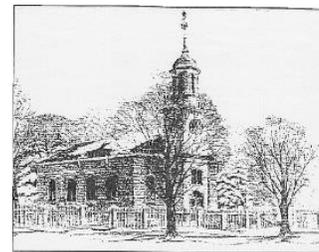


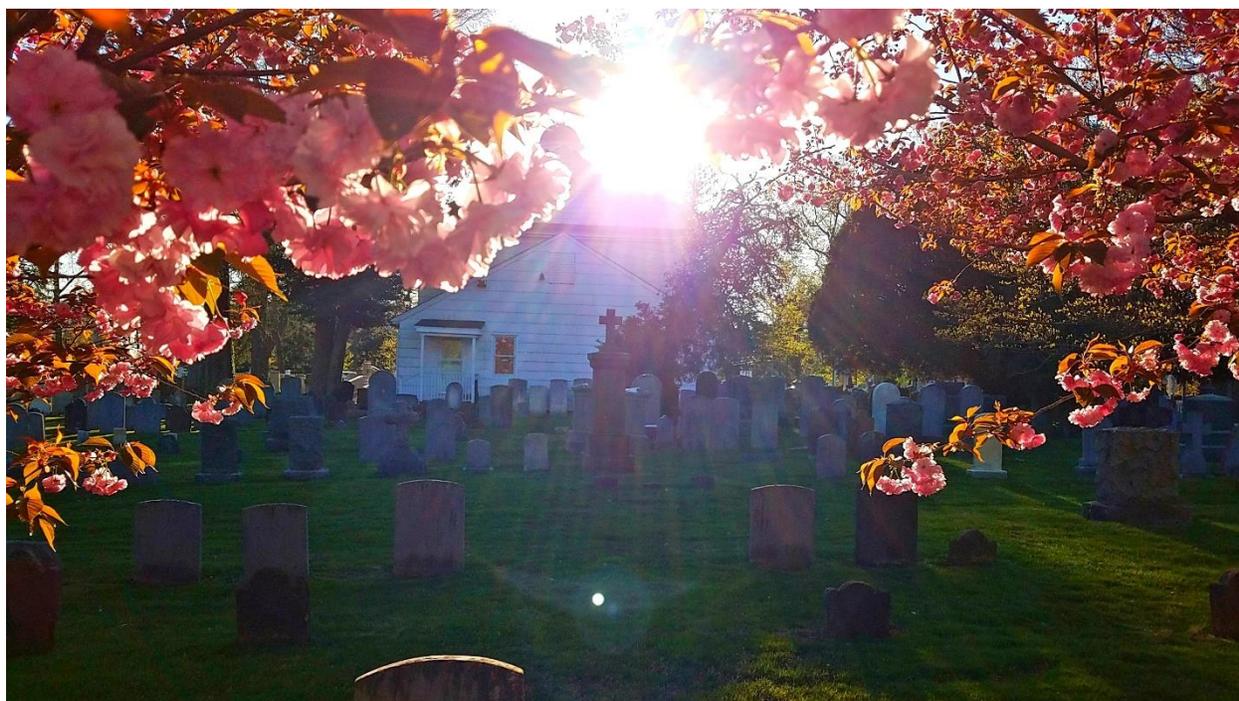
THE CROWN

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 XIV

April 2022



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CHRIST CHURCH

Palm Sunday	April 10: 8:00am and 10:00am, gather outside the front of the church
Holy Wednesday	April 13: Tenebrae Service at 7pm
Holy Thursday	April 14: Maundy Thursday with Stripping of the Altar & Vigil at 7:00pm Youth Event to follow
Good Friday	April 15: Good Friday Liturgy with the veneration of the Cross at Noon
Holy Saturday	April 16: Liturgy for Holy Saturday 9am Outdoor Easter Vigil, followed by Egg Hunt at 5:00pm
Easter Morning	April 17: Festive Easter Service, with Egg Hunt and reception at 11:00am

*Please deliver your filled Easter Eggs (wrapped candy only)
to the Parish Hall by the morning of April 16th.
May this indeed be a somber Holy Week and a sweet Easter!*

“It is Christ we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.” Colossians 1.28

Dear Friends,

As you read this, we are nearing the final days of the Lenten Season and preparing ourselves for Holy Week and Easter. It is as if the culmination of all things comes together in that Day of Resurrection, and this year we are more than ready to celebrate! Spring is here, nature is opening up, our masks are coming down, and once again we can fellowship together (albeit still with caution). Easter cannot come too early.

