

March
2020



TOGETHER

Interim's Corner

Each year the church invites us to an "observance of a holy Lent". Many people talk about what they will "give up" or what they will "fast" from.

The principle behind "fasting" is that it allows us to experience or "feast on" something we would not otherwise experience.

Fast from judging others;
Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from fear of illness;
Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute;
Feast on speech that purifies.

Fast from discontent;
Feast on gratitude.

Fast from bitterness;
Feast on forgiveness.

Fast from suspicion;
Feast on truth.

Fast from problems that overwhelm;
Feast on prayer that sustains.

Fast from anger;
Feast on patience.

Fast from negatives;
Feast on alternatives.

Fast from self-concern;
Feast on compassion.

Fast from gossip;
Feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from worry;
Feast on faith.

Fasting during Lent makes the most sense when we replace it or "feast on" something that is going to lead to our own spiritual growth.

"I invite you, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent."

Try fasting and feasting; I know you will find Easter more meaningful!

In Christ's love,

Debra+

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
204 Monument Road, Orleans, Massachusetts 02653



YOUTH SUNDAY AND BRUNCH SUNDAY MARCH 1ST

After the 10:00 service, join us in the Parish Hall
for brunch prepared and served by our youth.
Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fruit, Fresh Baked Biscuits, Coffee, Tea
\$8 per person, children under 18 eat free



LADIES' LUNCHEON - SAVE THE DATE—THURSDAY MARCH 5TH at Noon Fay Cole

Our next Ladies Luncheon date is March 5th at 12:00 in the Parish Hall. Our committee is:
Sue Stevens, potato chips and paper goods; Nancy Ludewig, juice; and Dilys Smith, applesauce for
those people who desire a Lenten alternative.



Last month, Janet Winter rose to the challenge of creating paper art from the leftover napkins filling up the kitchen
drawer. By unanimous decision, we will use this colorful "leftover napkin" art again! Hope you will join us.

With winter still in the wings, we decided that if local schools are closed on a Ladies Luncheon date, the luncheon
will automatically be cancelled.

ADULT EDUCATION - SUNDAY STUDY GROUP Gail Smith+ "Glimpse of the Gospel"



Sundays during Lent at 9:00, our Study Group (Adult Education Class) in the Fireplace Room we will be
using the themes and stories of Epiphany and Lent as a lens to explore the Sunday gospel readings.
For Epiphany we will be looking for how Jesus is revealed as the Christ and how we then are called to
be witnesses. For Lent we will travel into the wilderness. Each week we will enter into another story
about people's encounters with Jesus (Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman at the well, a blind man,
and the Pharisees, and Lazarus) and how those encounters changed their lives. Come join us. Gail+

KEEP A FAITHFUL LENT AND JOYOUS EASTER

Read all about the many events and opportunities during this season in this edition.
Put them on your calendars and make an effort to join in.

LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Palm Sunday

Saturday April 4th - 5pm; Sunday April 5th - 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 9th - 5 p.m.

"On the Road to Gethsemane"

Travel with Jesus from the Upper Room along the way to the Mount of Olives,
then on to the Garden at Gethsemane. The journey will include:
an agape meal, foot washing, and some time in the garden.



Overnight Prayer Vigil

Watch with Jesus for an hour from April 9th - 9 p.m. until April 10th - 9 a.m.

Good Friday

April 10th

3 p.m. Stations of the Cross Labyrinth Walk

5 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday

April 11th - 7 p.m., Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

April 12th

8 a.m. Spoken Liturgy

10 a.m. Choral Liturgy



WHAT IS AN INSTRUCTED EUCHARIST? Debra+ Sunday March 8th at the 10:00 service

We will share in an Instructed Eucharist at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday March 8th. But what exactly is an instructed Eucharist? It is a real-time worship service with teaching or commentary which sheds light on the various elements of the service.



Typically, when Episcopalians gather for public worship on a Sunday, we have a service of Communion, also known as the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We do this because this is the way Christians have worshiped since the earliest days of the Church. When Jesus instituted the first Eucharist at the Last Supper, he commanded all of his followers to continue the practice. It is the clearest, strongest way we know to tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, and to maintain our bond with him and with one another.

Episcopal worship is structured and uses The Book of Common Prayer as its source. The common words of the prayer book express our most deeply held beliefs, keeps us connected to the timeless elements of Christian tradition, and allow us to participate as more than just listeners.

