

Christ Church CHART
1355 Northern Boulevard
Manhasset, NY 11030

Letter from the Rector

December 1, 2011

Dear Friends,

There is much important news for the Christ Church family in the edition of the *Chart*. I will summarize much of the material in this cover letter, but I ask you to carefully read the articles within the *Chart* so you will be up-to-date on all that is happening at Christ Church in the month of December.

We begin at the end of the month with **Christmas**, which falls on Sunday this year. We will have **Christmas Eve** services of the **Holy Eucharist at 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM**. The 4:00 PM service will be a family/children's service. The 8:00 PM Festival Eucharist will be preceded by music at 7:40 PM. On Christmas Day there will be one celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM. We will not have services at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM on Christmas Day.

On **Sunday, December 18** the annual **Christmas Pageant** will be held in the church at **10:00 AM**. Our Church School students, along with a full compliment of live animals, will re-tell the story of Christmas. The service will be followed by a special reception for the pageant participants and the parish family. There will be celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. There will be no Church School, however.

On **Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 PM** we will have a **Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas**. This special service, which was developed during the First World War in England, combines prayers, the reading of scripture and the beloved music for Advent and Christmas into a tapestry of reflection and joyfulness. The service will be followed by a reception in the Parish House. This is a wonderful event for you to invite friends and neighbors to join the Christ Church parish family. We will have celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM (half an hour later than normal). The **10:00 AM service that day will be Morning Prayer**, since Father Lowry will be speaking at the annual meeting of Amnesty International that morning.

On Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30 PM, the first public hearing for the re-zoning and the site plan for the Christ Church property will be held at the North Hempstead Town Hall. The plan to renovate the Parish House after the building is sub-divided has been well received by town officials and Christ Church's neighbors, but it is always valuable to have members of the church at the hearing to support the zoning change request. On Sunday, December 4, the rector and wardens will be available after the 10:00 AM service to answer questions about the sub-division, renovation and zoning change plans.

On Saturday, December 3, the Christ Church parish family will gather at the church for the annual raking party. This event was postponed for two weeks because the leaves refused to fall from the trees in a timely manner. The leaves have now fallen and are ready to be raked and gathered.

Finally, the vestry and I have agreed to a change in mutual responsibilities in preparation for the rector's retirement and the calling of a new rector. This will better reflect the previous agreement in which I relinquished a third of my salary when I accepted the position of dean at the Mercer School of Theology. Effective immediately, I will work at Christ Church 30 hours a week. Generally this will be Sunday (12 hours), Monday (8 hours) and Wednesday (10 hours). I will work 30 hours a week at the Mercer School (on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays). I will be available for pastoral needs at all times, however. I will concentrate my efforts on worship, pastoral care, adult education and the renovation of the church property. Members of the vestry will assume responsibility for the other areas of parish life.

This comes with my best wishes.

Sincerely,

DAVID B. LOWRY, RECTOR

Parish Notes:

Parish Work Day—Saturday, December 3 at 9:00 AM

Please remember the parish work day this Saturday beginning at 9:00 AM. There are many leaves to be gathered on the west side of the church. Many hands will make for easy work. Please bring rakes, cloths in which to transport leaves and gloves to protect your hands (from blisters).

Men's Christmas Dinner

The **Men's Christmas dinner** will be held at the Christ Church Rectory on Monday, December 5 at 7:30 PM. The theme will be a Cajun Christmas (roast pepper pork, sweet potato pone, eggplant dressing and rum cake) using recipes from Eula Mae, the chef at the McIlhenny Plantation in New Iberia, Louisiana (of Tabasco fame—and my former parishioners at Christ Church Cathedral in New Orleans). Reservations are necessary. The cost will be \$10 per person.

Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas

Even if you have been at services in the morning of December 11, we hope you will come back to Christ Church at 5:00 PM in the afternoon for a Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas. It is a GREAT way to get ready for Christmas. The lessons from the Old and New Testaments share the wonderful of God's plan of salvation—and the hymns, anthems and carols beautifully supplement the scriptures. Lessons and Carols lasts about an hour and a quarter. It is followed by a reception in the Gymnasium. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring your friends to Christ Church. Please note that there is a sign-up sheet for appetizers and desserts in the church.

