

# 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 VII

July 2022

## INDEPENDENCE WEEKEND



*Join us as we celebrate:*

**Sunday July 3rd:** A “Four Corners” worship service and picnic at 10:00am on the greens of the Presbyterian Church with the Quakers, too! Bring a lawn chair and a dish to share.

*No 5pm Saturday Mass on the Grass, No 9am Sunday Mass*

**Monday July 4th:** A “Four Corners” community reading of the Declaration of Independence, and the Ringing of the Christ Church Bells. 10:00am at the Allen House.

*\*A graceful eagle, standing watch over the Dorothy and Robert Manson Grave, is surely celebrating this day, too.*

***“Unless the LORD builds the house, their labor is in vain who build it.” Psalm 127.1***

Dear Friends,

Last month, I started a series about how the Rectory became the Rectory. The idea took shape at the Vestry Meeting held on August 21st, 1824. During this same time period, the Reverend John Croes had resigned. It is my theory that he suggested the building of the Rectory because he knew it would be a powerful incentive for securing the next priest at Christ Church. As the Vestry went forward with the idea of a Rectory they also went about the process of securing a new Rector. Their hope was to have it in place for the arrival of the new priest. The saga continues from the book, *History of Christ Church Shrewsbury, New Jersey*, written in 1903:

*On August 30th a committee of “five men” were “appointed to purchase a lot for ground for to build a house for the residence for the minister of Shrewsbury church and that they be restricted to purchase not exceeding one quarter of a mile from the church and likewise not to exceed the sum of \$150.00 for the lot.”*

*The committee was “Joseph Voorhees, Samuel T. Thompson, Jacob R. Holmes, Gabriel West, Woodward Dennis.” The same committee were “to superintend and build a house on said lot.”*

*Jacob Holmes, a member of the committee, sold them the lot upon which the rectory still stands. The first record meeting of vestry at which Mr. Wheeler was present was held April 16th, 1825. The rectory was still unfinished but the committee was empowered to “proceed and finish” it. The Bishop, having certified as to the satisfactory testimonials form Mr. Wheeler’s’ former diocese, the Vestry on January 15th, 1825, recommended him to the Bishop “to be instituted rector of this church,” and a certificate was to be sent to the Bishop to that effect, signed by the clerk. The committee upon the building of the rectory reported February 13th, 1825, from which we infer that their labors were concluded.”*

There is still more to the story, but we know something of the ending, for the Rectory still stands to this day on that lot purchased for the price of \$150. How much did the house itself cost to construct? That you will no doubt find out come the August Crown.

What I have come to appreciate about this story is the wisdom of the Vestry in working to provide a home in which the new Rector and his family could be welcomed. It is my guess that 1825 Shrewsbury housing was as much of a problem to secure as it is today. It would have been a wonderful benefit to have a stately home to offer to a prospective cleric.

In a recent discussion of our Rectory, Rod Webster reported to your current Vestry that if we did *not* have this valuable asset, it might be nearly impossible to entice the next Rector to come minister here; this area has simply become too expensive with the salary clergy receive. A reminder to us to take good care of this gift given to us by God. A reminder that the lovely home I often call “mine” in fact belongs to the entire parish. Oops! I do believe I have misspoken! For

it doesn't even really belong to the entire parish: it belongs to God. We are merely her stewards, hopefully honoring our responsibility to keep it in good order and repair for the next generation. As we come closer to the two hundredth anniversary of the Rectory, we will have more to say about that later. For as our forebears looked forward to the next generations, we are also so determined to do.

Peace,

Mother Lisa+

Below is a picture of the Rectory much as it looked when my family and I moved in nearly twenty-five years ago. I hope to tell you about some of the changes as her story continues.



### **Rectory Campaign Set to Launch!**

An effort to build a fund to support major expenses to maintain and improve our rectory is ready to begin. The purpose is to establish and manage a dedicated fund inside the Endowment similar to the Manson Fund which helps fund major improvements to our church building. Maintaining an attractive home for future rectors has become increasingly important to the future of Christ Church as the cost of homes in or near Shrewsbury has become prohibitive. We will be communicating the details of the campaign over the next few months; look for a letter in your mailbox next week!. We thank you in advance for your willingness to consider a special gift to Christ Church in this important effort.

Rod Webster and Jim O'Connor, Co-chairs

### **News and Notes:**

Congratulations to Tom and Perky who celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary last month.

