor home. Jeff Veil is looking for a reasonably priced car for them that is in reasonable shape, and we have begun collecting money to purchase the car. But we are not there yet.

Please consider chipping in to help this couple (a little reminiscent of the parable of the Good Samaritan, isn't it?). Once they have a car they can be on their way. They have become familiar with places like Lunchbreak that can help them with food, give them a place to do laundry, and ultimately to assist them in getting their own place, but our part is to get them wheels.

No donation is too small. You can give cash, or make a check out to Christ Church, with Father Mainer Fund in the memo line. Or even simply "car". We will know what it is for! And you can keep a record for your taxes. This is an opportunity for all of us to practice our Christian Faith in a way that really makes a difference.

## Heritage Rose Garden

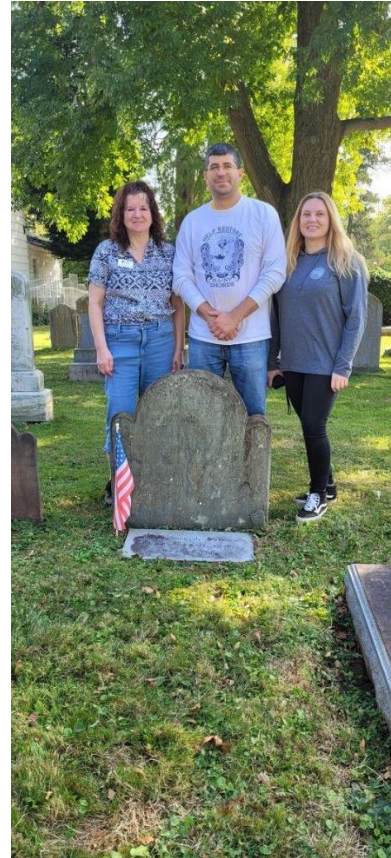
Annuals were recently planted in the Rose Garden to complement the perennials and Roses. Newly planted annuals include pink Vinca, yellow Petunias, red Geraniums, purple Heliotrope, blue Lobelia and assorted Verbenas, Alyssum and Dianthus. Mums planted last year remain in pots in the garden and we hope they will bloom again in the fall. The garden is maintained by members of the Shrewsbury Garden Club including Ellen Preissler, Terry Blake, Robin Blair, Nancy Stewart, Judy Bonanno and newly-elected President of the Garden Club of New Jersey Sue Berdahl.  
Nancy Stewart --





community members included some Sons of the American Revolution. Last year, members of Eatontown's council and its mayor participated. As photos from that event indicate, it was a fun and instructive day!

Connie Goddard



*Eatontown Mayor Anthony Talerico joins Robin Blair in cleaning markers near our Memorial Garden*

## Grave Marker Cleaning Set for July 19, 2025

This summer, as we did last fall, members of our parish community will have an opportunity to participate in a morning of cleaning the grave markers in our historic cemetery. The event is set for Saturday morning, July 19, from 10 until noon. As many members know, the Shrewsbury Towne chapter of the DAR has been doing research on the patriots – that is, people who served in the Revolutionary War – who are buried in our graveyard. Nearly two dozen have been authenticated. This effort, along with numerous others, is in preparation for the nation's Sesquicentennial, to be observed in 2026. Cleaning the grave markers for patriots and others is a related activity sponsored by the local DAR. Karen Allas, one of its members, is organizing this important event. She will be there on Saturday morning with supplies and instructions for how to do clean the grave markers. All we need to do is show up – preferably in old clothing with rubber gloves in hand.

Joining us that day will be members of the DAR, the Presbyterian church next door to us, and other

## FLEA MARKET THANK YOU!

A hearty thanks to everyone who brought their treasures to be sold at the Flea Market. A hearty thanks to everyone who brought baked goods. A hearty thanks to everyone who helped staff the day. A hearty thanks to those who worked on the clean-up afterwards. And a very, very hearty thank you to Senior Warden Elaine Feyereisen who led the charge!