But Easter is not only a single day. The Church celebrates Easter for a full fifty days – *The Great Fifty Days* – as we call it. It is a time set apart for special lessons and teachings about what it means to live the risen life. These days put us in mind of the excitement that propelled first followers of Jesus out into the world, knowing that this world could never be the same.

We continue to keep the feast. We continue to prepare and teach those who come to join in our ranks. We refresh and renew our own faith, recommitting ourselves to the Lord. And with that, I offer to the adults of our parish a unique opportunity: that of being presented to the Bishop for confirmation (if you have not already been confirmed) or of being received into the Episcopal Church (if you come from another tradition) or for renewing your confirmation vows (if you have not done so as an adult).

In other words, Deacon Vicki Cuff and I are inviting you to join us for a one-day Seminar all about the Episcopal Church and the uniqueness of our Faith on **Saturday, April 23rd**, from **10:00am to 3:00pm**. All adults who attend this class will have the opportunity to be presented to the Bishop on **Saturday May 7th** at the Cathedral for a Diocesan-wide service.

Any and all adults are welcome to attend. Even if you have been hanging around the Episcopal Church for some time, you will be surprised how the discussions that take place will affirm your faith, inspire you in your own personal life, and challenge where you are in your own walk with Christ.

The Apostle Paul talks about the need for each of us to be mature in Christ; need I suggest that we continue to grow and mature as long as we live and breathe? It is good for us to gather together, to talk about the relevance of our Faith, and what God may be doing among us and our congregation. I do hope you will consider attending the Seminar; you may decide after that if you also wish to journey with us to the Diocesan service with our Bishop.

It has been a very long time since our Diocese has been able to gather together as one community in person: I am glad that it is in Eastertide that we will do so. I am rejoicing that it is in the Great Fifty Days that we will affirm our Faith in the one who died and rose again for each one of us.

Peace,
Mother Lisa+

Parish News & Notes

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER THIS YEAR

Please note the changes and points of interest to our Holy Week and Easter worship services this year:

Palm Sunday: gathering in front of the church for the Blessing of the Palms

Maundy Thursday Vigil Sign Up is on the bulletin board of the Parish House, or you can email us the time slot you would like to reserve

Easter Vigil: is outdoors on Saturday evening at 5:00pm, followed by the Egg Hunt

Easter Morning: indoors at 11:00am, followed by the Egg Hunt and Reception

Youth Group Prime: Maundy Thursday
Are you a youth in sixth grade or older? Have one living in your home? Then you will want to read this! This is the first time in three years that we have been able to plan a real event with our youth, and to get us back into action we have made plans to reinstitute our Maundy Thursday evening at Christ Church.

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, April 14th!** We will gather in church for our very special Maundy Thursday service. Following the service, our youth retreat to the Parish Hall for an evening of hanging out, sharing supper, baking cupcakes for the Easter Day reception, and a few other surprises. We plan to finish at 11:00pm. Please RSVP the church office to help us better plan.

GFS News:

In March we met to make blankets for Project Linus, and April means Beach Sweeps! The girls will be meeting on Saturday, **April 9th at 9:00am** to clean up Maple Cove, which is where Maple Avenue meets up with the river (just past Front Street) in Red Bank.



And Mark your Calendars for our **Mother/Daughter Retreat on May 27-28** in Ocean Grove. More information in the next edition of the Crown.

Martha's Cupboard: It's in the Bag!
We are planning another "It's in the Bag" for later in the Easter Season. There are three ways you assist us:

- Bring in any of the items on the list below
- Come join us as we put the bags together
- Make a donation of \$25 to fund one of the 50 bags we are filling.

Together our donations and support minister to senior citizens who are on a very fixed income.