What a milestone!!!!

A Big thank you to everyone who made the flea market a success.

### **Candlelight Vigil to End Gun Violence**

Our sister congregation of St. John's, Little Silver is hosting a communitywide candlelight vigil to end gun violence on Wednesday, July 20 at 7:00 PM. The vigil will be held outdoors.

The event will include ecumenical prayer alongside reflections given by many representatives from the community and will conclude with a Taizé style instrumental where attendees will be asked to "light" an electric candle for peace. The event is designed to be apolitical with the prayer that, through coming together, we may find common ground to grieve and remember, and then move forward with a unity of purpose conducive to peace. I hope you can join us.

### **Sunday, July 3rd!**

Because something special is about to happen. We are planning a joint outdoor workshop service at 10 am with the Presbyterians and Quakers. We will meet just south of the Presbyterian Church (park in their lot or ours and walk over). Bring a lawn chair and a side dish to share. Fried Chicken will be provided. Beverages will be provided and if you would like something special, please bring with you. Our guest Speaker will be Rick Geffin, local Historian and Author.



Rick Geffin has authored numerous articles on various aspects of New Jersey history for local newspapers, magazines, historical societies, and newsletters.

Rick has presented historical papers at the

New Jersey History & Historic Preservation in 2014 and 2015. He has participated in Symposia for groups such as the Navesink Maritime Historical Association, and he has appeared on the New Jersey Cable TV show, Family Historian

### **Monday, July 4th!**

A reading of the Declaration of Independence will take place at the Allen House 10 a.m. Mother Lisa will be in attendance. Please come join us.

### **Flea Market Flush!**

Did you miss out on our Flea Market? I hope not! There were wonderful finds to be found, and many happy customers. But none so happy as our fierce flea market volunteers who made the day with their hard work and good humor. This year we netted **\$4,462**; nearly double what we made last year, and the highest figure ever. So start saving your treasures to donate for next year, and circle June 23, 2023 on your calendars for the next one!

### **Heritage Rose Garden**

In early June members of the Shrewsbury Garden Club added annuals to accompany all the perennials in the Rose Garden. The colorful annuals include orange Marigolds, yellow, orange and red Zinnias, and white and yellow Lantana. The roses in bloom at various times are white, pink and red. Purple Lavender is now in bloom.

The brick walkway leading into the garden replaced the existing slate walkway and was completed in April by Ryser's. Check out the garden on your way into church. There you can also see the beautiful plaque dedicating the garden to the memory of Bob and Anne Kelly. Nancy Stewart



## From Queeni Caay

*“Smile though your heart is aching,  
Smile even though it’s breaking.”*

This song by Nat King Cole is one of my all-time favorites. And I know you are very familiar with it, so I am sharing this song for this month’s Crown not only to inspire you and encourage you to smile but to share my true feelings about the song. I am hoping that in these challenging times where we constantly have to embrace change and difficulties, I am able to touch someone’s heart with my words.

*“Smile and maybe tomorrow,  
You’ll see the sun come shining through, for  
you.”*

There are nights when we don’t see the stars, but we know it’s there shining brightly for us light-years away. It reminds us that God is watching over us during our darkest days when we fail to realize his presence. I know it’s a cliché to say that there is light at the end of the tunnel. There is a rainbow after a rain, or that even in the longest nights the sun will come, nevertheless. But it is true. You should never lose hope because the best is yet to come in your life. I know I may seem like a very optimistic person who likes to radiate positivity all the time, but I’m actually not. I’m not walking on sunshine everyday just like everyone.

*“Light up your tears with gladness,  
Hide every trace of sadness.”*

But, my dearest friends, I hope you do not forget that our feelings are valid. This song is lovely. And seeing smiles indeed makes the world more beautiful. Besides the fact that

smiles are considered contagious by various studies, it undeniably has a lot of great benefits. Still, it is important to remember that we can never feel true happiness without sadness. Sadness isn’t something we need to conceal. So, if you’re feeling sad, it’s okay. Take time to heal.

*“That’s the time you must keep on trying,  
Smile, what’s the use of crying?”*

As much as I love the song, I disagree that there’s no use in crying. Crying is so beneficial. A good cry makes you feel lighter. You don’t have to force a smile when you feel like breaking down. Cry all you want. Lay your worries to God. It’s okay to be vulnerable with God because sometimes it’s just so hard to see life through rose-colored glasses. Circumstances in life make us perceive things as dull and dark and that’s okay. *C’est la vie*. Such is life. So, keep going. And one day you’ll see how the radiance of God’s glory made your life brighter than you expected.

*“You’ll see that life is still worthwhile,*



Love and prayers, Queeni

### **Columbarium Update**

Christ Church is moving forward towards construction of a columbarium in our historic graveyard. If you are interested in a pre-construction “Founders” rate please contact Kim Roberts [05@gmail.com](mailto:kimroberts05@gmail.com) or call 732-530-7451. You are also welcome to invite friends and family to consider Christ Church Graveyard as their final resting place.

### **Christ Church Garden 2022**

I am not sure how much is exactly in a bushel but we have donated 3 large loads of lettuce and kale to Lunch Break in Red Bank so far this season. As the weather gets hotter and the lettuce phases out the next two crops will be cucumbers and tomatoes! I will be dropping off the last of the lettuce in the church refrigerator if anyone knows of individuals or organizations that could use some.

Garden contact Kim Roberts-Honecker  
[kimroberts05@gmail.com](mailto:kimroberts05@gmail.com) or call 732 530-7451

### **Altar Guild: Flowers**

Friends,

Thank you for continuing to support the Memorials & Thanksgivings for our beautiful Altar.

### **How Can I Help?**

I know it is not easy for many of you to participate on the Second Saturday Workday. Here is a list of things you can do on your own, or as a Family Project, at a time that is convenient for you!

### **Outdoors Anytime!**

Weed the garden around the front of the Church and the areas between the walk and the Church. Weed the walkways. Weed around the gravestones that are lying flat in in pea stone. Sweep the steps at the Parish House and Church. Pick up branches and twigs in the graveyard and place them in the “town pick up area” located in the back parking strip where we have Mass on the Grass.

### **During Office Hours:**

Wipe down the baseboards and windowsills in the Parish House. Wash the windows in the Parish House. Volunteer to take office the recycling center. Vacuum the library in the Parish House. Empty the garbage cans in the Church and the Parish House. Wipe down the windowsills in the Church. Straighten up the kneelers, prayer books

Altar Flowers are \$40.00 (2 per week)

Narthex Flowers are \$30.00

Please continue to sign up in the Narthex or call the Church office.

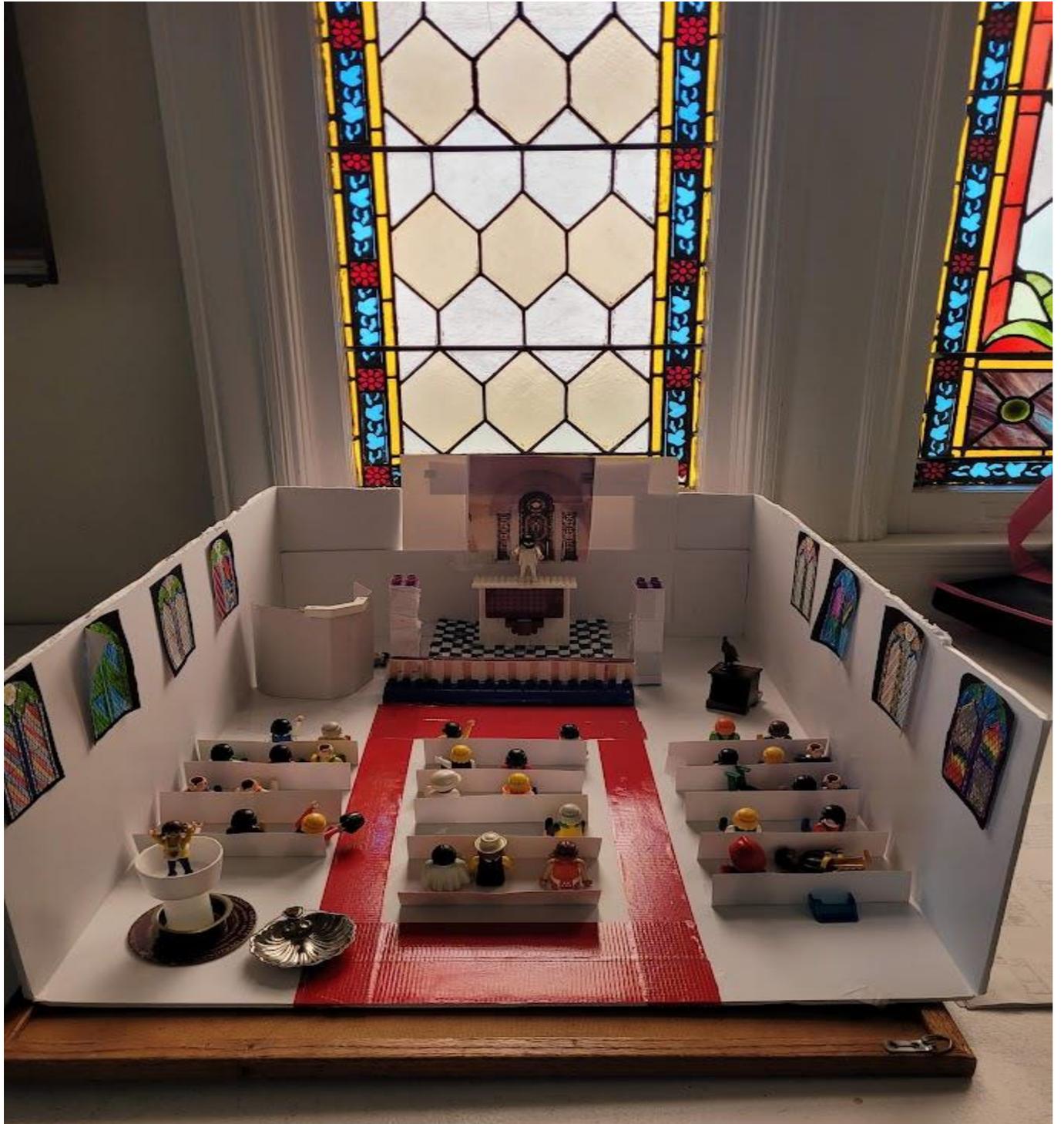
During the summer (mid June to mid Sept.) there will be alternatives. choices at the Altar and in the Narthex.

Thank you again for your support and for remembering those who have blessed our lives.  
Cindy Webster, Flower Chair

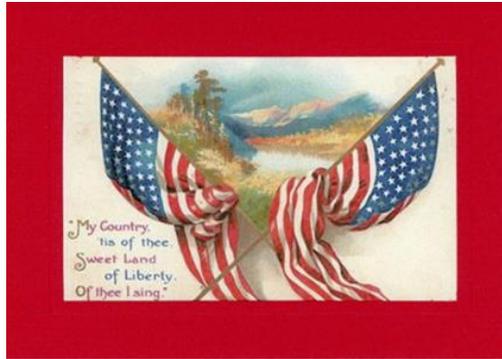
and hymnals in the Church.

I'm sure there is more but this is a start!

The Property People.



**YOUTH SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2022**



## America

By Patrick Durek

It used to be sung in US schools at the start of each morning—and still is, in many. It is played at royal British events featuring the queen, or, at times, king; indeed it is presently the English anthem. In the past, in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, it was the Danish national anthem. And the Prussian anthem. And the anthem of Liechtenstein. It has appeared in the music of Beethoven, Haydn, and 19<sup>th</sup> century Spanish guitar composer Fernando Sor. What is it? Well, depending on whom you ask, it is “God Save the King/Queen,” “Heil dir im Siegerkranz” (“Hail to Thee in Victor’s Wreath”), “A Song to be Sung by the Danish Subjects at the Fete of their King, to the Melody of the English Hymn,” “Whitefield’s Tune,” “God Keep America,” or “My Country ‘Tis of Thee” (formally known as “America”).

Like any song, poem, book, or idea that endures over centuries, “My Country ‘Tis of Thee” has nebulous roots and a plethora of manifestations. It also, as we have seen, has a common unifying thread: it is an anthem, which is a type of hymn—square structure, singable by all (or at least *most*), with religious and/or patriotic text.

How far back does it go? Who wrote it? We don’t precisely know. But *some* claim to know; namely, the son of Mister Henry

Carey, an early Classical English songwriter and composer. Carey said his father wrote the song, and called it “God Save Great George the King” in 1740. Later historians find the younger Carey’s proud claim dubious, however, suggesting that his motives were financial, and that any melody used had likely existed earlier. (There is still a historical search for the earliest rendition; currently, the first known published version in an English tunebook in 1744.) The first successful performances of the “God Save the King” took place the following year, at both Covent Garden and the Drury Lane.