The amount raised to date is \$1,261.25.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY RAFFLE**

**Let's capture your family's story and preserve this special time in your lives with an extended lifestyle family portrait session.**

### **Photo Package Details:**

- Your extended lifestyle family portrait session, group of less than 25, will include a 1-2 hour session, with each family receiving a mini session in addition to a large family portrait.
- Sessions will take place at a location of your choice in Monmouth County - home, beach or park.
- As a special gift, 10 retouched digital files, and up to 75 4 x 6 proofs will be included which will then be presented in a beautiful custom silk album.

### **About Louise Conover:**

As the mother of four sons, I know how important it is to preserve fleeting and precious memories. As a photographer, I am a storyteller who aims to document timeless portraits for my clients that beautifully capture those they love most.

My work has been featured in national publications of the New York Times, The Knot and Modern Bride as well as Wedding Channel's Wedding Bells magazine, Philadelphia Wedding, Brides New Jersey and The Knot New Jersey.

My images are closeup and personal, emphasizing expression in a dynamic and artistic way. There is a timeless appeal to their classic beauty.



## **KIDZ CLUB SUMMER NIGHT!**

Our children ages 5 to 12 have been invited to join our Presbyterian neighbors for an evening of fun! This also means a night of fun for their parents, who might be able to swing dinner out at the same time.

The date is **Thursday, July 17 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm**. Dinner will be served. Games will ensue! Bible Adventures! Music! Crafts! Prizes! What more could you ask?

Everything is totally free, and friends are also welcome. Do register by calling Sherri Laberde at 732-904-7273.

## **PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS:**

- 1 Ticket for \$7
- 2 Tickets for \$10
- 5 Tickets for \$20

### **Payment:**

Cash, Check, or Venmo @KDowns110

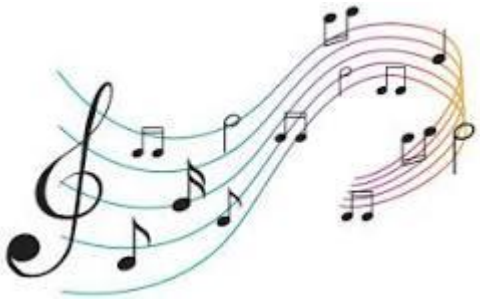
### **Raffle Drawing:**

Sunday, September 7, 2025, during the 10:15am Service at Christ Church. Winner need not be present.

## **INDEPENDENCE SUNDAY**

We had a wonderful time with our lovely Presbyterians on Sunday. Peggy James, Denzel Donaldson, Nancy Stewart, Connie Goddard led table discussions along with Mother Lisa and Pastor Katja concerning the big 250th birthday of our nation coming up next year – and the centennial of the incorporation of Shrewsbury.

Besides our lively discussion on how we will take part in these events over the next year, we enjoyed a scrumptious spread and an inspiring communion service.



## Summertime Music

For this period of Ordinary Time in the warm Summer months, we are without the choirs but still are having some interesting music within our worship services. To start with, the choices of Service Music have changed and will remain until the Sunday after Labor Day. For the *Sanctus* and the *Agnus Dei*, we will be singing the lyrical versions by Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Here at Christ Church, we'll be doing something a little different with the *Gloria* this summer, using a paraphrase of the text set to a German tune from the Hymnal 1982 - "All glory be to God on high."

In addition to singing some extra hymnody, and some special solos during July and August, we also have a few musical "events" within worship.

**On Sunday, July 20th**, we will have the first "Pop-Up" Summer Choir - with a rehearsal following church the previous week (July 13th). All are invited to come and sing whether you are an experienced choir singer or just love praising God!

On Sunday, July 27th, we will have "Christmas in July!" Come and sing your favorite Christmas Carols during worship. (If you have requests, reach out to Fiona Sutherland - [sutherlandfi815@gmail.com](mailto:sutherlandfi815@gmail.com) by Sunday July 13th).

**On Sunday, August 10th** we will host a "Hymn Request Sunday" where everyone can choose their favorite hymns to sing during church. If you have a hymn that you love which is not in the Hymnal 1982 (blue book in the pew), please bring a copy into Fiona after church or to Francesca in the Church Office no later than July 30th - that way we can have copies ready for everyone! In August, we will also have another "Pop-Up" Summer Choir, singing on August 24th with the rehearsal following the Holy Eucharist on August 17th.

