

**Christ Church**  
1355 Northern Boulevard  
Manhasset, NY 11030  
(Form 3975 requested)

# *The Chart*

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March 1, 2006  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

*Christ Church*  
*1355 Northern Boulevard*  
*Manhasset, NY 11030*

## *Letter from the Rector*

March 2006

Dear Friends,

This is our second attempt at publishing the ‘new’ *Chart*. We continue to refine the format and the contents of the *Chart*. We have some limitations in our publishing capabilities, but we are working to make the *Chart* readable and informative. Through the help of Doug Schmidt-Spadaro and a team of assistant editors/proof readers we are working our way through the ‘birthing pains’ of the new *Chart*. Your help is very much needed to make the *Chart* all it can be. We need your news about the parish family; we need articles that you might wish to write for the *Chart*; we need your suggestions for ways to improve the *Chart*, and we need more willing minds and hands to get the *Chart* publish and ready to be sent out.

There is much material about Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday and Lent in the *Chart*. Please note those articles closely. In addition to our liturgical, spiritual and social life within Christ Church, we are [continuing to work on our Parish Hall study]. Do keep the Property Committee and the Vestry in your prayers during this important period of time.

Our future will be assured by a successful capital campaign (the first at Christ Church since 1969 and the fourth campaign since the mid-1800s!) and the building of a new parish house. Peter Andel and John Bernard are working with Carol Bentel, an architect and friend of Christ Church, to render a plan for the new parish house. In the meantime, we are completing the re-roofing of the church and will begin work on the exterior stucco walls of the church in the near future. We are now paying for years of deferred maintenance on the church. As we finish necessary exterior maintenance, we will turn our attention to the interior of the church structure.

I close on a happier note: The chapel in the church is completed. The chapel has been named Chapel of the Good Shepherd and we have invited Bishop Witcher, retired Bishop of Long Island (and former resident of Manhasset) to consecrate the chapel on Pentecost, which is June the 4<sup>th</sup>. Please do mark the date!

This comes with hopes that you will have a most blessed Lent.

Sincerely,

## **A Community Request**

The **Coalition for a Safer Manhasset** has requested churches and synagogues to publicize their efforts to make Plandome Road a safer place for pedestrians and drivers alike. They are working with the Town of North Hempstead and the County to improve traffic flow and signage. However, the most important thing that can be done to make our streets safer is for all of us to obey traffic regulations and observe common courtesies. Please be cognizant that pedestrians have the right-of-way in cross walks and when traffic is turning. Also, do your best not to J-walk (J-walking is something the rector of Christ Church all-too-often does!). Finally, remember that any accident you might have in town will undoubtedly also involve a friend or neighbor—so, being careful is important.

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**SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST ARE HELD AT  
8 AM, RITE I; 10 AM AND 6 PM RITE II**

**BIBLE STUDY IS AT 9 AM**

**CHURCH SCHOOL IS AT 9:30 AM**

**THE CHILDREN’S CHOIR REHEARSES ON TUESDAY EVENING AT 5:30 PM**

**THE LENTEN PROGRAM WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 7 PM**

**THE THURSDAY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST IS AT 10 AM**

**THE ADULT CHOIR REHEARSES ON THURSDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM**

**ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 1, 2006 AT 7AM, 10AM AND 7:30 PM**  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 103:8-14; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21  
*Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes*

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 5, 2006**  
Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-13

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 12, 2006**  
Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 16; Romans 8:31-39; Mark 8:31-38

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 19, 2006**  
Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; Romans 7:13-25; John 2:13-22

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 26, 2006**  
2 Chronicles 36:12-23; Psalm 122; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 6:4-15

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### **CHRIST CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. David B. Lowry, Rector, Residence: 516-570-0318  
Ms. Nancy Ludwig, Organist and Choir Director  
Ms. Kathy Hoffmann, Administrator Church Office: 627-2184  
Mr. Enrique Valdes, Sexton

**Proof Readers & Editors:** M. Templeton, B. Henahan, A. Angus, L. Snodgrass

## Happy Birthday!!

*We are pleased to congratulate these friends and parishioners who have birthdays during this month...* Kayla Deosaran, John McGill, Ida Miletich, Mary Lowry, Katelyn Bennett, Carter Paterson, Indu Subaiya, Christopher Beinecke, Philip Horne, Ruth Mishrick, Dana Sevely, Mary Ryan, Ian Schmidt-Spadaro.

## Happy Anniversary!!!

*Our congratulations to all those friends and parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries for this month...* James and Karyn Sherwood, Will and Phyllis Ivers.