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The song first appeared in the colonial “New World” in 1761, in its “Whitefield’s Tune” incarnation. Nearly three decades later, after independence, the song was sung, with new patriotic lyrics, at George Washington’s inauguration. The 1789 version he heard featured the following bombastic first verse:

*Hail, thou auspicious day!  
For let America  
Thy praise resound.  
Joy to our native land!  
Let every heart expand,*

*For Washington's at hand,  
With glory crowned.*

According to a Library of Congress article on the subject, members of the Lewis and Clark expedition, 1803-1806, would have sung a different, truly patriotic, text:

*God keep America  
Free from tyrannic sway  
Till time shall cease  
Hush'd be the din of arms  
And all proud war's alarm;  
Follow in all her charms  
Heaven-borne peace.*

The final, most recent, version—“My Country ‘Tis of Thee” features a cameo by the famous American composer, educator, and songwriter Lowell Mason (who featured in another *Crown* article). In the early 1830s, Mason, looking for some help with translations, handed theological and language student Samuel Francis Smith a pile of German songbooks. The latter’s ears perked at the melody for “God Save the Queen,” and he wrote entirely new text. Both pastoral and reverential, the lyrics exalt the wonder of the land and optimistic national excitement. It premiered at a children’s Independence Day celebration, titled simply “America,” on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831. The complete text is below.

My country, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee I sing;  
Land where my fathers died,  
Land of the pilgrims' pride,  
From ev'ry mountainside  
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,  
Land of the noble free,  
Thy name I love;  
I love thy rocks and rills,  
Thy woods and templed hills;

My heart with rapture thrills,  
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,  
And ring from all the trees  
Sweet freedom's song;  
Let mortal tongues awake;  
Let all that breathe partake;  
Let rocks their silence break,  
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to Thee,

Author of liberty,  
To Thee we sing.  
Long may our land be bright,  
With freedom's holy light,  
Protect us by Thy might,  
Great God our King!



## Those Who Serve

July 10

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell  
Acolytes: Catherine Scotto, Cassandra Murphy, Teddy Keating  
Lectors: Elaine Feyereisen  
Ushers: George Edwards, Rod Webster  
Choirmaster/Organist: Irish Chen  
Altar Guild: Phyllis Edwards  
Ice Tea Host: Sheila Hatami

July 17

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell  
Acolytes: Andrew Brown, Isabel & Isara Chen-Durek, Judi Buncher  
Lectors: Larry Nibbling  
Ushers: Carl Alfano, Jim O'Connor  
Choirmaster/Organist: Iris Chen  
Altar Guild: Halina Nibbling  
Ice Tea Host: Carl Alfano

July 24

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell  
Acolytes: Dexter & Kody Craven, Halina Nibbling  
Lectors: Bob Honecker  
Ushers: Stephen Rudolph, Walter Dein  
Choirmaster/Organist: Iris Chen  
Altar Guild: Cindy Webster  
Ice Tea Host: Martie Viets

July 31

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell  
Deacon: Victoria Cuff  
Acolytes: Priscilla Gettis, Dexter and Kody Craven  
Lector: Edgar John  
Ushers: Connie Goddard, Bramley Maber  
Choirmaster/Organist: Iris Chen  
Altar Guild: Judi Buncher  
Ice Tea Host: Robin Solbach



**The Rose Garden**

## July 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> <u>Rector's day off</u>	<b>2</b> No 5 p.m service
<b>3</b> <u>Presbyterian Service and Picnic 10 am</u> <u>No 9 am service</u>	<b>4</b> <u>Office closed</u> <u>Reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Allen House 10 am</u>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <u>Rector's day off</u>	<b>9</b> 5:00PM Outdoor Service
<b>10</b> 9AM Holy Eucharist	<b>11</b> <u>Office closed</u>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <u>Rector's day off</u>	<b>16</b> 5:00PM Outdoor Service Burial for Sandra DeMurley 1:00 pm
<b>17</b> 9AM Holy Eucharist	<b>18</b> <u>Office closed</u> Tenative Vestry Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <u>Rector's day off</u>	<b>23</b> 5:00PM Outdoor Service

**24**

9AM  
Holy Eucharist

**25**

Office closed

**26**

**27**

**28**

**29**

Rector's Day off

**30**

5:00PM  
Outdoor Service

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**31**

9AM  
*Holy Euchrist*

# *Christ Church Shrewsbury*

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Shrewsbury, NJ 07702*

[ChristChurchShrewsbury@verizon.net](mailto: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