Pax et bonum, Fiona Smith Sutherland, Director of Music



*Our own Seminarian Denzel Donaldson gets into the grave-cleaning action!*



## CHURCH BASEMENT CLEANING CREW

16 parishioners responded to the request to help with the cleanout of the church basement. Many had never seen the church basement and had no idea of the number of old and broken items that resided there. However, the crew worked diligently, and the basement is now cleaned out and the remaining items there are purposefully being stored there. Thank you to the crew: Carl Alfano, Madna Aubry, Sue Napoletano, Diane Skelly, Denzel Donaldson, Joshua Dunford, Matthew Dunford, Chris Dunford, Bramley Mabey, Robert Mabey, Walter Dein, Mother Lisa, George Edwards, Connie Goddard, Peggy James, and Elaine Feyereisen.





## YOUTH SUNDAY

Church School is out for the summer! And, if you were in church on June 1 you know that we closed the year with a shout! The festive music lent an atmosphere of joy to the event. In particular, Glory to God offered by the St. Mary's Choir was truly upbeat. The closing hymn, He's Got the Whole World in His Hands is an all-time favorite hand-clapper which continued the celebratory mood. Thanks Fiona and Brother Richard for contributing your talents to our children and Youth.

During the year our teachers worked closely with our children and youth on their weekly lessons. If you had a chance to view the exhibits, you saw just a small sample of what they produced. That doesn't even include the Bible lessons that were shared or the discussions that followed. The curriculum, Weaving God's Promises, is liturgically based and chock-full of scripture and activities for the kids. We will be continuing with that curriculum this Fall.

Besides that, we anticipate holding a refresher session to go over the order of service, the appurtenant prayers, music and the etiquette that goes with being in church. All who missed the class a couple years back are cordially invited to join us. Details will follow closer to Fall.

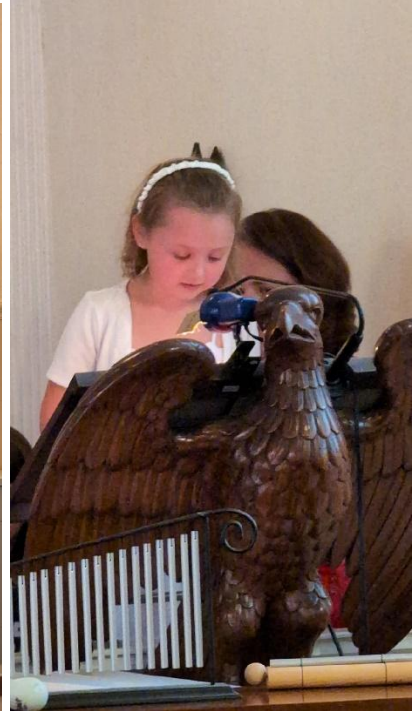
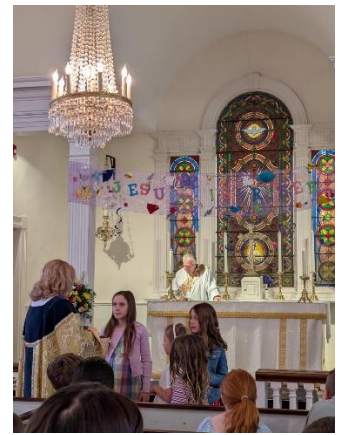
This year our Church School grew in size with the addition of two families, the Marinos and the Jolines thanks to the enthusiastic evangelizing of Kristen Downs who talked up our program among her friends. Kristen, we are very obliged to you.

Although they were recognized in Church and awarded a token of appreciation, I'd like to acknowledge and personally thank each of the children and youth and their families who participated in our Church School for their dedication, commitment and faithfulness to the Word and for their attendance in class. They are Everett Beights, Eledy Beights, Olivia Dunford, Emma Downs, Jackson Downs, Scarlett Joline, Addison Joline, Lillian Marino, Christopher Stroebe, Brian Wachter, Abe Craven, Charlotte McConnell and Amelie Aubry-Bates in our Lower Church School. In our Upper Church School: Joshua Dunford, Matthew Dunford, Dash Cassidy, Dexter Craven, and Kodi Craven. The teachers and I are happy to have you with us and hope to see you after the Summer!!! Any children or Youth wishing to attend Church School, you are absolutely welcome! Please reach out to me so we can include you in our program.