Here are the items we are gathering for next “It’s in the Bag”:

Stamps, Envelopes, Band-aids, Plastic storage bags snack size to gallon size, Laundry detergent pods, Dryer sheets, Quarters for washing machines, Ensure, shelf stable milk, paper towels individually wrapped, and Toilet paper individually wrapped. We are looking for creative ideas for items to add and creative way for packaging. Interested helping please contact me: Dianne Regiec, 732-245-6053 dregiec@gmail.com

Join Us for a Big Weekend—April 30-May 1, 2022

Christ Church is beloved for many reasons, but an appreciation for tradition and history, and for raising up parishioners who have been leaders individually and collectively, top the list. That’s why April 30-May 1 of this year is so timely.

That weekend marks the return after two Covid-canceled years of Weekend in Old Monmouth, the county-wide celebration of its storied history, including at Christ Church, where we will open the church doors to visitors on Saturday and Sunday, displaying our historic artifacts, artwork, and unique sense of preserved history. Your assistance is requested to set up the church after the 10:00 service on April 24, and to serve as greeters to our visitors in two-hour shifts from 10:00-5:00 on Saturday the 30th and 12:00-5:00 on Sunday the 1st. Please let Jamie Green know if you can help with these tasks by emailing him at historian@ChristChurchShrewsbury.org.

Following the 10:00 service on Sunday,

May 1, we will inter the cremains of our dearly missed senior warden and parish historian and his beloved wife Annemarie in the churchyard’s Heritage Rose Garden. Prayers will be said, songs will be sung, remembrances spoken, and the entire congregation is invited to join Bob and Anne Marie’s family in making a final farewell. After the short service, a simple repast will be offered in the parish house for all. Please come to remember and celebrate the lives of two wonderful people.

SPRING!!!

That means is time to think about our Christ Church plot in the Shrewsbury community garden!

Please contact Kim Roberts-Honecker if you are interested in the garden. 732 530-7451 or kimroberts05@gmail.com

From Queeni Quay

To my Christ Church Shrewsbury family,

The times have changed so much and yet history continues to repeat itself. In every era there has been a pandemic and a war. Apparently, the earliest recorded pandemic occurred in Athens during the Peloponnesian War in 430 B.C. And as we’re all aware, there is a long list of wars that have happened all over the world for almost all the same reasons. I still can’t quite comprehend why people would resort to such violence. I’ve read conflicting arguments about whether or not wars should exist, and I thought, “*Is it really impossible to live in a world without war?*” “*Is war a way to obtain peace or just a guise to gain power and superiority?*”

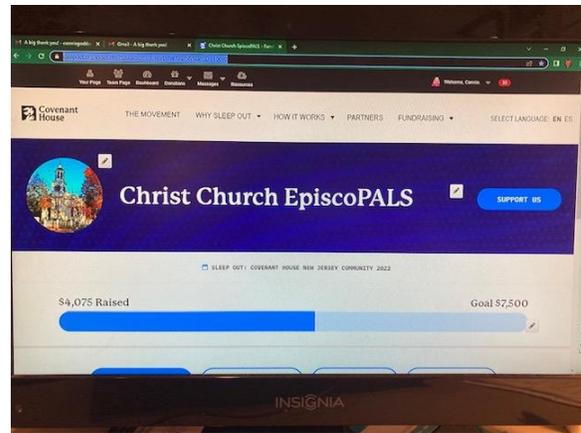
Sometimes, when things are too chaotic, you’d really think of why God is allowing all of this. Others would say it is the consequences of humanity’s wrongdoings. But if it is, then why does it have to cost the

lives of innocent people? Children, for instance. They are the most vulnerable in both a pandemic and a war. Although many of us believe that innocent souls are guaranteed to have a spot in Heaven, it still won't justify the terrible situation they have to experience here on Earth. As of March 16, 2022, 103 children have been killed so far in the war in Ukraine and it's not just children. I kept seeing horrendous news and videos about the situation in Ukraine that tears my heart to pieces, but this is something we can't ignore. Things have been so hectic for me lately. I've been lacking sleep and I get frustrated, of course, but these are only petty problems. So even when I am tempted to close my eyes after a long day, I still don't forget to pray. I pray when I wake up and before I sleep, and I often talk to God in the middle of the day for the people who are suffering the most in these terrible times.

At the end of the day, no matter how chaotic things are, I always choose to believe that what's going on in the world isn't God's punishment and that He is not just allowing all of this to keep happening. Unlike us, **God never sleeps.** We're giving him our heartaches as He still listens to our prayer. **God's love is eternal and unconditional.** I would pray even for the smallest reasons, and He would answer me in the most surprising ways. I just wish that if history would repeat itself, it would happen for the good of everyone. May we always pray and desire good things for the whole world.

