



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Peter N. Campbell, Priest-in-Charge

January 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We will change our national leadership on January 20th this year. Lots of folks are anxious about how this will play out. The ceremony itself is familiar to all of us by now. The anxiety is being caused by the 'players'.

We include a prayer for our nation in our Prayers of the People each Sunday morning. It is a modified version of the Prayer for our Country found in the BCP on p. 820. It appears below.

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: we humbly beseech thee to bless us with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness; and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail. Amen

I bid you to include this modified version, or the original, in your daily prayers at least for this month as we prepare to change, and then change, leadership. It may not be a bad idea to make it a permanent addition to your Daily Office as the year progresses.

I went out to eat the other day, and the waitress, in idle conversation, asked about my plans for Christmas. I started by saying I would go to church. She didn't even let me finish my answer.

She jumped in to say everyone should start Christmas by going to church. She went on to say that what our nation was lacking was church-going and praying. That's why there was so much violence and selfishness permeating our society.

She, of course, was preaching to the choir. I'm not sure she remembered that she was even talking to a priest. She did promise that church was on her schedule. Then she tsk-tsked and was on her way.

I think our nation needs more praying. I ask you to join me in putting this into action in January. It will do no harm, doesn't cost anything and will help our country and our own prayer life.

Peace be with you,
Pete+

AROUND AND ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH

ReVive Christmas Baskets Program – 2024...Pat Millett and Nancy DiCiocco, Coordinators

The 2024 Revive Christmas Basket Program was another great success. It truly was an outpouring of generosity and caring. Thank you to Dom and Nancy DiCiocco, Seth and Kristin Flanders, Buzz Hunter, Karen McCarthy, Pat Millett, Eliza Moravec, Julie Nizick, Father Pete, Maureen Puleo and the Discretionary Fund. And thank you to all who donated Jewel gift cards. Each of our eight seniors received two Jewel cards! Because of the gifts and cards, eight seniors will have a happier and merrier Christmas!

In addition, we would like to thank our caring parish family for supporting the Outreach contributions for the homeless living in tents in Chicago. The items donated included warm clothing, food and personal care items. Our Small but Mighty shines through once again!!!

Many thanks to Pat and Nancy for your dedication and organization of all the tasks. Could not have done it without you! (ed.)

ANNUAL RED STOCKING PARTY

Our traditional Red Stocking Luncheon was held on **Sunday, December 8th**, following the 10 a.m. Eucharist. This year we had potluck offerings. Thanks to everyone for bringing a delicious dish to share. Susan Krout played many Christmas carols for all to sing. The Red Stockings were filled generously totaling \$432. The recipient of the proceeds was voted to be Lawrence Hall this year. A great and enjoyable time was had by all to begin the holiday season. Kudos to Debbie Schaubel and Pat Millett for decorating the Undercroft for the event.

SALE OF OUR 2024 FAMOUS EPISCOPICKLES

Pickles are here and are ready to take home. You may pick them up during the week between 1 and 4 p.m. Please call the church office at 708-366-7730 to make arrangements with Julie. They are \$7 per jar, payable when you get them. They make great hostess gifts!

The Altar Flower chart for 2025 is posted on the bulletin board. The cost for flowers is \$40 per Sunday. Please make your check payable to *Christ Church* following your Sunday and mark "*Altar flowers*".

Please remember to turn in your Pledge Card for 2025

If you haven't already, please show your commitment to Christ Church by filling out a pledge card. The amount pledged does help in our budgeting process, but more importantly, the pledge card shows that you support our church! Pledges may be adjusted throughout the year, if need be. Please make your presence known by pledging. If you've already pledged, thank you, and God bless you! Extra cards are on the table in the Narthex.

The Annual meeting of the Parish, Sunday, January 26th

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be after the 10 a.m. Eucharist. The Vestry will host with a light lunch. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

BEYOND HUNGER

Please keep bringing non-perishable food items, regular size toiletries and cleaning products. **Note:** check all items for “sell by/expiration date”, the item must be factory sealed and not open, and any brands with identities based on racial stereotypes will not be accepted. Please bring them on Sundays and place in the basket in the Narthex.

People to remember in our prayers

Andrew, Nancy, Joy, The Reverend Bob Wyatt, Tony, Emily Gracia, Lou Dasaro, Bette Eilers, Diana & Robert Morris, Terry Kearns, Cindy Pierpaoli, Marc & Sylvette, Diane, Christina & Dean, Peter & Peggy, Merik, Kasia, Lamont, Jan Santos, Faith, Ceil, Maureen Puleo, Andy Longinow, The Reverend Mary Frances, Nicholas, Christina, Nancy Stiller, Doreen, David, Courtney, Buff Martin, Jordan, John, Hilde, John, Marilyn Leonhart, Dom, Darlene Downs, Cathie, The Aronson family, Reed, Irene, Mike & Marilyn, Marc, Gail Goodwin, Emily Gracia, Frank Cassello, Patrick & Veronica, Buzz, Cecelia, Chris, Regina, Ray Platek, Betty Moody, Dawn Hughes, Judy Skowronek, Ron, David Avalos, John Geyer, Bill Edson, Brennan Keefe, Eliza Ann, Ada, Jamie, Darcy, and those in our armed forces: Andrew Tapley, Reese Jones, Joseph Sowka, Alicia Quetzalcati, Alicia Johnson, Colton Stockholm, Zack Zobel, Hank Hamilton.

The Donors for Christmas Flowers are:

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|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Margaret Bertucco | Kristin & Seth Flanders | Karen McCarthy |
| Patricia Brundage | Buzz Hunter | Pat Millett |
| Fr. Pete | Cyn Koukos | Eliza Moravec |
| Nancy & Dom DiCiocco | Charmaine & Patrick Kowal | Maureen Puleo |
| | | Patti Wright |

HAPPY
new year

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY IN JANUARY 2025

4 Monika Lietz 22 Patricia & Wes Smithing

IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY 2025

Friday, January 3rd - Men's and women's lunches at noon, Madison Park Kitchen.

Saturday, January 4th - Open Mic in the undercroft from 6 - 9 p.m.

Sunday, January 12th - Reports for Annual Meeting due

Sunday, January 19th - Vestry Meeting after the 10 a.m. Eucharist

Sunday, January 26th - Annual Meeting of the Parish after the 10 a.m. Eucharist

IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY 2025

Friday, February 7th - Men's and women's lunches at noon, Madison Park Kitchen.

Sunday, February 16th - Vestry meeting after the 10 a.m. Eucharist