Last, but certainly not the least, I offer a special shout out to our teachers, Laura Stroebe, Katie Wachter, Kristen Downs and Jennifer Craven. Into your caring and talented hands our children and Youth are delivered. We can always count on your dedication to the Word and the Church School program to bring our kids closer to God. You are amazing and appreciated by all.

See you all in the Fall.  
Faithfully, Sue Napoletano  
Church School Director

## Youth Sunday 2025!



## **THOSE WHO SERVE - JULY 9**

### **July 6**

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell  
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer  
Acolytes: Judi Buncher, Madna Aubry, Edgar John, Denzel Donaldson  
Lectors: Peggy James, Elaine Feyereisen  
Ushers: Peggy James, John Callaghan  
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland  
Altar Guild: Colleen & Mark Roth  
Iced Tea Hour: Cassandra Murphy

### **July 13**

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell  
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer  
Acolytes: Dexter, Kodi & Abe Craven, Denzel Donaldson  
Lectors: Connie Goddard, Mark Roth  
Ushers: Elaine Feyereisen, George Edwards  
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland  
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster  
Iced Tea Hour: Bob & Sarah Stewart

### **July 20**

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell  
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer  
Acolytes: Judi Buncher, Josie Borden, Tia LaPiana (CB), Denzel Donaldson  
Lectors: Elaine Feyereisen, Bob Honecker  
Ushers: Peggy James, John Callaghan  
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland  
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher, Tia LaPiana, Madna Aubry  
Iced Tea Hour: Sue Napoletano

### **July 27**

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell  
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer  
Seminararian: Denzel Donaldson  
Acolytes: Joshua Dunford, Matthew Dunford, Denzel Donaldson  
Lectors: Kodi Craven, Tara Dunford  
Ushers: Judi Buncher, Carl Alfano  
Organist/Choirmaster: Fiona Smith Sutherland  
Altar Guild: TBD  
Iced Tea Hour: Dianne Regiec



# JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Office Hours:</b> Starting 7/8 Tue. – Fri. 8am – 12 pm		<b>1</b>  *Francesca Away	<b>2</b>  *Francesca Away	<b>3</b>  *Francesca Away	<b>4</b> <b>Independence            Day</b>  Office Closed	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>  <u>10:15 am</u> Holy Eucharist	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>  <u>10:15 am</u> Holy Eucharist	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Gravestone Cleaning at 10:00am
<b>20</b>  <u>10:15 am</u> Holy Eucharist	<b>21</b>  <u>6 pm</u> NO Vestry Meeting  ML away	<b>22</b>  ML away	<b>23</b>  ML away	<b>24</b>  ML away	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>  <u>10:15 am</u> Holy Eucharist	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

## LUNCH AT THE INDEPENDENCE DAY SERVICE



### ***Christ Church Shrewsbury***

380 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

[www.ChristChurchShrewsbury.org](http://www.ChristChurchShrewsbury.org) + [christchurchshrewsbury@verizon.net](mailto:christchurchshrewsbury@verizon.net) + 732-741-2220



"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 William Balmer, Deacon  
Denzel Donaldson, Seminarian  
Fiona Smith Sutherland, Organist/Choirmaster  
Brother Richard Biernacki, St. Mary's Choir Director  
Francesca Parker, Office Administrator  
Halina Nibbling, Sexton

### VESTRY 2025

Elaine Feyereisen - Senior Warden  
Peggy James - Junior Warden, Stewardship  
Stephen Craven - Treasurer  
Lynn Marengo - Asst. Treasurer  
Madna Aubry - Stewardship, GFS Representative  
Julie Sinn Cassidy - Youth Ministries  
Walter Dein - Property  
Sue Napoletano - Church School  
Bob Stewart - Graveyard  
Susan Sellers – ECW Liaison  
Dianne Regiec - Food Insecurity  
Nancy Stewart - Vestry Clerk