Come join us and our children for our Instructed Holy Eucharist on Sunday March 8th at the 10:00 a.m. service and learn something new or something you have forgotten.

HOLY CONVERSATIONS: SUNDAYS IN LENT AND EASTER March 15th, 29th; April 19th, 26th - 11:30 - 2:00 Parish Hall

Sometimes figuring out how to live into a holy Lent can be a challenge. Do I give something up? Do I take something on? Do I fast? From what...food, a behavior that harms others, unhealthy eating, social media? Maybe I should pray more, or read the Bible, or give more to charity. So many decisions!

During Lent we as individual Christians and as a church – the Body of Christ – have the opportunity to consider our spiritual health. What are the stories of joy and the signs of renewal that we should be celebrating? What are the stories that show how we have fallen short or failed to show our best side to God?

These are the kinds of questions we ask ourselves both during Lent and in our “**Holy Conversations**”.

Holy Conversations is part of our transition “**Heritage**” work. It is about coming to terms with the history of CHS as a congregation, its dynamics, and its relationships with previous clergy.

As your Interim, I am here to:

Help the congregation deal with its grief and any other unresolved issues arising from the tenure of any of your previous clergy.

Work with internal conflicts and help to heal any divisions within the congregation.

Educate and coach leadership and members how to live into more healthy communication styles and better address conflict to develop a healthier faith community for the future.

“**Holy Conversations**” will lead us into the beginning of our “**Heritage**” work and start to shed some light on the stories of CHS that were Christlike ways of living in community and those that were not. Whatever this work surfaces, we do it knowing that the promise of Easter is only around the corner, when we will be working on healing and reconciliation.

I encourage everyone to join in this important work in preparing a fresh field for your new rector and be part of creating the Church of the Holy Spirit's future.

“Holy Conversations” will be held in the Parish Hall from 11:30 to 2:00 on Sundays March 15th, 26th and April 19, 26. Each one will be different!

Debra+

PASTORAL CARE NEEDS During the Interim/Transition period, Gail Smith+ will be available for Pastoral Care. Please contact her directly for visits, prayers, health issues, deaths, and other pastoral care concerns at gsmith@chsorleans.org or through the parish office at 508-255-0433.



If you have a pastoral need when the office is closed, just call the parish office number and press “0” [zero] to be connected to the answering service who will forward your need to Gail+.

READING FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH ON TUESDAY MORNINGS Sandy Marshall

Our group is currently discussing our new selection, "The Sabbath" by Abraham Heschel, a brief yet profound meditation on the meaning of the Seventh Day". It's a classic of Jewish spirituality. The group meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the church library from 10am to noon and welcomes new members. Our time together includes worship and "checking in" on what's going on in our lives while nurturing our spiritual gardens, weeds included! If you would like to join us call Sandy Marshall, 508-255-9971 or svm2@comcast.net.



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

The Church school made and mailed 32 Valentines to parishioners who are ill, experienced loss, or just deserving of some extra love sent their way.



The Church School is again sponsoring the Easter Egg Hunt after the 10am Easter Service. Please help by picking up empty plastic eggs in the Reception Room starting March 1st and return them filled with candy or trinkets. **!!!! NO PEANUT PRODUCTS IN THE CANDY PLEASE!!!!**

There are sign up sheets in the Gathering Room of the Church School for children to be Acolytes on the 4th Sunday of each month and for Readers on the 1st Sunday of each month. Please encourage your children to participate.

YOUTH GROUP SPONSORED FUN PARISH EVENT Matt Thompson FRIDAY MARCH 20TH 5-9 p.m.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER & PIE EATING CONTEST plus a PAPER AIRPLANE BUILDING NIGHT! WHAT'S THAT YOU ASK?!

Well, come find out and join in the fun that begins Friday, March 20 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

A spaghetti supper will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a pie eating contest.

This event is open to all ages, bring a friend and your fun party attitude. This event will not disappoint you! We will supply the materials for the airplane building. There is no cost for this event but donations are greatly appreciated.



THE EVENT WILL INCLUDE ASSORTED CONTESTS.

There's a first time for everything... bet this is one for most of us!



KELLY O'CONNELL+, DIOCESAN CANON, VISITS HOLY SPIRIT ON MARCH 21st—22nd

The Rev. Canon Kelly A. O'Connell+ serves as regional canon for the Massachusetts Southern Region, comprising the diocese's South Shore, Taunton River, Mt. Hope-Buzzards Bay, and Cape and Island deaneries. She is one of three regional canons that serve us through the diocesan Transition Ministry office on behalf of bishop Alan.

