

# THE CHRIST CHURCH CHRONICLE



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Important Dates

Weekend Services:

Saturday 5pm: In-person

10am: In-person or on Facebook Live

The Christ Church Thrift Store

Every Saturday from 9am-12pm

Keep checking back for future events!

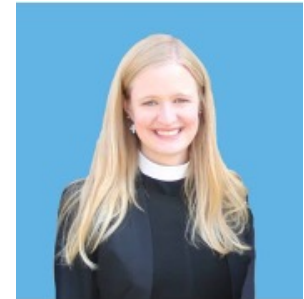
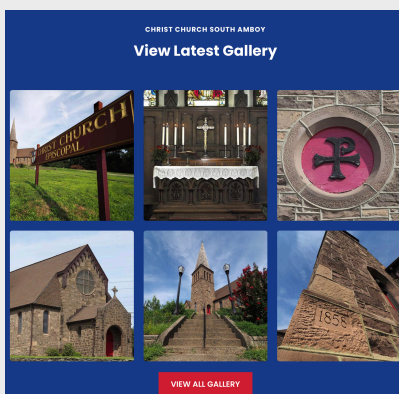
Let us know if you'd like to carpool!

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Our website is live!

Thanks to Shelly, Mother Ann, and all who work so hard on our presence online and in social media.

Find us online at

[https://  
christchurchsouthamboy.org](https://christchurchsouthamboy.org)



## From our Priest in Charge

A blessed Lent to you all!

One of my favorite hymns we sing at the beginning of Lent starts off, “The glory of these forty days.” As we veil our crosses and give up our most joyful words, it can be difficult to think of Lent as glorious, and yet, I do love this season!

Growing up, Lent was a season of sacrifice and discipline. My grandparents gave up meat and I (sometimes) gave up cookies or chocolate for these forty days. Lent was a time of sacrifice to bring us closer to Jesus and what He sacrificed for us. As I’ve grown in years and faith, my Lenten practices – and my approach to drawing closer to God – has evolved as well.

When Lent begins, I hear an invitation to draw closer to God. What practice might I commit to for 40 days to deepen my relationship with God? 40 days is an easy season for trying something new – just to see what happens. We all have places in our lives where we could benefit from inviting God’s transformative power. Which one are you called to focus on this Lent?

Let us be grateful for this season of penitence -a season all about removing every obstacle that keeps us from drawing closer to God. Let us give thanks for all the reminders it offers, and the gift of our church family that supports us in drawing closer to God each day.

Mother Ann+

**CHRIST CHURCH  
SOUTH AMBOY**

**Street Address**  
220 Main Street  
South Amboy, NJ 08879

**Mailing Address:**  
257 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
South Amboy, NJ 08879

**Phone**  
(732) 721-6262

**E-mail**  
christchurchsouthamboy@  
outlook.com

**Contact**  
**Mother Ann K. Urinoski**  
[annkathrync@gmail.com](mailto:annkathrync@gmail.com)

**Clergy Associate Fred  
Galano**  
[fredgalano@gmail.com](mailto:fredgalano@gmail.com)

**Find us on Facebook!**  
[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

## From our Clergy Associate

Dear Parish family,  
I just wanted to thank you again for giving me a home here. I have so much enjoyed our time in prayer, service, and fellowship. Thank you for sharing your lives and your time with me and our parish.

I'm especially grateful for your support and generosity in my Ordination to the priesthood in December. I was overwhelmed by your love, presence, and the time and effort you put into the Ordination Service and the reception afterwards.

I really do feel very much at home here and look forward to our journey as co laborers and friends in Christ!

With much love,  
Fred+



## The Deacon's Corner

On Saturday, January 28, 2023, after less than three and a half hours of convention time, we elected our next Bishop, the Reverend Canon Dr. Sally French. Many gathered in our beautiful Cathedral. Still others of us joined the great throng, as the hymn says, via the use of technology.

Either way, the excitement that comes with anticipation, then completion—of this step, at any rate—was intense and palpable. It lingered even after the closing hymn and dismissal. It could be seen in the posts, welcomes, and well-wishes going directly up on social media. The Diocesan website displayed the news immediately. A new era was coming in. We'd had time to process the idea of having to make our goodbyes to our Bishop of the last ten years, and to go forward into the unknown; today was a day to celebrate having reached a decision and preparing for the time ahead.

These new beginnings—they are so significant to us. As a liturgical Church, we put an emphasis on rites of passage, a focus on where God is present in beginnings, turning points, and endings. Sometimes when we're in the middle, in between those things, we forget that—forget that God is there through all aspects of those times.

We are reminded during baptisms, confirmations, and other sacraments; we are reminded when we re-create the turning points in the life of Jesus Christ during those climactic moments in the church calendar; we are reminded when we call a new shepherd to our flock.

The intensity of such occasions isn't with us all of the time (that would truly be a bit much) but our prayer life can offer opportunities to remind ourselves of the renewals in our lives, of God's constant invitations to us to do so. Those invitations show up all over Scripture and all through our prayerbooks; they are there in that quiet sense that we get in our solitary prayer time and in those moments when we feel God moving through interaction with those in our lives. By the time you read this, the excitement of this particular day will have faded. But the constant action of our God, the reawakenings and renewals that come with that—that remains ongoing. As we sang (in two languages) this morning, where charity and love are---God is found, always.

Deacon Magdalena



Our Bishop Elect  
The Rev. Canon Dr. Sally  
French

# Women with Purpose

## Caribbean Night



On October 8, 2022, we held our 2nd Caribbean Night. It was a success. It was a wonderful evening of great food, music, dancing, and conversation. It was an amazing event and we are looking forward to doing it again next year!

## Caroling



On the evening of December 13, 2022, Women with Purpose visited Venetian Care and Rehabilitation Center in South Amboy to do some Christmas caroling, give gifts, and to spread some Advent and Christmas cheer. Everyone had a wonderful time singing, chatting, and making some new friends!

## Coats for Kids



The Matawan Rotary Club gifted Trinity with 75 new Children's coats. They worked with Christ Church and Women with Purpose and donated them to South Amboy and Sayreville schools. Big thanks to Robin Martino for delivery of the coats and another thank you to Donna Huggins and Women with Purpose for picking them up and distributing them.

# Buildings and Grounds

John Fitzgerald vestry member and part of our buildings and grounds team and his grandson Patrick Karst worked together in the transport and installation of the church's Nativity scene. Thank you for your hard work! The Nativity scene was beautiful!



Join us for our  
*Lenten*  
*Contemplative*  
*Series*

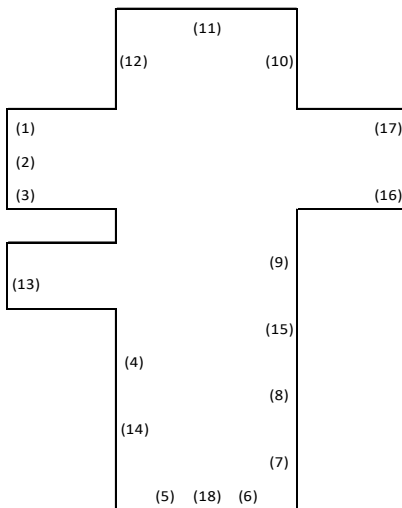
Wednesdays in March  
7pm-8pm on Zoom

Meeting ID: 890 5137 8464  
Passcode: 473681

## The stained-glass windows of Christ Church

The beautiful stained-glass windows in Christ Church are primarily a ministry of color which helps to transform our Church building into a house of worship. But they are more than just mere decorations. In keeping with the name of the parish, they portray the highlights of Christ's earthly life. A number of the windows are new since the explosion of 1950 that destroyed several of our original windows. Stained glass is a hand craft practiced in America today in virtually the same manner as it was in Europe in the Middle Ages. Each window has an associated Bible text that can be used for meditation and reflection. The following key shows the location of each of these beautiful windows.

Key to stained glass windows



# Stained Glass Stories

By Steve Osterberg

*Each month Steve will highlight one of the stained glass windows in our church.*



### (1) The Annunciation

In memory of Edwin Williams and his daughter Emma Agnes. Given by Mrs. Edwin Williams.

**St. Luke 1:28-39.** <sup>28</sup> And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" <sup>29</sup> But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. <sup>33</sup> And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For with God nothing will be impossible." <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. <sup>39</sup> Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah.

This is the first installment describing our stained-glass windows, the remaining windows will be portrayed in the months to come.