Love and Prayers,

Queenie



Game On Wrap-up for Crown

“You’ll Never Look at a Pillow the Same Way Again”

On Friday night, March 25, a dozen parishioners from Christ Church and St. John's in Little Silver got together for a welcome evening of conviviality. Food in the form of devilled eggs, spinach dip, and stuffed potato skins arrived along with them. So did a bottle of wine and a few balloons. But the hit of the evening – in addition to the refreshing experience of meeting new people – was a game of Bunco, which Mother Lisa introduced us all to. It involves throwing dice, keeping track of scores, working with a partner – and then changing partners each time someone gets to Bunco. Twenty-one was the magic number.

But before too many of us got there, we all turned to the real reason for the gathering – a variation on the annual Sleep Out organized by Covenant House. The event raises the money that enables young people who had spent some time sleeping on the street, in parks, in cars and on random couches to have a safe and secure place to stay and get their lives headed in a more promising direction. Though the “Sleep Out” idea originally involved actually sleeping out in urban parking lots – which Mother Lisa and Warden Peggy James have actually done – the pandemic led to

necessary changes in that communal undertaking. For the past two years, these Sleep Outs have been virtual and often individual, but accompanied by an online communal experience organized by Covenant House. So, we took a break from Bunco and tuned into this year's program from Covenant House.

In addition to testimonials from those whom Covenant House has sheltered both emotionally and physically, it included some from people who have helped provide some of those services. One is the woman who runs Nancy's Place in Montclair; she has not only welcomed young people to her home but slept out to help raise money to support Covenant House in general. Of that experience, she said, "You'll never look at a pillow the same way again. We brought in over \$4,000, an amount that is still climbing – and can continue to until April 8.

Our team's donations page is still open – you can visit it by going to <https://www.sleepout.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=10098>.

Another outcome of the evening was shared delight in learning to play Bunco. Follow-up conversations with participants at St. John's led to the suggestion that we should have more such events, perhaps to raise money for other worthy causes – but also just to indulge in the joy of fellowship once again.

Easter Egg Hunt 2022

Good news! There will be an Easter Egg Hunt following the Saturday night Vigil service as well as after the 11 am service on Easter Sunday.

Filled eggs are preferred but plastic eggs for filling and donations of fillers are gladly accepted. Stickers, fun little prizes as well as candy make good fillers. Please leave your donations on the table

In the Parish House below the bulletin Board.

Matthew Dunford has volunteered to run the Easter Day hunt. I'm sure each of the would welcome some bunny helpers to hide eggs.

I heard we have two bakers for the Lamb Cake. Not too BAAHD! Although we will need another cake for a total of three. One for Saturday night and two for Sunday. Pans are located In the Parish House on the lower shelf of the center island. Help yourself. Since, we will need one lamb cake to award after the Saturday service so please make sure your cake is dropped off to the PH kitchen in time. If you volunteered, I'd appreciate a call soon to let me know who volunteered.



Musical Passions

By: Patrick Durek

While Christmas is the holiday most associated with music—sacred and secular—and Easter is the most consequential of religious days with a curious dearth of great music, it is perhaps surprising that it is Good Friday that has yielded musical compositions of the most inspired, exalted level, specifically service settings of the Passion.

It is not difficult to comprehend why composers found creative inspiration in the Passion story: it represents the dramatic culmination of Jesus' life up to the resurrection, and, with it the vicissitudes of the human condition and its plethora of

wide-ranging emotions. But what is striking is not the quality and flowering of musical Passion settings, but just how concentrated and limited in time the productive period was: the majority of great Passions were composed by German composers during the last decades of the 17th century and first few decades of the 18th century.

The tradition started with a four-part setting of the *St. John Passion* by Johann Walter, Martin Luther's musical advisor. Through the 1600 and early-1700s, Good Friday morning services in Leipzig featured a performance of his setting. But by the late 1710s, highly-esteemed composers such as Georg Philipp Telemann and Johann Kuhnau were presenting their own, newer, Passion settings—now with arias (reflective songs) and recitatives (narrative speech-song) gleaned from the operatic tradition. The music historian Christoph Wolff points out that Kuhnau's *St. Mark Passion*—which survives only in fragment—set the model for the later, great Passion works by composers such as Bach. His model focuses on precise biblical narrative sung by soloists (evangelists and other individuals); speakers (Jesus, Peter, Pontius Pilate, and others); and choir (crowds representing High Priests, Jews, mankind, etc.).