Canon Kelly will join us for all three services on the weekend on March 21st-22nd as celebrant and preacher. She will also be leading a forum that is open to all members after the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, March 22nd. She will speak about transition and the search process, as well as answer any questions you may have about the process or diocesan ministry.

Diocesan Transition Ministry coordinates the clergy transition process for congregations within the diocese, keeping in close contact with congregational leadership teams and final candidates for positions, and deploying human, financial and programmatic resources as needed. It oversees the administrative process for clergy entering or leaving work in the diocese, including oversight of the background check and clergy licensing processes, the production and retention of Covenant of Ministry documents, also known as Letters of Agreement, and the exit interview process for departing and retiring clergy.

Transition Ministry also interfaces with the Episcopal Church and with transition ministers from Province I (the seven dioceses of New England) and around the country and beyond, providing advocacy for clergy and congregations in search and communication with other dioceses seeking clergy. It coordinates with the Office for Ordained Vocations in order to assist candidates for ordination as they seek positions upon their ordinations.

Please come join us and give Kelly+ a great Holy Spirit welcome!

Christ & the Chocolaterie

Wednesday Soup Suppers this Lent

On the five Wednesdays during Lent, March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, April 1st, we will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall to share in a simple meal of soup and bread. Each week we will watch a portion of the Oscar nominated film 'Chocolat' then examine the story and characters to explore what it means to be truly and completely human as God intended.



The five-week course written by Hilary Brand, 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' takes events from the film and relates them to key Bible messages of Lent. Recognizing Lent as a chance to embrace change and renewal, Hilary's meditations lead into private thought or group discussion around the daily challenge of growing, giving and getting real with life.

The course begins its themes of life change with the first step – giving up the old ways. But this is not a call to self-destroying austerity. Rather it's laying the foundation for truly fulfilling life of giving generously, getting real and finally indulging ourselves' almost greedily on the goodness that life in the resurrected Christ gives.

Please contact Dianne Fromm at heartwood1492@msn.com or 508-255-3481 or sign up in the parish hall to make soup or bake bread for the evening.

This event is open to the community. Please bring your friends!



THE FREE SHOP— Sharyn Laughton and Suzy Gray, co-Directors

An excerpt from "The First Fifty Years - the story of The Church of the Holy Spirit"

" When a slump in the construction industry in 1973 led to a widespread need on the Cape for clothing and home furnishings for many economically depressed families, a member of the congregation brought forth an idea - "The Free Shop". Here, for no payment at all, and no questions asked, clothing, linens, blankets, toys and small household items were to be made available for people without cash enough to go to thrift shops or rummage sales. On the day before the opening, considerable apprehension was felt over the absence of goods, but, miraculously, just as in the early days of the church, the need was met: a huge assortment of goods turned up, given by people spontaneously and with only sparse publicity. Run by volunteers from the parish, the Free Shop still operates today (1983), open one day a week for three hours and never without its shelves filled."



Now in 2020 - some 46 years later - the Free Shop continues to give - continues to receive - is never without its shelves and clothing racks filled. There is only one addition since 1973. We are now open two days a week - Mondays from Noon to 3 and Wednesdays from 10 to 1. We are **gratefully** still accepting your cold weather clothing donations, linens, blankets, books, toys & very small household items. If the shop is closed - there is a container outside the door for donations.

Thank you - Sharyn & Suzy and our many thankful and grateful customers.



Entered into Eternal Rest
Barbara Eldridge



It only takes a spark to get a fire glowing. Pass it on! Be the spark in someone's life.
Invite them to join you at a service or one of the special events happening at CHS this month.



TRYING ON OUR LENTEN ARRAY Debra Kissinger+

Were you brought up with Lent being marked with vestments and altar hangings made of deep purple fabric? It may surprise you to learn that purple as a liturgical color for Lent is a relatively modern (19th century) addition, originating from the Roman Catholic tradition.

It may surprise you even more to see the Church of the Holy Spirit's Lenten Array! That's right, CHS has a full Lenten Array for both altars which has been used only on Maundy Thursday in recent years. This year we are going to "try it on" for the whole season of Lent.

The ancient custom of the Lenten Array is highly symbolic. It begins with a rough or homespun fabric of an off-white color or one made without any dye. It is a reminder of the sackcloth of the ancients for whom it showed grief when someone died. Lent is a time when we try to be dead to our sins of omission and commission.

