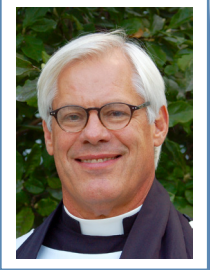


SOUNDINGS

Saint
Christopher's
Episcopal
Church

November, 2016

From Your Rector



The Rev. Brian W. McGurk
Rector

Two portraits of clergyman proudly hang in our Parish Hall. Clothed in classic Anglican vestments are the second and third rectors of St. Christopher's Church—the Reverends Carl Carlozzi and Whitney Burr, respectively. (I am only the fourth rector, since our church officially became a parish as recently as 1965. I say “recent” because I was the 60th rector of my former

parish, which was established in 1679!) Both served this parish with distinction and grace, and we owe each of them a debt of gratitude for the legacy of a vital and healthy congregation, as well as a beautiful facility standing proudly on Main Street.

Recently and quite unexpectedly, I had the pleasure of meeting—for the first time—the Reverend Carl Carlozzi and his wife. He was somewhat familiar to me through the many stories parishioners had shared with me over the years—stories about his prowess as a fundraiser, his charisma, articulateness, and his many other talents and gifts. This is one of my favorites: On his initial tour of the church facility with the then senior warden, Fred Bearse, they came to his office, which was located in the basement near the old coal bin. When the rector-to-be inquired about the possibility of adding a desk, Fred, exhibiting a good dose of old New England frugality, replied, “Your predecessor didn’t have one, do you really need one?” During the course of his tenure, he obtained a desk and then went on to oversee the expansion and renovation of the church to include the parish hall,

kitchen, sacristies, chapel and a new office with a new desk!

The Carlozzis were visiting Chatham from their home in Arizona, where he is now retired after serving as the rector of a large Phoenix congregation. We enjoyed a warm visit in my office—which he liked very much!! Perhaps because it has a desk! He also loved the renovated and expanded St. Christopher’s facility. The next day he sent me an email, saying, “The church property and grounds are exquisite. My one big hope when I left was that anyone who followed me would make the place much better than what I left behind...you have exceeded all my hopes and dreams and created a gem! Enjoy the fruits of your labors... you have certainly earned it.”

We have created a gem. It is a beautiful and functional facility with a warm, gracious, and vital



spirit that had been here all along. Past clergy and parishioners were all instrumental in this achievement. So was the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit. As I type these thoughts into my computer much is happening at this very moment—the Toddler Group is “toddling” in the parish hall; the Parkinson’s

Continued on page 2

Children, Youth, and Families



Kerén Castro
Director of
Children, Youth,
and Families

In Sunday School this season we are learning about love and what God's love means to us. After studying 1 Corinthians 13, we have all agreed that love must be important enough for us to take a second glance at it—for Paul states in these verses that nothing is more important than love. As our church is currently holding an exhibition on St. Francis, we have decided to get a better

understanding of what it means to love God's way by learning more about St. Francis' life. To help us with this study we are using the beautifully illustrated book *Saint Francis of Assisi* written by Joyce Denham and Elena Temporin, so graciously given to us by Sandra Bowden. In the very beginning of our study we have learned that St. Francis' actual given name is John. His mother gave him this name at his baptism after John the Baptist. She hoped that by giving him this name he would learn to love God radically the way John the Baptist did. His name eventually came to be known as Francis because upon the return of his father from France, he stated that he wanted his son to be called

Francis after his love of France. To make a connection to this we then looked into the meanings of the names our parents gave us. Some meanings included “of God,” “light,” “precious,” “purity, innocence,” and “defender.” We then took our study a little bit farther and discussed what hopes and dreams they think their parents have for them. In the end it was exciting to see the kids grasp the fact that like Francis' parents, our own parents have loved us from the very beginning. They have loved us so much that they have given us special names and they have special hopes and dreams for us. As Chiara Castro said, “Before they even know who we were, because we were just babies, our parents LOVE us a lot.” I cannot wait to see what else they learn about the power of love this year.