By the end of the first quarter of the 18th century, the era's greatest composers were composing large-scale Passions, set mostly to the Passion libretto by Barthold Heinrich Brockes. His libretto consisted of rhymed paraphrases of biblical Passion texts. His libretto was of such fame that George Frederic Handel, Johann Friedrich Fasch, Johann Mattheson, and others set their musical compositions to his libretto. Johann Sebastian Bach, the greatest composer of his and perhaps all eras, however, found he could not use the readily-available Brockes libretto. The Leipzig church board rejected

poetic biblical paraphrase of Passion text, and insisted on only literal bible text.

Bach went to work, gathering exact Passion bible verse to accompany the non-biblical narrative portions, and, in 1724, presented the first version of his large-scale musical setting of *St. John's Passion*. The music was inspired, and of a high artistic level. But Bach, unsatisfied, returned to it, making a second version in 1725, a third version in 1728, a fourth in 1732, and had even undertaken a fifth version in 1739, before angrily stopping after twenty pages. (It is believed Bach was scolded by a church Superintendent for straying too far from literal text.)

It was Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* that became the most appreciated and exalted of any Passion setting before or since. While an early 1729 version exists, it was the 1736 rendering that showcased all that sacred music—*all* music—could offer. As Wolff notes, "it could not be more evident that Bach considered this score his most significant work." The *St. Matthew Passion* is the only manuscript in Bach's hand with two colors of ink—red for the evangelist's text and the "O Lamm Gottes" ("O Lamb of God") chorale, and dark brown for the rest. Like Beethoven with his ninth symphony, Bach knew he had composed a musical work unlike anything that had ever been written. It is an enormous piece, with sixty-eight movements, eight-voice double choirs (huge at the time), and a double orchestra. The libretto, too, went theologically way beyond what Brockes had done. Picander, working closely with the composer, wrote deeply-contemplative spiritual poems on the suffering of Christ and the sins of the *all* mankind, not the Jews, as in Brockes's version. The poetic and musical affect is emotionally invigorating to the listener. The *St. Matthew Passion* is present, in real time,

each time the work is performed, studied, or listened to. No other biblical musical setting by any composer comes close. It is the inherent power of the Passion that motivated Bach to achieve heights beyond perhaps his most unrestrained dreams, just as it did for Jesus and his followers.

Parish Questionnaire

If you have not filled out our parish questionnaire, please do so. Here is the link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP9x85RuYpUEGP9dCq2BoWPPz2RfeozYPxIPNVB4EC5JqKhg/viewform>

Wedding Dress Exhibit

For your information, the Wedding Dress Exhibit opened on Sunday, March 20 at the Monmouth County Library in Shrewsbury. There are ten dresses currently on display at the library, along with twenty five additional dresses at the Shrewsbury Historical Society. The library has prepared a tri fold brochure detailing the information about the dresses on display.

Holy Week bulletin assembly help needed.

Please join me on **Tuesday** morning, **April 6** at **10 am** in the parish house. Many hands will make the work go faster. Please let me know if you think you are available to help out. Thank you so much, Debbie

Sign Up for Maundy Thursday Vigil

The sign-up sheet has been hung on the bulletin board in front of the kitchen. Please feel free to come to the Parish Hall or email your preferences to christchurchshrewsbury@verizon.net before the Vigil.

“I go to prepare a place for you.” John 14.2

New Christ Church Columbariums

The New Columbarium’s will allow us to remember and honor loved ones now, and in the future. The granite niches will be inscribed with the name, birth date, and death date of the individual or individuals laid to rest. Each Columbarium has 56 niches, each of which can be used to hold the cremains of two persons. They will be located in the southwest part of the graveyard, a safe distance from the white fence.

A columbarium addresses the challenges of a 300 plus old graveyard. It will provide additional sacred space for Christ Church for years to come. While the columbariums are being constructed primary with the needs of the Christ Church family in mind, members of the larger community may also be inured here.

How do I purchase a niche ?

