



Weekly Update January 6, 2021

Our Vision

We are a growing community of believers committed to walking with Christ, welcoming all, and serving God by serving others.

Dear Friends,

I am writing with a new, more personal concern in this COVID time through which we are passing. That is to say, my wife and I learned late on Sunday that we had been exposed to the virus through our son who is an essential worker (and wasn't in church that day). We got tested on Monday and learned that we were both positive. We are symptomatic, though in a minor way for now.

After talking with the Wardens Matt and Mark, and our Altar Guild Director, Lisa, and one of our parish doctors, Dr. Joe Chavez-Carey, and receiving the blessed support and concern and guidance of Canon Nora Smith and Bishop Andy Dietsche, we have decided to do the following things:

Of course our primary concern is everyone's health. In terms of my health, my wife and I are isolating for 2 weeks. In terms of your health, Dr. Chavez-Carey reminded me that, because of the measures put in place with masking and social distancing, it is very unlikely that anyone has had a significant exposure. The CDC notes that, to be significantly exposed, one needs to be within 6 feet, for 15 minutes. We all wear facemasks so there are two layers of cloth between us. The only "non 6 foot" distance is at communion, which lasts for 5 seconds. In church we are all very careful about maintaining that 6 foot perimeter at all times – in a beautiful awareness and care for our mutual vulnerability.

However if you are concerned you should certainly check with your healthcare provider.

In addition to my own isolation, we are also going to follow the Bishop's recent encouragement to all churches that we suspend in person worship for a time, which we will do for a month. He cares about us and wants us to keep safe! For us, this also means not having Livestream – since of course I shouldn't be there in order to give the sermon. The Governor has also upgraded Orange County to a Yellow Zone. So for many reasons, greater care is in order.

We have, however, already started our “Sunday Devotions at Home” wherein I email a Scripture, Meditation, Music, and Activity at the weekend, so you can observe church at home. Think of it as “Takeout Church” just like our “Takeout Thanksgiving,” – another way Christ Church adapts to changing times!

In this way, you’ll apply the Scripture teachings to your home life directly at home. You apply it to the world, while in the world - which the world needs so much now. This means you get the chance to see clearly how you are central spiritual actors in the world – and church is not confined to the building, nor is the priest the only central figure. In this way we see what we have become and show what we are – the body of Christ in the world (as St. Augustine said)

This is what the world needs for us to be right now. The world needs people who are united in love if not in place. The world needs people who see and lift up the presence of God in creation and in the larger community. This is what our Devotions at Home will enable us all to do. It is, indeed, reassuring that we will have the chance to see God everywhere, not just in the blessed place on South Street and among each other.

I will keep you aware of my health. Right now I am finding God in rest, in my walks in the woods, and in the blessed and uplifting contacts I have had with our parish and diocesan leadership. Thank you for your continued love. Thank you for the love I see among you – for each other, and for all our neighbors in Warwick.

See you in early February,
Fr. Steve

**Our Sunday services are suspended until February (tba)
Sunday Devotions at Home - are emailed on Saturday.**

When in person church resumes:
9:00 am - Sanctuary and Livestream
11:00 am - Sanctuary

Daily Devotions Remain:
12-1, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday;
Church Open for Silence and Prayers

Outdoor Chapel remains open

Church Open for Silence & Prayer

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12 – 1 pm

Fr. Steve available for conversation



Evening Prayer

Please join us this evening at 7pm

[Click here for link](#)

If you are interested in leading the service, or reading the lessons, please email Charlotte Trott at ctrott50@gmail.com

2021 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2021 can be picked up at the parish office. Please contact the office to coordinate a pickup time.

In spite of the pandemic, snow, and cold, EpiscoBuild will host, via the magic of the internet, the 14th Annual Twelfth Night Celebration for a Habitat for Humanity Newburgh Home at **3 PM on Sunday, January 10, 2021** at the web link:

<https://bit.ly/Episcobuild12thNight>

Twelfth Night is a festive revelry marking the end of the holiday season. For 13 years, EpiscoBuild has celebrated Twelfth Night with a ***gala concert by local area Episcopal choirs and soloists of their best seasonal music, presented online for the first time this year*** for your viewing and listening pleasure!

As part of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, EpiscoBuild has helped to build homes for seven deserving Newburgh families. Your free-will donations to this Twelfth Night Celebration will help raise funds to sponsor our 8th house.

For more information, please go to our EpiscoBuild Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/EpiscobuildHabitatNewburgh/>

Please SHARE our EpiscoBuild posts about the concert on your Facebook page, and please CLICK to say if you plan attend this event at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3988361847849401/>

To support the EpiscoBuild mission, please consider donating online during the concert, or mail a check made out to "Habitat for Humanity" (noting "Twelfth Night" in the memo) to: Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, 125 Washington Street, Newburgh NY 12550.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST

Christ Church continues to serve breakfast to anyone who wants or needs it every Saturday – takeout only, for now. **Please note the hours have**

changed, breakfast will be served from 9 to 10:30. If you are interested in learning more about the breakfast, or helping to prepare or serve, call or email Liz Houlton: 845-325-1276 or eahoulton@gmail.com

BARGAINS + RECYCLE/REPURPOSE

CHRIST CHURCH
THRIFT SHOP:

**SUMMER 2020
RE-OPENED**
within guidelines

SHOP & DONATE
Saturday 9:30am-12noon

- face coverings required
- capacity is limited
- no children under 16
- changing rooms are closed
- no access to bathrooms
- donations are quarantined at least 72 hours
- there are new restrictions on donations:
due to CDC guidelines & limited capacity, donations
are screened upon arrival to determine what
can/cannot be accepted
- thanks for your patience & understanding while we
keep everyone's health & safety our top priority!

50 South St, Warwick NY · parish hall basement, door on driveway side

ChristChurch.org

DON'T FORGET APPLE BUTTER!

Get your apple butter while we have it. The cost is \$5 for a 4-ounce jar, \$7 for 8 ounces and \$12 for 16 ounces. If you'd like to pick some up on the weekend, see Eileen Janovsky, Liz Houlton, Gaye Murphy or Cheryl Walters. Or if you'd prefer, you can order online: <https://christchurch.org/applebutter>

The Reverend Stephen C. Holton, Interim Rector

Contact Fr Steve for pastoral care or conversation

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon

rector@christchurch.org

Articles for Christ Church Eblast newsletter are due by 2pm on Tuesday before
Wednesday publication

VESTRY: Matthew Mumford - Senior Warden, Mark Arnowitz - Junior Warden
Elena Chavez Carey, Judy Girod, Sharon Kelly, Steve Laico, Chris Loftus, George Mindos, Kristen Neavin, Louise
Sultz (Treasurer), Charlotte Trott and Cheryl Walters

Anyone wishing to read the Vestry meeting minutes,
please contact the parish office for a copy.

[Website](#)

[About](#)

[Youth Ministry](#)

Worship
Schedule

SUNDAY IN-PERSON SERVICES:

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM
(9am is also livestream)

Find Us On Social Media:

