

## Flower Ministry

Q. How do flowers suddenly appear on the altar on Sundays?

A. Parishioners purchase the flowers if they wish to commemorate a special occasion such as the birthday or anniversary of a loved one. Other reasons for placing flowers on the altar include gratitude for a person's life or in memory of someone now deceased.

Q. Where do parishioners sign up to reserve a particular Sunday to have flowers placed on the altar?

A. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, near the kitchen.

Q. How can parishioners guarantee that their flower preferences will be recognized?

A. Parishioners will be contacted by someone from the Flower Committee. At that time preferences for particular flowers and colors can be stated.

Q. How much does it cost to fill the vases?

A. One vase, \$30; two vases, \$60.

Q. Can parishioners provide their own flowers?

A. Yes, but that must be noted on the sign- up sheet.

Q. How are the flowers paid for?

A. Use a plain envelope and fill with the proper amount of money, your name and with specification of whom you are remembering, and put in the collection plate at least a week before your flowers are to go on the altar.

Q. Can anyone be on the Flower Committee?

A. Yes, teams of people willing to be in charge of flowers on a monthly basis are now being formed.

Q. Who should I contact if I'm interested in serving on the Flower Committee?

A. Call Lois Mitchell at 518-899-1019.



15 West High St  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020



*March/April 2022*

Dear Friends,

Most people live their lives with at least a measure of inner restlessness. We feel that something is missing. Perhaps this is good, since discontent may lead us to search. The God who made us knows that we have this longing. It's part of what makes us human and also part of what motivates us to seek Him.

St. Augustine said, "Our hearts are restless until we find God." I believe St. Augustine's statement is absolutely true. Until we find God, there is an emptiness, a void, a disease within.

The season of Lent is an excellent time to focus on this inner search: to seek the God made known to us in Jesus Christ, to heal our hearts, fill the void, and color our world with joy, love and hope.

It is my prayer that this Lenten season you'll take advantage of the church's wonderful opportunities to take seriously the inner crying of our heart to seek God, and that through these efforts your lives will be blessed, revitalized and renewed.

Faithfully,

*Father Derik Roy*

You may watch any of our services on our YouTube channel

Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa NY YouTube

Follow Us On

**Website:** [www.ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com](http://www.ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com)

**Facebook:** Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa

**Instagram:** @cecbspa

Calendar

Weekly Lenten Opportunities to Grow our Faith

Sunday Worship 8:00am; 10:00am & 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00AM - Adult Sunday School  
Paul’s letters to the Early Church

Tuesday 10:00am  
Paul’s letters to the Early Church Study  
7:00pm Women’s zoom  
Lectionary Study – Please contact church  
office if you wish to join this group.  
7:00pm New members Class

Wednesday 9:15am Worship Service  
10:00am Study Group \*  
7:00 pm Men’s Zoom  
Lectionary Study –  
Please contact Fr Roy or Noel  
Drindak if you wish to join this group.

Thursday (every other) 10:00am The Chosen  
Season One Workbook Study

Friday Noon Stations of the Cross -  
Join us for this traditional devotional  
service as we retrace Jesus’s steps while he is led to  
the cross and placed in the tomb. The devotion is  
about 20 minutes long.

\* Wednesday morning study group- the  
program will be *The Death and Resurrection of the  
Messiah*. This study is from *That the World May  
Know* with renowned teacher and historian, Ray  
Vanderlaan. He will guide us through the land of  
the Bible.

- March 16 The Lamb of God
- March 23 The Weight of the World
- March 30 Rollaway the Stone
- April 6 Power to the People
- April 13 Total Commitment



Saturday, March 26 -  
Help the Church Day!

Mike Luger is  
organizing another  
Help the Church Day  
on Saturday, March  
26th. This will be our  
eighth one. Everyone is  
welcome to help with

small projects around the church.  
We’ll start at 8am and end at noon. We have  
painting, cleaning, electrical repairs, and some  
overgrown bushes to tame. Maybe you have a pet  
project you would like to work on. Mike will have  
some tools and paint but if you bring your own  
then we know we’ll have them.  
Thanks in advance for the help! If you have  
questions, contact Mike at 669-8369 or  
[lugermike@yahoo.com](mailto:lugermike@yahoo.com).

**March - The Food Pantry** has been  
selected by the local Hannaford store  
leadership as the benefitting non-profit in  
the Fight Hunger Bag Program. This  
program is designed to make it easy for  
shoppers to give back to their local  
communities while supporting the  
environment. Each time a shopper purchases the  
\$2.50 Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford in  
Ballston Spa (3 Via Rossi Way) the food pantry  
will receive a \$1 donation. This will take place for  
the entire month of March. Shoppers can also  
support our organization by purchasing a reusable  
Fight Hunger Bag online via Hannaford-To-  
Go. This is a great way to raise awareness, support  
the environment and fundraise for our cause!



April 26 -Attention All Chosen Fans

Season Two of The Chosen will begin Tuesday  
evenings, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Fireside Room  
and Thursday mornings begin April 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am  
in the Fireside Room. If you haven’t been with us  
for Season One it’s never too late! We will catch  
you up. Please sign up with Jeanne Speer in the  
church office or use the sign up sheet on the  
bulletin board in the Welcome Center to claim your  
space. Jeanne will order more workbooks if  
necessary.  
The first shipment of workbooks is nearly sold out  
so please don’t delay!

Moving Forward from Covid

The past two years have been difficult dealing with the pandemic. Social distancing, masks, hand sanitizers, zoom meetings, online worship and the cancellation of numerous things have ruled the day. Take home VBS, virtual Sunday School, zoom Bible Studies, have replaced in-person gatherings. No Nursery No coffee hour No exchanging of the peace, and communion only in bread.

Slowly but surely we are moving out of this Covid period. We still need to be careful and respectful to those that are at risk. We still ask if you are not feeling well to stay home and if you are more comfortable wearing a mask, then please do so.

However, I am happy to announce that we are moving back to some sense of what was normal pre-Covid.

- Coffee Hour will begin after Easter
- The Nursery will reopen on Easter
- Communion will be received at the altar rail and in both the bread and wine.  
(Of course if not comfortable receiving the wine, you need not take it.)
- We also are planning to have in person Sunday School after Easter. More info will be given on this as we work out the details.
- VBS will be in person once again. Our tentative dates for VBS are June 27-July1.

Many thanks to all those that have worked very hard these last two years to keep our church moving forward, fulfilling our mission of *A loving community seeking to know Jesus Christ and make Him known* in difficult times.

A Special Thank-You:

- To our Deacons: Al, Bill, Gil Lynne and Paul.
- To Father Richard.
- To our staff: Jeanne, Wanda, Kristin, Tim. Mary, Stephanie and our KidsFirst staff.
- To the volunteers at Noah’s Attic
- To Theresa and John Polson and all the Food Pantry Volunteers.
- To Jeremy Bailey and our tech nerds
- Thank you to our whole congregation for your continued support of our church and its ministries, sending in your offerings even when you could not attend in person.

You may watch any of our services on our YouTube channel

Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa NY YouTube

Follow Us On

Website: [www.ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com](http://www.ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com)

Facebook: Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa

Instagram: @cecbspa

Office Phone number + 518-885-1031

## **Annual Meeting Report**

Because of Covid, we had our second virtual annual meeting on January 30. The detailed reports can still be found on our website and YouTube station.

A report was given by John Polson, vestry chairperson of our Resource Ministry Committee. His report covered our year end finance report, building and grounds update.

Highlighted in the report was that with the two PPP loans we received (and have now been totally forgiven), the generous giving of our church family despite the pandemic, and low worship attendance, we still ended the year with all our bills paid. In fact, we were able to pay our full Diocesan assessment for the first time in a long time. The generosity of all our church family has been amazing!

John also updated us on building work done. This includes the installation of an air exchange/air conditioning unit, the parking lot being repaved and new heaters installed in the welcome center and chapel.

The Outreach Ministries Committee report was given by the chairperson, Christine Osgood. Included were special reports given by Mary, KidsFirst director, and her assistant Stephanie; a report from Noah's Attic, given by Wanda Closson, our Noah's director, and Mike Luger, Noah's board chairperson. The Food Pantry report was given by John and Theresa Polson. Please go to our website to listen to their reports.

Christine Osgood also shared the many places we gave money for missions and updated us on the process of electing a new Bishop.

A report was also given by Bonnie Hall, chairperson of the Pastoral Ministries committee. She too updated us on those things taking place in the midst of the pandemic. Certainly worship continues, thanks to the willingness and expertise and time and energy put forth by Jeremy Bailey, primarily responsible for all our live streamed and videoed worship; Kristen McCabe for continuing to provide music; our Deacons who have been faithful in helping to lead worship and our greeters, cleaners, altar guild and others at work behind the scenes.

Bonnie also thanked our Sunday School leaders Katie Skanes, Don Rohr and others who have kept Christian Education for our children available. Sadly, we had to again cancel VBS but with Melissa Miller's leadership are ready to go this year. Mark your calendars.

### **The dates for VBS are June 27-July1.**

She also reported that DOK is going strong under the leadership of Tammy Boyd; and the quilting ministry, under the leadership of Margaret Cook, Joyce Reed and Tammy Boyd, continue to bless many people.

Father Roy thanked the many, many people who make Christ Church "A loving community seeking to know Jesus Christ and make Him known": the staff, Deacons, Fr Lehmann, who leads our 5:00pm Sunday worship, and the many lay volunteers. He also thanked those whose terms on the vestry have been completed. They include: Alan Greenspan, warden; vestry members, Dave Bush, Rebecca Grugan, John Polson and Kathryn Lehmann.

Those elected to Vestry are: Jason Constant, Ann Wait, Holly Jefferies, Melissa Miller, Mike Patenaude. Don Rohr is Senior Warden and Bonnie Hall has been elected Junior Warden.

Returning Vestry members for 2022 are: Mike Drindak, Megan Guilmette, Christine Osgood, Mike Luger.

Laurie Engle will serve as Treasurer and Judith Bell as Clerk of the Vestry.

Elected as Convention Delegates are: Julie and Don Rohr and Megan and Alex Guilmette and Jayne Schmidt.

Columbarium Committee members are Lois Mitchell, Diane Iannon, Greg Schmidt

## **Holy Week Services**

### **Sunday April 10**

#### **Palm Sunday.**

Services will be held in the church at our regular times; 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm. ***We will start in the Welcome Center and all process into the church.***

### **Thursday April 14 6pm**

#### **Maundy Thursday Seder**

We will begin at 6:00 PM with the Seder, the Passover meal Jesus celebrated with the disciples in the Upper Room the night before He was crucified. At this Last Supper, Jesus instituted the sacrament of Communion and washed the feet of his disciples as a sign that they were to be servants. At this meal, you'll learn about some of our Jewish roots and how much of the Christian heritage comes from that tradition.



*This year reservations will be required to attend.*

*We will begin taking reservations on Monday, April 4 by calling or emailing the church office.*

Following the Eucharist, we will begin the all-night Prayer Vigil, reminding us of the time Jesus spent in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before his arrest. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center prior to the vigil; we hope every hour until noon on Good Friday will be filled.

### **Friday April 15 Noon and 6pm**

#### **Good Friday Worship**

The noon service includes the Stations of the Cross, a devotional approach to the 14 events (some Biblical and some traditional) that were part of Jesus' journey from trial to crucifixion. The evening service gives those who work during the day an opportunity to worship and focus on the cross of Christ.

### **Saturday, April 16 8:00 PM**

#### **The Great Easter Vigil**

The first Eucharist of Easter will begin in the dark as the Paschal candle is lit. As the congregants light their candles and proclaim "Jesus is the Light of the World," we hear stories from the Old Testament. Then, if there are any to be baptized, we do so, making a commitment to Christ by renewing our own vows. Then, as we turn on the lights and proclaim "Jesus is Risen!", we celebrate the Easter Eucharist.

### **Sunday, April 17**

#### **Easter Services**

**8:00 AM - 10:00 AM - 5:00PM**



#### **Easter Flower Donations**

The beautiful Easter flowers that decorate our church during the Eastern season are given in memory or in Thanksgiving by members of our Church. If you wish to have Easter Flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for someone, please be sure to fill out the flower envelope. These envelopes will be in the pews starting March 27, and must be placed in the collection plate or turned in to the office by April 10 in order to be listed in our Easter bulletin.



**Christ Church Nursery for Sunday Child-Care.**

We have a beautiful nursery for children 5 and under to visit during the morning worship services. Melissa Miller is the person who oversees this ministry. Well-trained teenagers/adults are hired to watch over your children during worship. She is looking for more people to help staff the nursery on Sundays. This is a paid position. If interested, please contact the church office.

With the nursery being closed these last two years, we have taken the time to install a new floor and rugs, a new pager system and fresh paint.

In preparation for our nursery reopening, we are looking for new toys to fill the nursery.

Some ideas are:

- Animal Figurines
- Baby Dolls & Accessories
- Books
- Colored Pencils/Crayons/Washable Markers
- Coloring Books/Construction Paper
- Doll House Toys
- Large Lego Blocks
- Plastic Kitchen Accessories
- Plastic Tools
- Plastic or Wooden Vehicles
- Push/Pull Toys
- Puzzles
- Rhythm Instruments
- Soft Blocks
- Stackable Rings
- Stuffed Toys
- Wooden Activity Board
- Wooden Blocks



**KidsFirst**

KidsFirst has managed to stay open throughout this pandemic. They were closed down only a few short times due to Covid.

Right now KidsFirst desperately needs employees. Because of the shortage of workers, we are not at full capacity and while we have a waiting list, we cannot take any more children without more staff. Currently we are in need of teachers and teacher assistants. If interested or if you know of someone that is interested, have them contact Mary, the Director, at 518-309-3540 or Father Roy at 518-366-5160. As an incentive, if your referral leads to a hire, you will receive a \$100 thank you gift.

**Sunday School**

The Sunday School program is finishing up their Winter Curriculum and we're looking forward to Spring, sunshine, and Easter! Our PreK to grade 8 students continue to meet with their classes virtually and our High School students have transitioned to in-person learning. It is never too late to join! Please contact Fr. Roy or Katie Skanes ([mkecb.skanes@gmail.com](mailto:mkecb.skanes@gmail.com)) for more information.



**March Birthdays**

- 1 Holden Popkoski  
Aubrey Thomas
- 2 Alex Guilmette
- 3 Rachel Montalbaro
- 4 Patrick Campbell
- 5 Robert Bonanno  
Julia Duchesne  
Faith King  
Phoebe Lanning
- 6 Rich McCabe  
Paul Sausville
- 7 Marcy Melander  
Elaine Pearson
- 8 Brian Horrocks  
Anne Walsh
- 9 Alexandra Bruno
- 10 Bruce Uhlinger
- 11 Geoffrey Wood
- 12 Gracelyn Guynup
- 13 Donna Thomas  
Ashley Ponessa
- 14 Ted Conwell
- 17 Salli Poltynski
- 18 Kathy DeMartino
- 19 Alex Dumovitz
- 20 Lena Dorman
- 22 Connor Doud
- 23 Nathan Bonanno  
Paul Cuddihy  
Bailey Reynolds
- 25 John Perreault
- 26 Mike Carson  
Chris Elliott
- 28 James Van Valkenburg
- 30 Diane Iannon  
Lolly LaRue
- 31 Scott Lutgens

**April Birthdays**

- 2 Grayson Keefe
- 2 Alita Rossen
- 3 Isaac LaRue
- 4 Sydney Carson
- 5 Eve Lansing  
Melanie Speer  
Matt Willey  
Matthew King
- 7 John Bell  
Katie Skanes
- 8 Shannon Rich
- 9 Rob Mancini
- 10 Peter Loyola  
Jay Thomas
- 13 Angeline King
- 14 Angelica Bretz-Aguirre  
Bonnie Horrocks  
Bert Grandin
- 17 Greg Howell  
Kyle Newton  
Jacob Polson  
Amy LaLonde-Paley
- 18 Lorraine McPherson
- 22 Anthony Polson
- 25 Angela Roy
- 25 Madalynn Bush
- 29 Brody Kubas
- 30 Karl Newton



**March**

- 20 John & Theresa Polson
- 24 Richard & Nancy Doud

**April**

- 4 Marissa & Jared Bongo
- 9 Michelle & Joseph Miner
- 11 Paul & Deborah Guilmette
- 12 John & Tammy Boyd
- 24 Ray & Sara Nichols
- 29 Jaye Kaye & Jim VanValkeburg

***Keep in Your Prayers***

- Margaret Anderson
- Janice Baird
- Garry Campbell
- Margaret Cook
- Judy Covey
- Erin Dumovitz
- Barbara Grandin
- Linda Hendricks
- Tim Iannon
- Deacon Bill Pearson
- Salli Poltynski
- Amanda Russell
- Mabel Siler
- Fred Sober
- Nancy Wemple