Contact the office or if you would like more information Bob and Kim Honecker have already purchased a niche and would be happy to talk to you about details
Kim Roberts-Honecker 732 513-3048
kimroberts05@gmail.com or
Bob Honecker 732 620-4065
rah@ansellgrimm.com

Peak of the Week Update

Lent Madness tension builds—We have some really good-looking brackets going—stay tuned to see who wins the prize—awarded after Easter. For the April 2022 book, we’re doing Marcus Borg’s **Speaking Christian**. We’re Christian aren’t we? So doesn’t it follow that we speak as Christians? But is that what Borg means? And do we? Come join our happy little band of Peak in the Weekers and find out.

April 2022

April 3

Acolytes: 8:00am Judi Buncher
10:00am Meg Bernhardt, Isabel and Isara Chen-Durek
Lector: 8:00am Walter Dein
10:00am Elaine Feyereisen
Ushers: 8:00am Carl Alfano
10:00am Bramley Maber, Connie Goddard
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher

April 10: Palm Sunday

Acolytes: 8:00am Edgar John
10:00am Halina Nibbling, Teddy Keating, Matthew
Dunford, Joshua Dunford
Lector: 8:00am Priscilla Gettis
10:00am Bob Honecker
Ushers: 8:00am Judi Buncher
10:00am Elaine Feyereisen, Larry Nibbling
Altar Guild: Phyllis Edwards

Tenebrae: Wednesday at 7:00pm

Acolyte: Trevor Van Valkenburgh
Lectors: 1st Nocturn Deacon Cuff Bill Cuff
2nd Nocturn Elaine Feyereisen Robert Maber
3rd Nocturn Connie Goddard Teddy Keating
Lauds Priscilla Gettis Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: Walter Dein, George Edwards
Altar Guild: All Altar Guild

Maundy Thursday: 7:00pm

Acolytes: Halina Nibbling, PJ Reyes, Catherine Scotto, Trevor Van
Valkenburgh
Lector: Larry Nibbling
Ushers: Walter Dein, Peggy James
Altar Guild: All Altar Guild

Good Friday: 12:00 Noon

Acolytes: Judi Buncher
Lector: Robert Maber
Ushers: George Edwards, Connie Goddard
Altar Guild: All Altar Guild

April 16: Easter Vigil – 5pm

Lector: Bill Cuff
Assisting: Erin Pedalino
Altar Guild: All Altar Guild

April 17: Easter Sunday – 11am

Acolytes: Andrew Brown, Priscilla Gettis, Dexter and Kodi Craven,
Lector: Dash Cassidy, Meg Bernhardt
Ushers: Peggy James, Walter Dein
Altar Guild: All Altar Guild

April 24:

Acolytes: 8:00am Edgar John
10:00am Josh and Matthew Dunford, Cassandra Murphy
Lector: 8:00am Sean Griffith
10:00am Robert Maber
Ushers: 8:00am Walter Dein
10:00am Bramley Maber, Connie Goddard
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster

Note: Please double check when you are serving. If you need to switch, please notify the office ASAP.

April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 ML - Vacation	2 ML - Vacation
3 ML - Vacation	4 Office Closed ML - Vacation	5 ML - Vacation	6 <u>9:30-10:15</u> Peak of the Week Eucharist Morning Prayer	7 Choir Practice 7 pm	8	9 GFS Beach Sweeps 9am
10	11 Office Closed	12	13 Tenebrae 7 pm	14 Maundy Thursday 7pm Vigil Youth Event	15 Good Friday 12 noon	16 Liturgy for Holy Saturday 9am Easter Vigil 5 pm
17 Festive Easter Service at 11 am followed by egg hunt and reception	18 Office Closed	19	20 <u>9:30-10:15</u> Peak of the Week Eucharist Morning Prayer	21 Choir Practice 7 pm	22 Rector's Day Off	23 Adult Confirmation Class 10 am
24	25 Office Closed Vestry Meeting 7pm	26	27 <u>9:30-10:15</u> Peak of the Week Eucharist Morning Prayer	28 Choir Practice 7 pm	29 Rector's Day Off	30 <hr/> May 1 Bob and Anne Kelly Interment

Christ Church Shrewsbury

*380 Sycamore Avenue
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
Jeff Veil, 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