Outreach Projects—and a Big Thank You

Many thanks to the Sunday school teachers, students and all those who supplied the wrapping paper, shoe boxes (empty and full), and the toys and toiletries to fill the boxes. A very special thanks to those *e/ves* who went above and beyond to make this year's project such a resounding success: Kelly Butler, Marina Conrad, Patti Crisafulli, Michele Deosaran, Shelia Estwick-Belle, Andrea Kolyer, Ariana Paterson, and Denise Polis. Through everyone's hard work we were able to send out **109 boxes**, which far surpasses any previous record. Thank you all again for your generosity

We are also coming to the end of the **coat collection drive**. Winter coats in good condition are needed. The coats need not be cleaned; they will be dry cleaned prior to distribution.

We have received the names of only four children to receive presents as part of the **Adopt-a-Child Program**. We will happily take care of that family. Since there are so few children for us to help, we are shifting our focus to food. The Long Island Council of Churches Food Bank in Freeport continues to need our generous support. In addition to non-perishable foods, we need frozen turkeys and fixings for Christmas meals. Please bring frozen turkeys on Sundays or to the office. We will keep them in our freezers until we transport the turkeys to Freeport.

There is also an international aspect to outreach at Christ Church. **Lynn Martin** has begun work on a micro-finance project for women in Ghana. Women's Trust, which is part of the High Water Women Foundation is preparing to provide funding for women entrepreneurs and provide scholarships and healthcare to girls in Ghana. Lynn brings her commitment to women and girls as well as her experience in financial administration to the preparation of documentation for Central Bank registration and advising on investor readiness and financial risk management. Lynn has made one trip to Ghana and plans a second trip in August. Lynn has been an officer of the Nassau County Coalition against Domestic Violence and is now spearheading an effort to merge the Coalition against Domestic Violence with the Coalition Against Child Abuse and Neglect. Lynn is also treasurer of Greenhope Services for Women in East Harlem.

Father Lowry continues his work to obtain the release of the 3,400 Iranian exiles who remain in Iraq. With the withdrawal of United States forces from Iraq next month, the Iranians, who have already

suffered 47 deaths and more than 1000 injuries from attacks by the Iraqi security forces on their compound over the past two years. Father Lowry is also leading an initiative to support the churches in South Sudan as that newly independent country begins to deal with management of its oil wealth. As has been noted in much of the developed world, natural resources can be both a blessing and a curse. It is our hope that the churches in South Sudan can make the former a reality while avoiding the latter.

The Diocese of Long Island is beginning to raise funds to support to support the re-building of the **Episcopal Cathedral and the Cathedral School in Puerto Prince**. Both buildings were virtually destroyed in the earthquake. Nearly two years have been necessary to allow the governance of the state and the church to evolve sufficiently to have a good outcome genuinely possible. Funds from Long Island, and throughout the Episcopal Church, will be necessary to bring the Cathedral and the Cathedral School back to life.

Deadline for Christmas Music/Flowers December 14

Please remember that Wednesday, December 14 is the date that all contributions and forms must be received if you would wish to contribute to the joy of our Christmas worship through the gift of altar flowers, or special music.

Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 18

The annual Christmas Pageant will be held at the 10:00 AM service on the Sunday prior to Christmas. The story of the birth of Jesus will be told in song and Biblical text by members of the Church School, aided by the Chapel Choir and live and very active animals from the manger. On that day there will be no celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM. There will be celebrations of the Eucharist at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

Confirmation Class will begin on January 8, 2011

We will begin a new Confirmation class for all students who are in ninth grade and above. Chris Ballard, our seminarian, will be the primary leader of the class. He will be assisted by the Rector. The classes will meet every other week through the end of the school year. There will be a few additional classes in the fall. Since the Bishop of long Island will not return to Christ Church for two more years, Confirmation will be held at the Cathedral in October 2012. Letters will be sent to those in ninth grade or above who have not yet been confirmed.

The Chapel Choir News

The Chapel Choir is on itunes! We recorded an original single last month at Tiki Recording Studio. Our recording was sent in to the Young People's Chorus of NYC where it was digitally mixed with recordings from 45 other choirs from around the country. The song "What is Christmas Made Of" is now for sale on itunes for 99 cents. You can find it by searching the song title and own a piece of Chapel Choir history! The Chapel Choir is open to new members in grades two and above.

Calendar for the Month of December

Thursday, December 1	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Friday, December 2	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, December 3	Annual Leaf Raking/Parish Clean-up		
Sunday, Dec. 4/2Advent	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
	9:50 AM	Church School	Parish House
	10:00 AM	Choral Eucharist	Church
	6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
Monday, December 5 Men's Dinner \$10	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
	7:30 PM	Men's Dinner	Rectory

Tuesday, December 6	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Wednesday, December 7	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 5:45 PM 7:30 PM	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer Adult Education	Chapel Chapel Chapel Parish House
Thursday, December 8	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Friday, December 9	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Saturday, December 10			
Sunday, Dec. 11/3 Advent Lessons & Carols, Reception Parish House	8:00 AM 9:50 AM 10:00 AM 5:00PM 6:30 PM	Holy Eucharist Church School Morning Prayer Lessons & Carols Holy Eucharist	Church Parish House Church Church Chapel
Monday, December 12	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Tuesday, December 13	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Wednesday, December 14 All checks with requests for Christmas music/flowers must be in today	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 5:45 PM 7:30 PM	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer Bible Study	Chapel Chapel Chapel Parish House
Thursday, December 15	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Friday, December 16	8:45 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Saturday, December 17	12:00 PM	Rehearsal for Pageant	
Sunday, Dec. 18/4 Advent Christmas Pageant by Church School	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Holy Eucharist Christmas Pageant Holy Eucharist	Church Church Chapel
Monday, December 19	8:45 AM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Vestry Meeting	Chapel Chapel Parish House
Tuesday, December 20	8:45 AM 9:30 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Decoration of Church Evening Prayer	Chapel Chapel
Wednesday, December 21	8:45 AM 9:15 AM 10:00 AM 5:45 PM	Morning Prayer Bible Study Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer	Chapel Office Chapel Chapel

	7:30 PM		Parish House
Thursday, December 22	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Friday, December 23	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve	4:00 PM	Family Eucharist and Building of the Crèche	Church
<i>Prelude music to begin at 7:40PM</i>	8:00 PM	Festival Choral Eucharist	
Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day, Traditional Carols	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Church
Monday, December 26	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Tuesday, December 27	7:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
Wednesday, December 28	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Thursday, December 29	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Friday, December 30	8:45 AM	Morning Prayer	Chapel
	5:45 PM	Evening Prayer	Chapel
Saturday, December 31 New Year's Eve			

Happy Birthday!!

We are pleased to congratulate these friends and parishioners this month on their birthdays...

Elaine Phillips, Clayton Tadler, Beth Morningstar, Kathleen McGill, Austin Bennett, Valerie Siener, Katherine Stackler, Kelly Whalen, Tom Chaly, Arthur Field, Jerome Blocker, Elizabeth Pavlovich, Paul Peters.

Happy Anniversary!!!

Our congratulations to all those friends and parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries for this month... William and Valerie Siener.

SUNDAY READINGS AND ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 4, 2011

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15; Mark 1:1-8

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 11, 2011

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 18, 2011

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16; Canticle 3; Romans 16:25:27; Luke 1:26-38
Pageant with the Children of Christ Church at 10am

Christmas Eve – December 24, 2011

Family Eucharist - 4:00pm

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1:14,15-20

Christmas Eve – December 24, 2011

Festival Choral Eucharist - 8:00pm

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Day - December 25, 2011*

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-14

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – JANUARY 01, 2012

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 147; Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

**A Christmas offering envelope is enclosed for your convenience
or you may pick one up in the rear of the church.*

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

AT

CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, December 18th at 10 a.m.

Pageant with the Children of Christ Church

Saturday

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 4 p.m.

A Family Eucharist

Christmas Eve, December 24th at 8 p.m.

A Festival Choral Eucharist with Music for Organ & Brass

Prelude music to begin at 7:40pm

Sunday

Christmas Day, December 25th at 10 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Traditional Carols

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