Red and black are used on the Lenten Array to represent the Blood of Christ and his death. The various symbols help us to visually focus on the suffering of Christ and our need for repentance.



The Main Altar

Two symbols can be seen on the front side of the main altar. The largest is a red cross in a black circle. When you look closely at the cross you will notice it is made of four red spikes or nails. These represent the nails with which Jesus was nailed to the cross and his blood. The black circle represents his death.

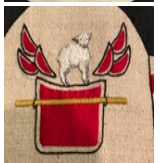


The second symbol is directly below the cross. It is a goat in a black triangle within a larger red triangle. On the Day of Atonement, the high priest placed his hands on the head of the goat while confessing the sins of Israel. Goats were substituted for the people and they bore the penalty of the sin, death. They essentially became living scapegoats. In Christian symbolism, Jesus, who bore our sins by taking them away, frees us from the guilt of our sins. Jesus is the new scapegoat for Christians.



The Side Altar

Another cross, made of nails, can be found on the side altar. This time however it is surrounded by woven thorns representing the crown of thorns placed on Jesus' head at the crucifixion when he was mocked for being a king.



The second main symbol is a lamb on a sacrificial altar. It represents the twice daily sacrifice of a lamb for the sins of the Hebrew people at the temple in Jerusalem. For Christians, Jesus' death on the cross is the perfect sacrifice. Jeremiah and Isaiah foretold of the coming of One who would be bought "like a lamb led to the slaughter" and whose sufferings and sacrifice would provide redemption for Israel. Of course, that person was none other than Jesus Christ, "the Lamb of God."



Several other symbols can be found on the side altar. They include: balances, dice, spear, helmet, and flog.

The balances represent justice and signify final judgement. The soldiers who were ordered to capture and crucify Jesus wore helmets. They also threw dice to divide Jesus' clothing. A spear was used to pierce Jesus' side before he was removed from the cross.



Jesus was flogged (whipped) by soldiers on various occasions. This last symbol can also be seen on the clergy stoles.

As you can see the Lenten Array is highly symbolic. We hope you take the time to study it up close, as well as stand back and take in the whole hanging.

From a distance worship is likely to look empty and somber with the Lenten Array, wooden candlesticks, a paten and chalice made from pottery, instead of silver, and no flowers throughout the season. The stark difference is intentional.

With the return of dazzling colors, golden vestments, brass candlesticks, lilies and the other floral decorations the glory of Easter is heightened and the power of the Resurrection is more visually felt and experienced.

MORNING PRAYER—WEDNESDAY MORNINGS 8:30 a.m. in Church side Chapel — Richard O'Hara

Please join us. Morning Prayer is scripture based, a hymn is often sung. Then we move to the Parish Hall Fireplace Room for fellowship and a discussion over coffee. This is a wonderful way to worship mid-week, especially during Lent. We look forward to you joining us. Hope to see you soon. God Bless!

STEWARDSHIP ALTAR BLESSING Debra Kissinger

Have you been wondering why the offering plates and food are being placed on the altar?

God blesses us in many ways and with a variety of gifts and skills. God entrusts us to be good stewards of all that has been given to us during our time on this planet. God gave us wheat, grapes, and all kinds of food. We in turn are gifted by God with the capacity to turn these gifts into bread and wine which we offer back to God in our service of worship.

Some of the gifts and skills God blessed us with allowed us to work and earn an income so we could, among other things, purchase, save, and invest. God entrusts us to be good stewards with these gifts too. We offer our gifts of money and food in service to God's kingdom here on earth, so that God's ministry may be lived out in the here and now in mission and service at Holy Spirit and beyond.

All of these things: bread, wine, money, and food, are offerings we make to God. As such, we bring them to the altar to be blessed, just as we are blessed each time we approach the altar and receive Christ's Body and Blood.

Many Episcopal churches now leave their monetary and food offerings on the altar. Immediately moving them to another location has the potential to send the message that our offerings for mission and ministry are less worthy than our offerings for worship. Additionally, moving our money offerings to a location out of sight may give the unintentional message that "we are uncomfortable with money here" or that money is somehow "dirty".

Below is the **Stewardship Altar Blessing** currently being used. Please take a moment and consider how it is helpful to Holy Spirit in thinking about the many gifts with which God has blessed us. We will talk about this after Easter.

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We place on the altar the gifts of bread and wine, in confidence that God will accept these gifts, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, transform them for us into the Body and Blood of Christ.

We place on the altar the gifts of money and food, in confidence that God will accept and bless them and return them to us and others to be used for faithful and holy purposes - as a reminder that all God's gifts must be used faithfully.

We also can place on the altar the things of our own lives - whatever there is to be healed, forgiven, strengthened, or comforted, in the confidence that whatever we are able to offer, God will accept, and we will be blessed and returned to ourselves, more nearly the image of God we are created to be.

CHS Health Ministries March is Brain Health Month Ann Pike-Paris & Meg Nemitz

Did you know, more than 3.5 million children and adults sustain an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) each year?

*Traumatic brain injury is a subset of ABI and is caused by trauma to the brain from an external force.

*Every 13 seconds, someone in the US sustains a TBI.

*Causes include: Falls 40.5%; Struck by/against 15.5%; Motor vehicles 14.3%; Assaults 10.7%; Unknown cause 19%

Do you know what medications can affect your brain function, especially in older adults? ALWAYS ask your doctor if there are known side effects EVEN with over the counter drugs. For more information, go to Food & Drug Administration Medicines and You: A Guide for Older Adults - <http://www.fda.gov/drugs/resourcesforyou/ucm163959.htm>

Contact information for more help and support:

National Institute of Health: What is brain health? <https://brainhealth.nia.nih.gov/>

Brain Health & Wellness: AARP: <https://www.aarp.org/health/brain-health/>

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency:

Winter Storm Safety Tips: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/winter-storm-safety-tips>

Power Outage Safety Tips: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/power-outage-safety-tips>

Barnstable County Human Services -www.bchumanservices.net Comprehensive site w/access to many Cape resources .

Councils on Aging Orleans: 508-255-6333 Brewster: 508-896-2737 Chatham: 508-945-5190 Eastham: 508-255-6164

Harwich: 508-430-7530 Wellfleet: 508-349-0319 Yarmouth: 508-398-9866 Truro: 508-487-2462

VNAs of Cape Cod Hyannis: 508-957-7400 Falmouth: 508-495-5716 So. Dennis: 508-957-7400

Cape Cod Hospital Social Services Department 508-862-5501

Cape Cod Healthcare Newsletter: go to this link: <https://www.capecodhealth.org/> First page has a free sign up.

CHS GALLERY (in the Reception Room) The featured CHS artist for March is Gail Smith+

"Soul Work Gatherings": Baskets, Paintings, Appliqué Quilt work, Poetry, Soul collage by Gail Smith
My art work, quilting, poetry writing, basket weaving all serve as ways for me to spend time and be present with God. I have come to realize when I do that, it is a way to give thanks for all I have been given. Each of us, I believe are "artists" in our own ways. We garden, work with flowers, sing, bake, spend time with friends and loved ones (hospitality is an art of loving and giving). I believe, when we share the gifts we have been given, that is soul work.

LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS ! Many thanks to all CHS parishioners and artists who contributed to the February exhibit - It was glorious! Sharyn ♥

NAUSET INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION—Ken Campell+

REFLECTIONS ON THE DEATH OF JESUS

The annual Nauset Interfaith Good Friday Noon Day service (April 10th) will take place at Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church in Chatham from 12 noon to 1 pm. Seven brief 3-5 minute reflections will be offered by clergy and laity from seven different faith communities. The reflections will be accompanied with music, prayers and quiet time. This is a very special opportunity for us of different traditions to worship and reflect together on the love of Jesus of Nazareth made manifest in his life and death.

FAITH COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Nauset Interfaith is a member of Faith Communities Environmental Network an organization of some 30 faith communities on Cape Cod working together for environmental justice and the protection of Cape Cod, the islands and our earth home. We are also partnering with Sustainable Practices of Cape Cod in the effort to get all 15 towns on Cape Cod during 2020 to ban the sale of single-use plastic water bottles of less than one gallon. Nantucket and 3 of the 4 towns on Martha's Vineyard have already taken this action. This action is consistent with the teaching of the Episcopal Church as expressed in actions of the General Convention, The Presiding Bishop, and our diocesan bishops and convention actions.

For information about these 2 groups please contact The Rev. Brian McGurk bmcgurk@stchristopherschatham.org and for Sustainable Practices Madhavi Venkatesan at contactus@sustainablepracticesltd.org

AFRICAN SAFARI WITH CHERYL KYLE - Some spots are still available for the October 2020 African Safari.