As we continue to learn about God's love we are going to be embarking on various service projects throughout the year to help show we love those in our community around us even if we do not yet know them. Therefore our first project will be Faith in Action on November 13 from 9:30–11 am. We are also hoping to team up with the Lower Cape Outreach Council to help those in our community stay warm this winter. Please stay tuned for more information about that soon!

From the Rector, continued

Support Group is supporting one another in our library; a parishioner is leading a library-sponsored, community-wide class on Mozart in the main church; a Contemplative Eucharist is about to begin in the chapel; visitors are gazing at the St. Francis exhibit in our gallery; the Food Pantry is giving out food; the Consignment Shop is consigning. A day in the life of St. Christopher's!

Franciscan priest and spiritual master Richard Rohr writes, “Matter is the hiding place for the Holy Spirit.” St. Francis of Assisi wrote something akin: “The visible world is an active doorway to the invisible world, and the invisible world is much larger than the visible.”

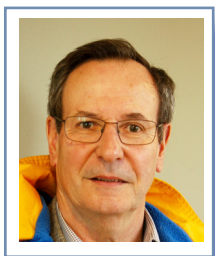
I like to think that God is hiding in the concreteness of our church—in the buildings, in the relationships, in the work and worship of our parish.

This church is a “doorway” into the invisible sacred world.

The incarnation reveals to us that the invisible and the visible, the spiritual and the material, are all bound together. Bound together in this imperfect collection of people and buildings attempting to give something of Christ to each other and to the world as it swirls around us.

This church is a gem! Because of Carl, Whitney and Fred. Because of past clergy and past parishioners. Because of each one of you. Because of those who have yet to walk through the front door, but who one day will. Because Jesus is the Christ appearing among us to reveal God's love, and this Church is his people called together to make his presence visible in today's world.

Stewardship 2017



Peter Hughes
Stewardship
Committee Chair

The 2017 Stewardship Team is pleased to report that after two weeks the total amount pledged for 2017 is \$344,829, which is 69 percent of our \$500,000 goal. To date 103 pledge families have responded to the stewardship campaign. We asked everyone to “go deep” and consider increasing their pledge by 6.75 percent.

In my own journey, I have learned that generous, thoughtful and prayerful giving is a source of joy. I am heartened by what my giving can do for the ministry and mission here at St. Christopher’s, and I am equally heartened by what it can and does do for me! Each time I contribute, I release the grip of fear and attitude of scarcity that resides in my heart and mind. This is an attitude that is reinforced by a culture that tells us “there is not enough.” Jesus calls us to walk with him trusting in the abundance and blessing of God. Each time we take a step in faith, we can trust in God’s provision.

Satisfying our \$500,000 stewardship goal for 2017 is critical to a financially sound and secure 2017 operating budget. We are a church of individuals and families with diverse backgrounds, experiences and financial capabilities. If we all do our part we will

succeed. If you have already made your prayerful and thoughtful pledge I sincerely thank you. If you have yet to pledge I encourage you to consider all that St. Christopher’s means to you and your family and make your pledge in a timely manner so together we can achieve our goal.

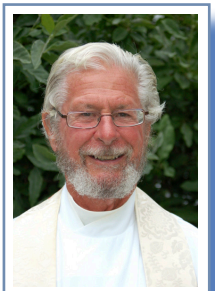
If you have any questions or concerns regarding stewardship please contact me at your earliest convenience at 508-496-3533, or phughes41@comcast.net. To provide the Finance Committee and Vestry with adequate time to prepare the 2017 operating budget we are attempting to complete the Stewardship Campaign by mid-November.



Charlie Hawk and Delia Castro carry the Pyramid of Pledges down the sanctuary aisle.

Kerén Castro, photo

November is “Invite a Friend to Church Month”



The Rev. Dr. John Martiner
Priest Associate,
member, Newcomers
Committee

Many studies as to why people come to a particular church agree that the most effective form of evangelism is personal invitation, personal witness. St. Christopher’s needs and wants to grow with new members and each of us has a part to play in this. During the month of November, everyone is encouraged to invite a friend to come to worship. There are the regular Sunday services, but also

special worship times like the Evensong on All Saints’ Day (November 1), the Wednesday Contemplative Eucharist, and the Thanksgiving Service (November 23). All of us have friends whom we might invite. Think about it; your invitation might be one of the best gifts you have ever given.

Also, on November 5, at the Fellowship after the 10 am Choral Eucharist, the Newcomers Committee will be asking each person attending to wear a stick-on name tag. Addressing someone by name is one of the best ways for someone to feel included. The committee will provide the name tags.

Music



Maury A. Castro
Organist &
Choirmaster

The Choir School admitted two new choristers on Sunday, October 16: Emily Decker and Jordan Ross-Ladley. Furthermore, we enjoyed the expansion of the program with a chorister reader that Sunday, Aurora Reed, who read the epistle.

I wish to invite you to a special All Saints' Day Choral Evensong on Tuesday, November 1, at 5 pm. The Evensong Choir and the Choristers present the transcendent *Collegium Regale Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis* by Herbert Howells, and the *Sanctus* and *Pie Jesu* from *Requiem* by Fauré. The Howells setting of the Evening Service is given by Theodore and Molly Raphael to the glory of God and in honor of Haskell Thomson. There will be readings and prayers to remember departed saints and loved ones. The Rev. Brian W. McGurk and the Rev. Dr. John Martinier, co-officiants; Maury A. Castro, Organist & Choirmaster; Art McManus, choir accompanist; Alexander Nishibun, tenor.

I also wish to remind you that parishioners and friends are invited to donate \$45 toward the purchase of new choral music, and the church will match that \$45 in order to purchase a new anthem (each anthem in our library costs about \$90). The donor may dedicate the anthem in honor, celebration, or memory of the person(s) or event of their choice, and when that anthem is sung in church, this will be recognized in the bulletin. This can be especially meaningful during the holiday season! Please contact me if you would like to participate!



Emily Decker



Jordan Ross-Ladley

Kerén Castro, photos

Golf Tournament Report



Dale Alger
Chair, Golf
Committee

St. Christopher's 6th annual golf tournament set new records in the number of golfers (88 with players coming from Alabama, Texas, Georgia, and several New England states), tee sponsors (88!) and dollar proceeds (\$15,000), under pristine conditions and glorious blue skies at Eastward Ho!

Following the 18 holes of golf, a challenging and fun putting contest was held in the afternoon with the winning prize donated by Chatham Candy Manor. Everyone had an opportunity to enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. The evening's events continued indoors with a reception with first-, second-, and third-place prizes awarded. Joe Gagliano won the 50-50 raffle, and generously donated his winning share back to St. Christopher's. Well done, Joe!!!

I heartily thank all participants who made it

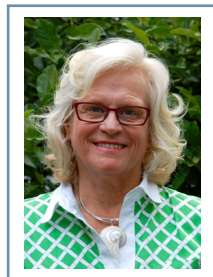
possible for the tournament to support the mission and outreach programs at St. Christopher's. I also thank Sue Sargent, Betty Schiller, and their committee for heading the hospitality portion of the event. Finally, sincere thanks to others on our Golf Committee who helped make this event such a huge success: Jim Bast, Bob Lynyak, John Otis, John Sargent, Pieter Schiller, and Randy Van Sickle.

Golfers know now they'll want to sign up early for next year to beat the cap. Also, we have some openings for others to join our fun-loving committee.



Above left: Volunteers at reception take a moment to pose.

The Gallery at St. Christopher's



Sandra Bowden
Curator, The Gallery
at St. Christopher's

As a part of the autumn gallery exhibit, *St. Francis: Troubadour for God*, St. Christopher's has on loan from The Community of Jesus in Orleans an icon called The Christ of San Damiano. It bears this title because its model hung in the church in Assisi named San Damiano. Today it is one of the most beloved of all crosses.

Young St. Francis was praying before this image when he heard a voice telling him to "Go, repair my house which you see falling into ruin." Francis took these words literally and started to repair the chapel where he had prayed. Later he came to understand that God was asking him to help restore the great Church of Jesus.

The tradition of such crosses began in the Eastern Church and was transported by Serbian monks to the Umbria district of Italy. It could be titled "The Icon of Christ in Glory" because it depicts much of the glorious mystery of Christ and his Church. A wealth of rich teaching is embedding into the beloved icon.

This crucifix contains the story of the death, resurrection and ascension into glory, expressing the paschal mystery of Christ.

The central figure of the icon is Christ, a figure of light that dominates the scene and gives light to the other figures. Christ stands upright, not nailed. His eyes are open and he looks out to the world. Christ is alive and standing in front of the tomb. This is the

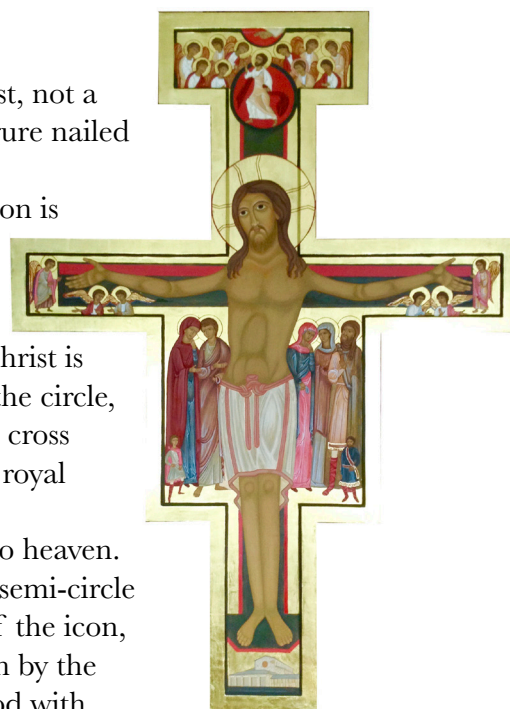
resurrected Christ, not a dead or dying figure nailed to the cross.

The ascension is portrayed within the circle of red in the medallion. Christ is breaking out of the circle, holding a golden cross which is now his royal scepter. Angels welcome him into heaven. From within the semi-circle at the very top of the icon, a blessing is given by the right hand of God with the finger extended. The Father gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to all because of the merits of the Christ's passion.

As in John's Gospel, Mary and John are placed side by side. Three other figures are positioned on the other side of the cross, Mary Magdalene, Mary of Clopas, and the Centurion. There are also unknown saints and astonished angels, and the iconographer even included a rooster to recall Peter's denial.

The art committee hopes that parishioners will take time to meditate in front of this cross, embrace its message, and come to love the icon as others have for so many centuries.

To see a photo of the cross in procession at St. Christopher's, visit www.stchristopherschatham.org/photo-gallery.



Together with Africans

The Together with Africans Committee will be distributing Donor Cards before and after services on November 13, 20 and 27, December 4 and 11.

When making a contribution to the Together with Africans committee, donors may complete a donor card in memory or in honor of someone. These make a meaningful birthday or Christmas gift, which will not only help to educate a new generation of young Africans, but will answer the question of what to give to friends and family. It is a great way to make both the person who gives and the one who receives feel good about the gift for all, or part of a scholarship.



Where the money goes:

School Registration: \$11.00
Maintenance: \$5.00
Activity Fee: \$10.00
Student I.D.Card: \$5.00
Uniform: \$15.00
Tuition: \$80.00
Total: \$126.00/annually



Consignment Shop

St. Christopher's Gift and Consignment Shop hosted a meet-and-greet event on Friday, October 7, for the new manager, Judi Stella. Barbara Cromarty

has graciously served as interim manager since early 2016 when Rick Franklin resigned. Thank you Barbara! Judi brings to the position experience and skills that will help continue to grow this aspect of the church. More information about Judi will appear in an upcoming issue of *Soundings*. If you have any questions or thoughts to share, Judi may be reached at 945-2211 or jstella@stchristopherschatham.org.



Outgoing interim manager Barbara Cromarty (L)
with incoming manager, Judi Stella (R)

Martha Batchelder, photo

Consignment Shop important dates:

11/1: Christmas
donations accepted

11/17: Last day for
2016 consignments

11/23 and 11/24:
Closed for
Thanksgiving

12/17: Last day
open for season

12/19 and 12/20:
Reclaim days for
consigners

Parish Statistics

Baptism

John Philip Pixley
October 1, 2016

Transfers Out

AshLynne Thomson
September 15, 2016

Marriages

Rebecca Rossi & Nicholas Sims
October 1, 2016

Jaclyn Bicknell & Christopher Cleary
October 15, 2016

Church e-mail list: If you are not on the church e-mail list and would like to be, please subscribe yourself at the bottom of the homepage of the church website, www.stchristopherschatham.org, or e-mail Maury A. Castro at mcastro@stchristopherschatham.org. By adding your address to the list, you will receive the weekly mid-week e-mail and periodic messages from the Rector.

Digital Soundings: All who are on the e-mail list receive *Soundings* electronically via the mid-week e-mail, and it is available on the website. If you would like to be taken off the print list, please contact Maury.

Saint
Christopher's
Episcopal Church

625 Main St.
Chatham, MA 02633
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stchristopherschatham.org

The Rev. Brian W. McGurk
Rector

The Rev. Dr. John Martinier
Priest Associate

Maury A. Castro
Organist & Choirmaster;
Communications Director

Haskell Thomson
Musician-in-Residence

Kerén Castro
Director of Children,
Youth, and Families

Jamie Chalker
Parish Administrator

Barbara Bush
Administrative Assistant

Ali Crockett
Facilities Manager

David Smith
Treasurer

Bridgette Renaud
Assistant Treasurer

Lou Augustin
Sexton

Priscilla Chick, R.N.
Parish Nurse

Judi Stella
Manager, Gift Shop

Sandra Bowden
Curator, The Gallery

Ted and Martha Miller
Managers, Food Pantry

Lynn Van Dine
and Tim Weller,
Soundings copy editors.

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 Morning Prayer 9:30 Stephen Ministry at First Cong. 10 Adult Ed Series 3:45 Choir School 5:00 All Saints Choral Evensong 6:00 FFF Dinner	2 9 Contemplative Eucharist & Discussion 9:30 Play Group No Adult Choir	3 10 Women's AA	4 Diocesan Convention in Mansfield	5 Diocesan Convention 3 Mozart Concert
6 8 Holy Eucharist 9:10 Gospel Glimpse 10 Choral Eucharist & Sunday School 11 Fellowship	7 Church Closed	8 9 Morning Prayer 9:45 Stephen Ministry at First Cong. 10 Adult Ed Series 11:45 Staff Meeting 3:45 Choir School	9 9 Contemplative Eucharist & Discussion 9:30 Play Group 4 Finance Comte 5:15 Adult Choir	10 10 Women's AA 3 Shawl Ministry	11 Veterans Day 3:30 Spiritual Formation	12 9 Altar Guild Training 10-12 Wedding Open House
13 8 Holy Eucharist 9:10 Gospel Glimpse 10 Choral Eucharist 10 Faith in Action 11 Fellowship	14 Church Closed	15 9 Morning Prayer 9:30 Stephen Ministry at First Cong. 10 Adult Ed Series 11:45 Staff Meeting 3:45 Choir School	16 9 Contemplative Eucharist & Discussion 9:30 Play Group 10 Parkinson's Support Group 5:15 Adult Choir	17 10 Women's AA 10:30 Liturgy, Worship, & Music	18	19
20 8 Holy Eucharist 9:10 Gospel Glimpse 10 Choral Eucharist & Sunday School 11 Fellowship	21 Church Closed	22 9 Morning Prayer 9:30 Stephen Ministry at First Cong. 11:45 Staff Meeting No Choir School	23 9 Contemplative Eucharist & Discussion 9:30 Play Group 3 Service of Thanksgiving No Adult Choir	24 Church Closed	25 Church Closed	26
27 8 Holy Eucharist 9:10 Gospel Glimpse 10 Choral Eucharist 11 Fellowship	28 Church Closed	29 9 Morning Prayer 9:30 Stephen Ministry at First Cong. 11:45 Staff Meeting 3:45 Choir School	30 9 Contemplative Eucharist & Discussion 9:30 Play Group 5:15 Adult Choir	<i>In every thing give thanks. ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:18</i>		



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November, 2016

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



A Service of Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 23 | 3 pm

A service of hymns, readings, and communion.