**Andy Field** and **Victoria Bindert** represented Christ Church and the Diocese of Long Island at a youth conference in Orlando, Florida from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> of January. **Penny Tadler** served as Diocesan staff for the trip.

The young people of Christ Church are active in many school activities: Theresa Ciaccio and Brian Sternemann are stalwarts of the music and drama programs at Manhasset High School. Over the past few weeks the *Manhasset Press* has reported extensively about the athletic prowess of **Alex** and **Max Smitham** in swimming and **Natalie Bindert** and **Jasmine Blocker** in track and field. Alex was co-captain of the Manhasset varsity swim team, which finished ninth in the open competition in Nassau County. Alex was named to the All-County team. His brother Max, who is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, swam his personal best in the county meet as well.

Natalie Bindert was named all division, all conference and most valuable athlete for the Cross Country team at Manhasset High School. The girls' Cross Country team won its second straight division and conference championship. Jasmine Blocker, although on in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, joined the girls' varsity track team to run in the 4x400m relay in the indoor track season. The team was given "All Conference" honors.

### Women's Dinner

Please save the date Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and join us for a Ladies Dinner. Our food will be a tour of the Greek Isles, and the price for this exotic repast will be \$15. If you have any questions please call Carole Beinecke at 922-5196 or Beth Morningstar at 365-3570 for further information.

### The Word of the Month

The word for March is *adiaphora*. It is a Greek word that means 'things indifferent.' *Adiaphora* became important in Germany during the Reformation when there was a dispute between more radical nascent Lutherans, who wanted to sweep away all things Catholic, and more moderate Lutherans, who felt it was acceptable to hold on to practices and beliefs which, although not Biblical, were not core values of the Lutheran understanding of salvation. The word came into use in England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I to counteract the more radical reformers who attacked the

English Book of Common Prayer and the ceremonies of the church. Leaders of the 'broad' English church said the Prayer Book and liturgical practices were not necessary, but were no barrier to salvation and therefore could be retained.

### Mardi Gras at Christ Church

On Tuesday, February 28, Epiphany will come to an end with a 'bang' as we'll celebrate Mardi Gras in the style of New Orleans. There will be a gala parade for the children, with 'throws' (beads and cups) from New Orleans and our own King and Queen of Carnival. The food of the day will include Grits and Grilliads, Jambalaya and King Cake, which will be decorated by the children. Cajun music will be our dinner companion. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. and dinner, which will be served informally, will continue through 8:00 p.m.

### Ash Wednesday at Christ Church

There will be three services of the Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes for Ash Wednesday at Christ Church. The 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services will be held in the chapel and the 7:30 p.m. service will be in the church. The evening service will be choral; the earlier services will be said.

### Lent 2006

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for 40 days (excluding Sundays, which are always festival days). Lent ends with the lighting of the new fire on Holy Saturday evening, the evening before Easter. The forty days of Lent are followed and paralleled by the 40 days of Easter.

Traditionally, Lent was a time when catechumens, that is adults who were seeking baptism, were prepared to be received into the church on Easter Day. In addition, Christians who had committed 'notorious sins' and had been separated from the church (through temporary excommunication) were prepared to re-enter the full sacramental life of the church in the Easter season. Over the centuries the ecclesiastical activities in the season of Lent mutated as infant baptism became normative and baptisms were done throughout the church year (making intensive preparation for adult baptism unnecessary and replacing that activity with Confirmation) and as excommunications became more infrequent, the activity of rehabilitating believers fell by the wayside.

The liturgy of the church reflected the special nature of Lent. The *Gloria in Excelsis*, which is near the beginning of the liturgy through most of the year, is replaced by the *Kyrie Eleison* ("Lord Have Mercy") or the ancient Greek Trisagion ("Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us"), which we will use at Christ Church, this Lent. At the Breaking of the Bread, the usual hymn, "Alleluia, Christ our Passover..." will be replaced with an *Agnus Dei* ("Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.").

In addition, the visual elements with the church are changed. During Lent, the color of altar coverings and vestments in many churches is purple, although at Christ Church the Lenten altar coverings and vestments are bleached muslin. Altar flowers will not be used during Lent.

Over the centuries personal spiritual practices during Lent have changed. The early church kept a ‘most holy Lent, with severe discipline and protracted fasting. Over a period of time the severity of those practices lessened. By the Middle Ages the church asked the faithful to abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays. Although this may sound rigorous, it really wasn’t too difficult for most in Europe because by the end of winter, few people had any meat left to eat.

The word Lent is derived from an Old English word *lencten*, which is also the source of the word *lengthen*. It refers not only to the liturgical season, but also to lengthening of days in spring. Although planting in northern Europe was not completed until Easter season (generally), the preparation of fields for planting was an early ‘Lenten’ activity and the first seeds were sown late in Lent.. For agriculturalists, Lent ended the winter time of ‘hibernation and celebration’ and ushered in the period of intensive farming activities.

Today, our pace of life is less seasonal because our work goes on year-round. In fact, the summer, which was the time of intensive work in agricultural societies, is our time of vacation and a slower pace of life. With the pace of life regularized in our industrial and post-industrial societies, Lenten activities tend to blend in the regular unfolding of life far more than they did in a simpler and ‘more overtly Christian time.’

Many of us give something up for Lent. While there is nothing wrong with doing so, it may be more helpful to take-on a spiritual exercise—Bible reading, regularly scheduled prayer and meditation and/or volunteering in the community—rather than just losing weight, giving up coffee, or avoiding television. Some ideas for Lenten activities can be found in the *Chart*.

## Suggested Lenten Activities

### 1. Say one of the Offices from the Book of Common Prayer:

An **Order for Evening** (in the Prayer Book beginning on p. 109) is most appropriate at dinner time. The service begins with third salutation on p. 109, followed by one of the short Scripture readings (pp. 109-110), followed by one of the four prayers (pp. 110-111) and the prayer for Lent (p.111), the *O Gracious Light* (p. 112), one of the two prayers on p. 113 and the Blessing on p. 114;

Or **Compline**, which is most appropriate before bed-time. It begins on p. 127 of the Book of Common Prayer. The service begins with a sentence and salutation followed by an informal confession of sins. It proceeds with psalms on pp. 1128-131 (one only each day) and a short verse of Scripture (one only, pp.131-132), the Lord’s Prayer, one of the collects on p.133, one of the prayers from p. 134, the *Nunc Dimittis* (Song of Simeon) and the conclusion of Compline (p. 135)

### 2. Read from Scripture:

The Daily Office Lectionary in the Book of Common Prayer has a list of readings for the entire church year. The lectionary for Lent (Year One) begins on p. 952 and continues on pp. 954 and 956. Three lessons are listed for each day of Lent. The first is an Old Testament lesson, the second is from the Epistles and the third is from the Gospels. If you wish to do the readings we suggest choosing one type of lesson and read them day-by-day.

### 3. Read the Devotions from *Forward Day by Day*:

Copies of *Forward Day by Day* can be found on the table at the entry of the church. There are devotions for each day in Lent. The devotions are short and generally quite good.

### 4. Attend the Lenten Program on Wednesday Evenings (see below)

## Lenten Program

### “Reading the Scriptures with Understanding and Appreciation”

This year Christ Church and St. Stephen’s Church, Port Washington, will share a Lenten Program. There will be five sessions, three at Christ Church (March 8, 22 and April 5) and two at St. Stephen’s (March 15 and 29). We will start with soup and salad at 7:00 p.m., the programs will start at 7:30 p.m. and the evening will end with the service of Compline at 8:45.

The Bible is the center of our history and our faith. Christians are, along with Jews and Muslims, people of the “Book.” Yet many of us hardly know our “Book” at all. And those who know the Bible may only know it from Sunday School and Catechism class. As valuable as our childhood Bible study experiences may have been, they do not prepare us fully for our adult Christian vocation.

Over five weeks, we will look at the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament as part of the historical building blocks for a mature and active faith. We will look at the books of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and the New Testament from the perspective of history, archeology and theology.

The five sessions are:

1. Holy Scripture—and overview
2. The Hebrew Scriptures I—From the Prophets to the Restoration: Why reading backward in the Old Testament makes sense
3. The Hebrew Scriptures II—Pentateuch (Torah) and History: The role of myth in religious history
4. The New Testament I—Paul’s ‘Gospel’ and the Making of the Church: Why reading backward in the New Testament makes sense too
5. The New Testament II—The Gospel and The Acts of the Apostles: The role of the Christ story and its aftermath makes sense too

Although the topics are weighty, they will be offered in a user-friendly form. Time will be set aside for questions and discussion in smaller groups.

## Around the Parish

We received news of the death of **Jack Lichten**. Jack remained in good health until December, when he contracted pneumonia. We will have a memorial service for both Grace Lichten (who died last year) and Jack on a Saturday in late March or on the first week of April at Christ Church.

**Dick and Kay Scheib** celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Dick continues his remarkable recovery from hip replacement surgery. He will soon be able to drive again and we look forward to having Dick and Kay back with us in church.

We have heard from **Hal** and **Barbara Heim** about their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, which will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. Hal and Barbara were very active at Christ Church for many years. They now live in Key Largo, Florida. If you wish, you can write to them at 96000 Overseas Highway Unit CC-9, Key Largo, FL 33037.