Interested? Contact Cheryl at cherylkyle@aol.com .

34th GOOD FRIDAY WALK -UNITED PEOPLE FOR KIDS FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH Rich Weeks

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION AT BIBLE ALLIANCE CHURCH, ROUTE 6A, BREWSTER

A young single mom who is struggling to make a living to support herself and her 16-year-old autistic son;
A child born with birth defects who through a tragic Homecare incident, was left with severe brain damage;
A young couple who is managing their life with a child born with Down's syndrome.

This is just a sampling of more than a dozen families you have helped this year through funds raised in last year's Up With Kids walk. I have always counted on you and God and your generosity and caring to be blessed in helping those who need it most. They are not far away, they live around the corner, you see them in the grocery store, you may even work with some of them. They do not see what life has given them as a burden but as a challenge, and they draw strength from God, the love of their child and yes also, the knowledge that they are not alone thanks to PEOPLE LIKE YOU!! As we head into the Lenten season, I ask once again for your help in supporting these families while we pay homage to Jesus on Good Friday. I am proud to be a part of a church that always goes beyond themselves to help others within our parish and within the community. God bless you all for all that you have done through the years and I hope and pray that you will be with us in spirit, prayers, by walking or with your help in any way on Good Friday.

CHS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Joan McFadden, Bill Gardiner, Debbie Kimball, Phil Suraci

Graduation is almost here! The Church of the Holy Spirit awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving senior who attends and contributes to our church. The scholarship also recognizes scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities and service to the community. This scholarship can be for a college or other school of higher learning. Please help us award more than one of our 5 deserving graduates by sending a check to attention Chris Crighton, Treasurer, made out to The Church of the Holy Spirit - Scholarship Fund. Thank you very much.

CHS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS— FEBRUARY 9, 2020

100 members of The Church of the Holy Spirit gathered in the Parish Hall on February 9, 2020 for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Vestry Slate announced in the January *Together* was presented and approved. We then said thank you to outgoing vestry members, Gilbert Merritt. Brooke Eaton Skea and Cynthia Murray and welcomed first time new members, Priscilla Isner and John Harter.

Assisting Priest's Report Gail Smith+ shared that 2019 was both a challenging and rewarding year with Adam's+ retirement and taking on additional leadership responsibilities.

- In particular, pastoral care has become a major ministry with many folks needing attention. Gail and Celia Calhoun are working to streamline the whole process. Gail also shared that Cape Cod Hospital has eliminated the hospital Chaplain. So, unless parishioners find a way to let our clergy know of a CCH hospitalization, there is no way CHS will know. Gail also reminded us that we are all part of the Pastoral Care Committee as we serve and care for each other.
- Losses through death rose in 2019. One initiative for 2020 is to develop a program on bereavement.
- Gail reported it is a wonderful experience working with Debra+. They work well together, are on the same page for worship and very supportive of each other.

Interim Priest's Report Debra Kissinger+ explained that in her role as Interim Priest, she is our parish coach, helping us answer the following questions as part of our search process. She encourages everyone to participate in the Holy Conversations that will be held in March and April when hopefully we will discover the answers together.

- **Heritage** - *Who are we? How did we get this way?*
- **Missional Identity** - *Who are we now? How did we get here? Who is God calling us to be?*
- **Connections** - *Who is our neighbor? What is our context? What is God calling us to do? What is our imagined future?*
- **Leadership** - *What are our gifts and skills for ministry? How are we using our gifts and skills to respond to what God is calling us to do?*
- **Future** - *What kinds of gifts and skills do we need in our new rector to lead us into our envisioned future? Understanding that no one priest will have all of the gifts and skills necessary, what gifts do we commit to bring alongside our new rector to work towards our new future?*

Warden's Report Melissa Keefe provided updates of the various aspects of the "Re-imagining Project".

