



Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, January 6, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

Due to an anomaly in the church's calendar, the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, is not transferred this year. That's not a good reason to forget this significant feast as it marks the end of the Christmas season and ushers in the second part of the Incarnation Cycle: the Epiphany Season in which we see the light of Christ, born in obscurity, radiating outward into the world. Note, for instance, in the coming weeks we will hear Jesus calling people to be his disciples (and this flowing from his baptism and - guess what? - our baptism) and then Jesus preaching what will become one of the most significant sermons in Christian history: the Sermon on the Mount, his *turning upside down* of what many considered "normal" cultural values.

In our home, on January 6, we mark the inside lintel of the front door in white chalk with this cryptic formula: **20 + C + M + B + 23**. This is the ancient Christian practice of asking God's blessing on one's home in the new year: 20 + **Christus Mansionem Benedicat** + 23 or *Christ, bless this house in the year 2023*. Another take on the three letters associates them with the medieval names of the three visitors who came to worship the newborn Christ: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

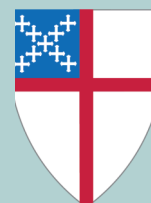
Here is the prayer that accompanies this gesture of blessing: "Visit, we beseech you, O Lord, this dwelling, and drive far from it all snares of the evil one; let your holy Angels dwell among us; preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen."

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Upcoming Events

- **The Baptism of Our Lord**
January 8
Adult Formation: Monastic Ecological Wisdom
- Secular Book Club, **January 13**
- **January 15**
Town Hall: Budget Meeting
Adult Formation:
Exploring Common Life
Monthly Book Club
- Adult Formation: Anglican Spirituality in the PNW
January 16 & 23
- Vestry Meeting, **January 17**
- CSLT Meeting, **January 24**
- Annual Meeting, **February 5**
- Secular Bookclub, **February 10**



We strongly encourage masking during worship, mindful that we worship among people who need added protection. Masking not only protects us but also our neighbors.

Need Help??

To add to our prayer list, email the Parish Administrator. If submitting a name other than your own, please ask permission from that person first. Names remain on the list for **four weeks**, unless renewed by the one who submitted them.

In a **pastoral emergency**, please contact Fr. Torvend.

Parish Help Team: Errands run, groceries, meals provided, medication pickup, vaccination transportation, etc., contact Deacon Gen Grewell or call her cellphone at 360.280.5593. You may speak with a deacon on Sunday at the **10:30am Holy Eucharist**.

Christ Church Prayer List

Our baptismal commitment calls us to pray for the world and the needs of our community, including those who are experiencing any sort of trouble, illness, or grief.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Members and Friends of our Community:

Miri Hindes; Christina Amos; Roby and Marie Dodd; Dick Gregory; Lois Garriott; Edith Abicht; Stephen Behr; Christinna Olsson; John Marklin; Shannon Marklin; Melissa Glick, Ginny Peterson; Elin Gratton; Morrie Stafford; and Jim Pierson.

Those who have died in Christ, who holds us in life and death, and all who grieve for them: Benedict XVI; Therese Day; Doralin Burrows; Andre Radandt, and Jessie Van Vorhis.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Resurrection, Bellevue • St. Michael and All Angels, Issaquah

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma *Weekly* Newsletter

The Rev. Samuel Torvend, Priest for Worship, Adult Formation, and Pastoral Care

Deborah Hope Breneman, Editor/Design and Layout

The *Weekly* is a publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Please visit our website at Christchurchtacoma.org to connect to newsletter links and previous editions.

Christ Church Calendar

To submit an article to the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the Parish Administrator.

Articles must be submitted by Tuesdays to be included in the Friday edition, and may be edited.

We never share your information outside the church family.

Land Acknowledgement We gather at 310 North K Street. Let us give thanks to the Creator for the Puyallup and Nisqually people on whose ancestral land this church and many of our homes stand. Their descendants live among us still. For their wise stewardship of the creation, we offer our gratitude. May we never forget that their land was taken by force and broken treaty.

Episcopal News Service • Episcopal Church on Facebook • Diocese of Olympia Bishop Rickel's Blog



Worship

Worship 101

"My daughter goes to a church where the ministers wear street clothes, mostly jeans.

Why do ministers at Christ Church wear 'religious' garb?" Well, wearing street clothes is a minority practice among Christians and a largely American phenomenon. Every baptized person is welcome to wear the white robe we call an **alb** as it is the garment given to the newly-baptized: it is a baptismal garment that signals our fundamental equality and expresses our conviction that all ministries flow from baptism, not ordination. In a good many Black parishes, we see women and men leaders wearing white clothing - dresses or suits - in a similar many. In an Episcopal parish, no one should bat an eye if a worshipper came to church in an alb or in white clothing: it is the color and garment of all the baptized. The **stole** or long band of cloth worn by a priest or deacon is a sign that one has been set apart for a permanent form of leadership among Christians, not an exalted form of leadership but rather a pastoral, guiding form of leadership. The colored cape or poncho-like garment worn by priest or bishop is reserved solely for the Holy Eucharist: it is called a **chasuble**, from the Latin *casula*, or little house, little poncho, that covers the body. The stole is always worn underneath the chasuble.

The alb is inspired by the seamless garment of Jesus mentioned at his crucifixion. The stole is inspired by what was the much larger napkin or cloth with which Jesus dried the feet of his disciples in John's version of the Last Supper: a sign of humble service, not worldly authority. The chasuble was an ordinary poncho in ancient Roman life that came to be reserved for use at the altar (and it didn't hurt to have another layer of lined clothing in churches with no heat!). In our form of worship, the alb, stole, and chasuble hold before us the recognition that we are part of a 2,000 year old community that came to life in the ancient Mediterranean.

Epiphany Schedule

Sunday, January 8: The Baptism of Our Lord
8:30 AM Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the church

Sunday, January 15: Epiphany II
8:30 AM Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the church with
Blessing of the Search Committee



Adult Formation

Sunday, January 8

Monastic Ecological Wisdom: A Resource for Contemporary Christians

Join Fr. Torvend after the 10:30 Eucharist in the Parish Library for a discussion of his new book on how monastic practices can help modern Christians live in harmony with their local ecology and other creatures. Get a cup of coffee or tea in Wells Hall and then come to the library for what will be a good time!

Sunday, January 15

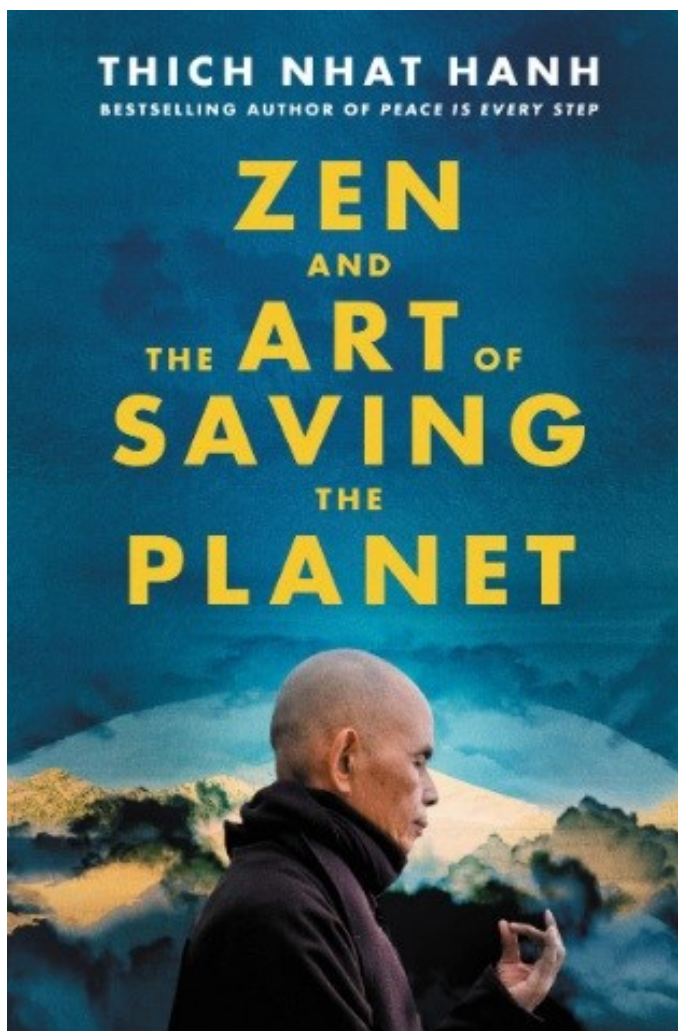
Exploring our Common Life and Prayer at Christ Church

Might you be wondering what informs and guides our distinctive, inclusive, questioning, and socially-committed form of life? Do you wonder why we worship in the way we do? Do you have thoughts about affiliating with Christ Church and the Episcopal form of Christian faith and life? If so, join Fr. Torvend in the Parish Library right after the 10:30 Eucharist.

Mondays, January 16 and 23 Anglican Spirituality in the Pacific Northwest

In Fall 2022, we explored the influence of regional culture on church life in the Pacific Northwest. Indeed, portions of those presentations have informed our soon-to-be-released Parish Profile. Now we look to core values in Anglican spirituality and how those values and practices might speak to the spiritual hungers of our regional culture. We'll gather on Zoom at 7 PM. For those inter-

ested in participating in what will be an enlightening discussion of our distinctive spirituality, send an [email to Fr. Torvend](#) no later than **Wednesday, January 10**. In the subject heading of your email, type **Anglican PNW**. You will then receive the essay and Zoom link.



Sunday, January 15 at 6:30pm

Monthly Reading Group

Meet at the home of **Sandy and Ronn Johanson** to discuss *Zen and the Art of Saving the Planet* by Thich Nhat Hanh. Newcomers are welcome! Questions? [Contact Don Johnson](#).

THE EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION 2023



Dear friends in Christ, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of his return. Through the rhythm of days and seasons, let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation. Let us note the year's culmination, the Paschal Triduum, the Three Days of the Lord: his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising, celebrated between the evenings of April 6 and April 8, 2023.

January 6, 2023

The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 8, 2023

The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

February 2, 2023

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 21, 2023

Shrove Tuesday

THE PASCHAL CYCLE

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2023

The First Sunday in Lent

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday | Sunday of the Passion

Lent ends with sunset on Thursday, April 6

THE THREE DAYS: THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday: Institution of the Holy Eucharist

April 7, 2023

Good Friday: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

April 8, 2023

Holy Saturday: The Great Vigil of Easter, the Lord's Passover from Death to Life

**Mark your calendar well for these holy days when the people of God
gather as one to celebrate the great mystery of our salvation**

DECK THE HALL

Wells Hall. that is...

It's not too late! Your gift is still welcome—and still counts toward our Mending Cross Lottery**!

We have exhausted our capital funds with our new Wells Hall HVAC system. At the same time, we are beginning to see increased reservations of our space. At best, Wells Hall is “shabby.” We believe we would get more rentals if the space was more appealing. We are planning a parish-wide work party in January to clean up the space, but more is needed to put our best foot forward.

We desperately need capital donations to accomplish the following work outlined in the table on the next page. Any and every donation, regardless of amount, will help us move forward with refurbishing Wells Hall.

**As an added feature, with your donation, your name will be entered into a lottery for a small “Mending” cross made by Jean Tudor. These small crosses are replicas of the Mending Cross hanging in the narthex. It seems appropriate at this moment in our communal life that we offer these crosses as “gifts.” They serve as a reminder of our shared journey through the last several turbulent years. Jesus has walked beside us every step of the way and we are wiser and stronger as we reemerge and live into God’s Plan for Christ Church Parish.



Wells Hall Capital Campaign

Donations totaling \$30,000 allows us to:

- Refurbish both Bathrooms on main floor
- Purchase new Stage Curtains & Rigging
- Purchase additional Cutlery, Dinnerware (to rent out)

Donations totaling \$52,000 allows us to:

- Complete all of the above, plus
- Paint First and Second Floors
- Refurbish 2nd Floor Bathrooms (1 near Fireplace Room and 2 Children’s Bathrooms)

Donations totaling \$85,000 and greater allows us to:

- Complete all of the above, plus
- Update Kitchen (floor, countertops, cabinets)
- Refurbish Green Room or Recarpet Fireplace Room

~ The Christ Church Vestry

Junior Warden Report for December 2022

Where to begin...Wells Hall has been a very busy place these past few weeks. The radiators for steam heat have all been removed and 11 new heating/cooling units have been hung below windows in the same locations as the radiators. The new units are ready to be hooked to power and the outside units. We are waiting for fencing before the outside units can be delivered. The outside units are very similar to the one on the roof of Trinity House, so initially it will be a shock to see them in the corner of the courtyard. They need to be fenced to prevent vandalism as well as to protect all the copper



New heating/cooling unit uses former radiator locations.



Freshly-painted Wells Hall, in preparation for a busy weekend of events.

from thieves. Once they are in place, we will work on how best to blend them in with the rest of courtyard.

Once the radiators were removed, it was obvious that dry wall repair and painting needed to happen on the main level. INCA has completed this work. Additionally, the old shelves that were above the radiators were removed and have been replaced with new shelves. These will help to protect the new units and are in keeping with the aesthetics of the hall.

Once the heat is operational, the list of other needed repairs can begin. Additional work will be completed as quickly as possible dependent on the available funds. Wells Hall is becoming a sought-after venue that can assist Christ Church through rental income. It also makes our home a better place for us. Just imagine a warm and inviting bathroom!

Please contact me with any questions. ~ [Nancy Gow Knudsen](#), Junior Warden

Daily Office at Christ Church

◇ Monday 9:00am*
[Morning Prayer](#)

◇ Tuesday 7:30am*
[Lectio Divina](#)

◇ Thursday 7:30am*
[Morning Prayer](#)

◇ Saturday 9:00am
Morning Prayer

*zoom link available at
[christchurchtacoma.org/
calendar](http://christchurchtacoma.org/calendar)

Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ, January 8, 2023:

8:30am Holy Eucharist in Trinity Chapel,

10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

Visit Christchurchtacoma.org/calendar for weekday Morning Prayer, Lectio Divina, and Conversation & Compline Service Schedule

Online Daily/Weekly Devotion information:

[Forward Day by Day](#) | [Episcopal Church Weekly Reflection](#)

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