- **Communications** – Launched a new Website and updated our Facebook page; 2020 goal is to provide consistent publicity, advertisements and use of Constant Contact for timely electronic communications.
- **Worship** – all members involved in one or more aspects of weekend services are scheduled by one person; training sessions are being scheduled for later in 2020; Labyrinth Walks are on sabbatical; [In](#) 2020 we will evaluate the current services and schedules, expand parishioner involvement and try new things that are being done at other Episcopal churches
- **Pastoral Care** – Gail Smith+ is the primary contact for pastoral care needs during the clergy transition; 2019 we streamlined the process; 2020 will be a time to evaluate and adjust.
- **Welcoming** – re-establish and refocus this ministry
- **Vestry** - in 2019 Vestry took on more of the administrative work. Vestry also started and will continue into 2020 a policy review and revisit leadership styles and needs going forward
- CHS Ministries - in 2019, CHS ministries were organized into Affinity Groups with an assigned Vestry Liaison who is expected to help the ministry and represent them at Vestry meetings. Melissa reminded us that any *leadership changes need to be approved by the Interim*.

Treasurer's Report- Steven Koehler provided a 2019 Financial Overview and review of the 2020 Parish Budget.

- 2019 ended with an operating deficit of \$19,770 despite lower than budgeted expenses. The larger deficit is due to lower than budgeted pledge and plate income. The annual withdrawal from savings and investment income was 5.5%.
- The 2020 Budget plans for a \$2,815 deficit. Income will increase due to higher withdrawals from the DIT, maintaining a 5.5% rate, as pledge and plate income only covers 62% of the need. Expenses will have a slight increase and will require close scrutiny all year long.

NOTE: Prior to the February 9th meeting, the parish received a Constant Contact email directing you to a link to the full 2019 Annual Parish Report. We encourage everyone to read this report. If you need the link to the report again, please contact the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE CORNER All emails to the CHS office should be sent to office@chsorleans.org.

-SUNDAY BULLETIN DEADLINE—All Sunday Blue Bulletin items must be sent to Debby by **Tuesday 11:00 a.m. FIRM!**

-!!!NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday -Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **The office is closed Fridays**

-PARISH USAGE REQUESTS: If you plan to use any part of the Parish for any event or meeting, please complete a Parish Usage Form available in the Parish Office. Submit to Arline Consiglio at chs@chsorleans.org

APRIL TOGETHER DEADLINE: WED. MARCH 18TH END OF DAY. Send material to Sue Sasso susansasso@hotmail.com

TOGETHER March 2020

The Church of the Holy Spirit
204 Monument Road
Orleans, Massachusetts 02653-3512
508-255-0433
www.holyspiritforleans.org
office@chorsorleans.org

Vestry Officers:

Melissa Keffe, Warden
Steven Koehler, Warden
Chris Crighton, Treasurer
Jack Gentile, Clerk

Vestry Members:

J. Thompson Dewing
Doug Fromm
Kathy Goddard
John Harter
Priscilla Isner
Kate Paradise
Meredith Perkins
Brenda Ridgeway

The Reverend Debra J. Kissinger, Interim Priest
The Reverend Gail Smith, Assisting Priest
Joan Kirchner, Minister of Music
Debby Manning, Assistant
Arline Consiglio, Space Use Manager
Wayne Currey, Property Supervisor
Tony Johnson, Weekend Sexton
Sue Sasso, *TOGETHER* Editor

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***Our mission as The Church of the Holy Spirit is
to proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,
welcome all people, and
serve one another with love.***

**There is no limit to what friends
can accomplish by working
*TOGETHER!***

**To stay current,
Visit our parish website [https://
holyspiritforleans.org](https://holyspiritforleans.org)**

**Click on “calendar” for the
full parish calendar.**

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Search for “The Church of the Holy Spirit” and
add CHS to your Facebook friends.
You will get notifications whenever something is
posted on our page.
Send items to post to Kate Paradise.



MARCH KEY DATES

(Read information about each event inside)

- ♦ March 1st.—Youth Sunday and Brunch
 - ♦ March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st
“Lenten Wednesday Soup Suppers”
 - ♦ March 5th—Ladies’ Luncheon
 - ♦ March 8th—Instructed Eucharist—10:00
 - ♦ March 15th, 29th, April 19th, 26th
Holy Conversations
 - ♦ March 18th— *Together* deadline
 - ♦ March 20th— Youth Group Parish Event
Paper Airplane Building & Spaghetti Supper
 - ♦ March 21st & 22nd— The Rev. Canon Kelly O’Connell
- Looking ahead — Mark your Calendars:**
- ♦ April 4th—Palm Sunday
 - ♦ April 9th—Maudy Thursday and Overnight Prayer Vigil
 - ♦ April 10th—Good Friday Labyrinth Walk & Liturgy
 - ♦ April 11th—Holy Saturday and Easter Vigil
 - ♦ April 12th— EASTER SUNDAY —ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA