

# THE ANGELUS

Volume 72 Number 8

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

April 2022

Dear People of Christ Church,

As we approach one of the busiest times of the church year, I want to invite you and your friends and families who might ask to our various services of Holy Week.

On Sunday, April 10, we will have services of Palm Sunday at 8:00 am, 10:30 am, and 4:30 pm. All of the services include the blessing of the palms, but where and how we do it will vary.

The 8:00 am service is pretty straight forward in the sanctuary.

The 10:30 am service will include a return to our Winchester downtown churches tradition of processing to the old courthouse on the downtown mall for our community blessing of the palms. We gather outside in front of the Parish Hall at 10:15 am to march to the mall, and then return to the church right afterwards for the remainder of the service. For those not processing to the mall, we will have a blessing of the palms in our sanctuary, as well. It is a wonderful event and a chance to show the greater Winchester community how the Christian community joins together on this day.

The 4:30 pm service will be for families with young children gathering outside in the courtyard. This will be a similar service to what we did last spring and summer. We will have palms, crafts and an egg hunt and activities which will be "eggciting" for the children.

Holy week services will also include a return to our Maundy Thursday Service with foot-washing at 7:00 pm, and our Good Friday liturgies at noon and at 7:00 pm. The noon service will be a community service with all of the downtown churches invited to join us for the noon service. Our downtown clergy will join in leading the worship, and we hope their congregations will join us as well.

Please note the times for the Easter services. Our Easter Vigil is on Saturday, April 16, at 7:00 pm, beginning in the courtyard with the lighting the Easter fire, and then procession into the church for the remainder of the Vigil. This is a wonderful way to prepare for Easter Sunday, as we renew our baptismal covenant and hear the story of salvation. Easter Sunday services start early. You are invited to join us at the sunrise service with the downtown churches at Mt Hebron Cemetery at 6:30 am. Please park outside the gate of the cemetery entrance and walk in. You may need to bring a flashlight if it is still dark. We begin Easter services at Christ Church at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, and 11:15 am. This year, the choir will sing at both the 9:00 am and 11:15 am services and the children's choir will be at the 9:00 am service.

I am so excited to see everyone at these services. In many ways, this will be the largest newcomer Easter for me because I have not seen people without masks for a long while and we also have new people among us. Please encourage your friends to come if they are looking for a place to celebrate Easter. They will be able to find all of our service times and information on the parish website.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector  
rector@christchurchwinchester.org  
540-662-5843, Ext 1 or 540-773-5562



## From the Clergy

When I first began attending Episcopal churches in college, I was captivated by Holy Week services. I loved the drama of the liturgy, and the music that went with it. Each year since then has helped me deepen my appreciation for the way the services tell us the story of salvation. After two years where our celebration of Holy Week was so limited, I am incredibly excited to share in these services with all of you!

One of my favorite prayers in the Book of Common Prayer is a prayer for Holy Week that is used at the beginning of the Palm Sunday service:

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our  
salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation  
of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and  
immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

It's a prayer that isn't just about the Palm Sunday service, but about everything that we do during Holy Week and Easter, the reason we fill the calendar with services. The point of all that church is so that we can remember and better understand what God did through Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. Each service tells us a particular part of the story. Palm Sunday celebrates the triumph of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem, and recalls the way that celebration turned to hostility and violence only a few days later. Maundy Thursday places us in Jesus's final meal with his disciples, and repeats his commandment to love and serve one another. The Good Friday service asks us to contemplate the Cross, to acknowledge the depth of God's love for us that Jesus's death showed. And the Great Vigil, the first Easter service, tells the story of Jesus's resurrection, and of the new life that is offered to all of us.

Holy Week is not always an easy week to be in church. The services ask us to remember some of the most challenging parts of our faith. We recall the way Jesus was betrayed by one of his own disciples, and deserted by almost all of them. We acknowledge the systems of sin and violence behind Jesus's arrest and trial. We begin the Easter Vigil in darkness, waiting for the moment where we acknowledge the Resurrection. But the central fact of Holy Week is the Resurrection, the way Jesus's new life overthrows all of those human realities. We can enter Holy Week in joy because we know the end of the story, and because we have confidence in the life and immortality Jesus offers us.

So this Holy Week, take the time to remember the mighty acts of God. Let each service help you hear the story again, and understand it more deeply. Let us come to Easter remembering everything that God in Christ did for us, so that we can truly know the joy of the Resurrection.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Martin Geiger, Assistant Rector  
mgeiger@christchurchwinchester.org  
540-662-5843, Ext. 2, or direct 540-773-5564

# Worship

## Easter Flowers

If you would like to donate to the Altar Guild as they adorn our Easter altar, please take a flower envelope from one of the tables in the rear of the Sanctuary, complete it in thanksgiving for or in memory of someone special if you choose, and include your check made payable to Christ Church with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line. You may put the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church Office. **All envelopes must be received by Sunday, April 10, 2022.** Please email Noelle at [communications@christchurchwinchester.org](mailto:communications@christchurchwinchester.org) with any questions.



### Procession for the Blessing of the Palms

On Palm Sunday, April 10, please plan to meet at the Parish Hall at 10:15 am for our traditional march to the downtown mall for a brief service of the Blessing of the Palms with other Winchester churches.

We will return to the church together and rejoin the 10:30 am service.

Sunday School will run only from 9:30 am until 10:00 am so children can meet their families for the procession.

**The 10:30 am service will begin at the usual time in the church for those who do not walk downtown.**

*Christ Church is hosting the annual community **Good Friday Ecumenical Service** on Friday, April 15. The hour-long service will be at noon.*



## Diocesan News



The process for the election of the 14th Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia is well underway. The Standing Committee announced the slate of candidates on March 28, 2022. The period March 28—April 8 is the “petition period.” The Diocese explains, “While the principal method for calling candidates is through the discernment of the Search Committee, the Canons of The Episcopal Church provide for a wider process in which all laity and clergy can join with the Holy Spirit to raise up a new bishop. Accordingly, the Canons provide a means to nominate a candidate by petition. The Petition Process is used to address those situations where a person may be called to stand for election, but for whatever reason was not part of the Search Committee process or ultimately identified as one of its recommended candidates, to graciously invite members of the diocese to nominate additional candidates for consideration for the slate, to open the aperture to diverse qualified candidates, and to engage the power of the Holy Spirit to lead the hearts and minds of those who may feel called for consideration. This is intentionally a welcoming and inviting Petition Process seeking broad participation. The petition nominee must be endorsed by a wide cross-section of the diocese, and undergo the same application process, interviews, and personal background checks required of other candidates.”

Once the petition period concludes and all candidates are introduced, meet and greet events will occur at several locations throughout the diocese May 20-24, 2022, including here at Christ Church on Sunday, May 22, from 4:00—6:00 pm. Some, if not all, of these meet and greets will be livestreamed. All members of the diocese are invited to submit questions to the nominees for consideration by the Transition Committee in developing these sessions. Send your questions to [bishoptransitionva@gmail.com](mailto:bishoptransitionva@gmail.com) using the subject line “Meet and Greet Questions.” Please provide your name, church name, and location in case someone needs to contact you for clarity.

Following these events, and as previously announced by Bishop Susan Goff, the Electing Convention will be held on Saturday, June 4, beginning at 10:00 am at St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School in Alexandria. Attendance at the Electing Convention will be limited to voting delegates. The event will be livestreamed. Registration details will be available soon.

The ordination and consecration of the Bishop Diocesan XIV will occur at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at St. Paul’s Baptist Church in Richmond. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will preside at the Consecration.

To learn more about the process and stay up-to-date, please visit the website: [www.virginiabishopsearch.org](http://www.virginiabishopsearch.org).

Please continue to pray for all involved in this process.

# Christian Formation

## Easter with Children

We are excited to resume our Sunday afternoon services for young families beginning Palm Sunday at 4:30 pm in the courtyard, weather permitting, or in the Tilford Room, if it's still chilly. As before, our service will consist of a short homily by one of the clergy followed by Eucharist, and an activity for the kids. April 10th's activity will be an **egg hunt** in the courtyard. Check upcoming weekly and emails to parents of young children for details.

Services will continue **every other** Sunday afternoon at the same time. The next one will be April 24, and so on.

The 9:00 am service on Easter will feature the children's choir.

Other than on Easter Day, Sunday School and Children's Chapel will meet as usual at 9:45 am and 10:30 am, respectively.

And a reminder that the baby/toddler room is open for all services. Go down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary. The room is on the left and is marked "baby care." There's a changing table, rocking chair, sofa, and

## Formation Opportunities for Adults During the Week

As we return to meeting in person, here is an update on our current Bible and book studies:

The Daytime Faith Study meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 10:00 am in the Smith Building conference room (114 W. Boscawen Street). They are currently studying the Gospel of John using the Anglican study guide *Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of John* by Cynthia Briggs Kittridge. Newcomers welcome! If you have specific questions about the gatherings, please call Webster at 540-662-5843, Ext. 1.

Lectionary Bible Study meets every Wednesday morning from 10:00—11:00 am in the Smith Building conference room and is led by one of the clergy. They read and discuss the readings for the next Sunday services.

There are two women's book study groups. One meets each Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Parlors (in the Old Rectory). During Lent, they are reading *Witness at the Cross (A Beginner's Guide to Holy Friday)* by Amy-Jill Levine. After Easter, they will return to *Love is the Way (Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times)*, written by our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Contact Kay Keely if you are interested (540-722-8977 or [kckeely@comcast.net](mailto:kckeely@comcast.net))

The other women's book group meets on Thursdays at 5:30 pm in the Parlors. They are reading Jon Meacham's *The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross*. For more information, please contact Carole Ann King ([mainelady92@gmail.com](mailto:mainelady92@gmail.com) or 540-486-8579).

## Adult Forum in April

Beginning on Sunday, April 24, the Adult Forum will explore where we fit in with the diocese and our bishops. This helps as we are hosting a meet and greet for bishop candidates on Sunday, May 22. We'll answer questions people may have about how a parish such as Christ Church is a part of, and beneficiary of, and a participant in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Adult Forum is in the Tilford Room from 9:30 am to 10:15 am on Sunday mornings. We hope to see you there!

# Church Calendar

## Services at Christ Church

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
in the Sanctuary  
(Masks optional)

4:30 pm Service for Young Families  
(Every other week—April 10 & 24)



Look for  
**Christ Episcopal Church Winchester**  
and like us to stay up-to-date on the latest news!

The Church Office is open Tuesday—Thursday  
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.  
Call ahead before you visit!

## Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Bible Study	Wed: 10:00 am
Outreach Committee	4th Tues: 7:00 pm
Knit Unto Others	3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Tues: 7:00 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Daytime Faith Study	2nd & 4th Mon: 10:00 am
Treasure Box	Wed & Fri: 10 am—4 pm Sat: 10 am—1 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 am Thurs: 5:30 pm Parlors



*The Angelus* is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.



# Church Calendar

## April Birthdays

- 2 Martin Tabaka, Dan Wall
- 3 Larry Pettinger
- 6 Toni Sloan
- 7 Stewart Wiley
- 8 Mary Rodriguez, Nancy Baker
- 11 Joe Wingenbach
- 12 Brock Whipkey
- 14 Dixon Whitworth
- 16 Sylvia Petrie
- 17 Dennis Wise
- 18 Kevin Kennedy, Kathy Nerangis,  
Maria Nelson
- 19 Michael Mohn
- 20 Leslie Harper, Tom Wise, Don MacDonald
- 22 Laken Whipkey
- 23 Ruth Gregory
- 24 Joan Claybrook
- 27 Melissa Ferguson



## April Anniversaries

- 8 Larry & Connie Pettinger
- 18 Gil & Marge Kesser
- 19 Bernie & Rosemary Swope
- 26 Scott & Leslie Harper

celebrate!

## Holy Week & Easter 2022

### Palm Sunday • April 10, 2022

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:15 am Procession of Palms  
to the downtown mall

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

### Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday Service—

April 14 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Ecumenical Service —

April 15 at noon (here)

Good Friday Liturgy—April 15 at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil — April 16 at 7:00 pm

### Easter Sunday Services • April 17, 2022

Ecumenical Service at 6:30 am

at Mt. Hebron Cemetery

Services at 7:30 am, 9:00 am , and 11:15 am  
in the Sanctuary



### Please Note:

We will publish birthday and anniversary information only with explicit permission. Please contact the Church Office if you wish to be added to or deleted from these lists. Please keep the Church Office informed of any changes to your address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

*The Treasure Box will be closed  
April 15 & 16 and April 29 & 30.*

# From the Treasurer

## Highlights of Annual Meeting Report

Here is a quick summary of the first two months of 2022:

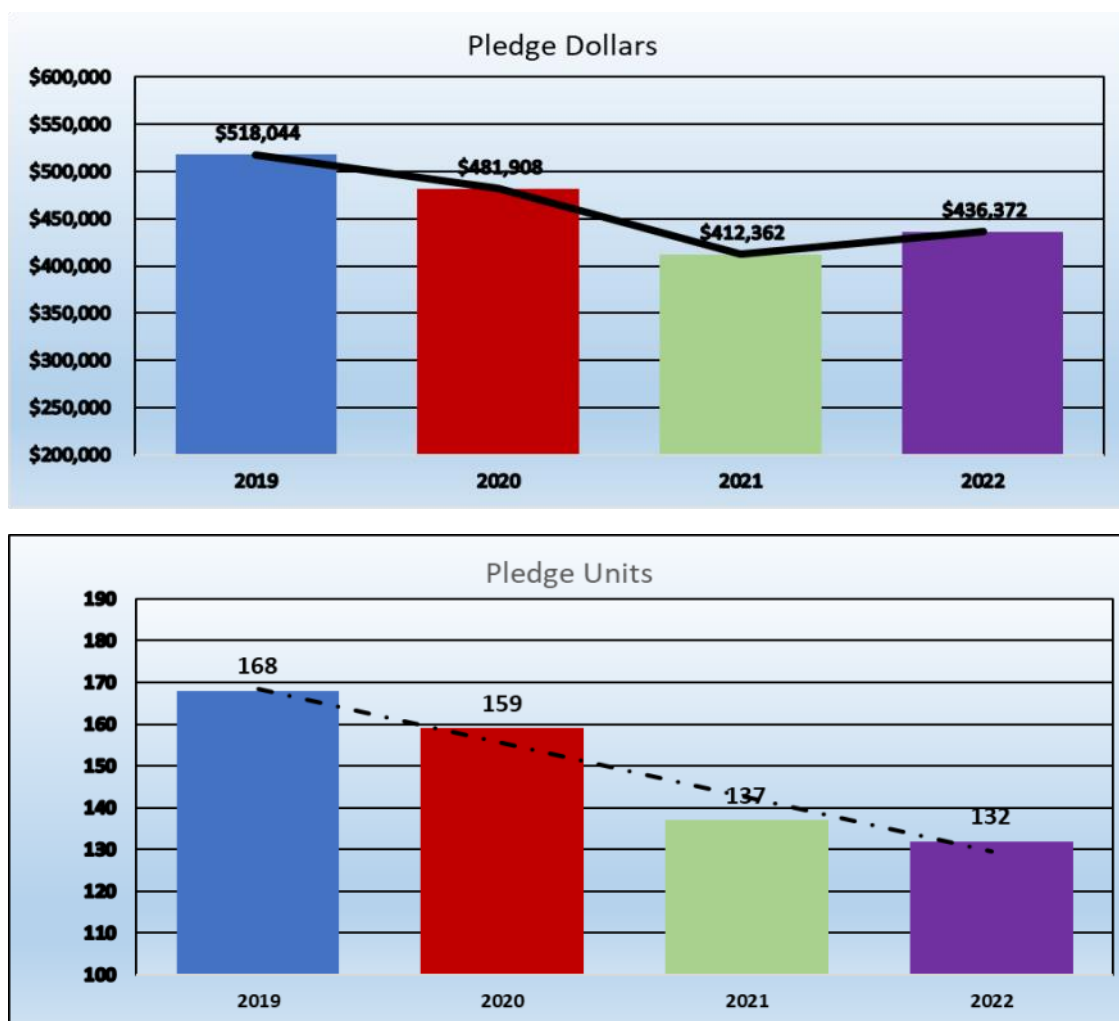
Feb YTD	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues (\$)	124,138.78	97,900.00	26,238.78
Expenses (\$)	85,382.37	84,055.64	1,326.73
Net Position (\$)	38,756.41	13,844.36	24,912.05

- Expenses are slightly over budget (primarily due to utilities).
- Revenues continue to be above budget due to a strong January.

## Information from the Annual Meeting:

### Key Points on Pledging:

- Good News, although pledge units are down, the pledge dollars are up.
- Bad News, the increase in pledge dollars is not enough to cover the amount budgeted and/or budget deficit.



**NOTE:** The \$436,372 pledge value in the graph above reflects actual pledge cards received by 12/31/21 and is different that the pledge value in the budget. The budget value included expected amounts from current loyal donors who had not submitted their pledge cards by 12/31/21.



## From the Treasurer

### BUDGET ANALYSIS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	2021	2021		2021	2022	\$	%
	Budget	Actual	Difference	Budget	Budget	Difference	Difference
<b>REVENUES</b>							
Pledge	385,000	411,832	26,832	385,000	451,000	66,000	17%
Unpledged	75,000	115,585	40,585	75,000	91,000	16,000	21%
Other	19,100	26,734	7,634	19,100	26,159	7,059	37%
2020 Carryover	6,000	6,000	0	6,000	0	-6,000	-100%
PPP	85,825	85,825	0	85,825	0	-85,825	-100%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>570,925</b>	<b>645,976</b>	<b>75,051</b>	<b>570,900</b>	<b>568,159</b>	<b>-2,741</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Personnel	430,997	429,532	-1,465	430,997	437,540	6,543	2%
Utilities	22,000	24,991	2,991	22,000	26,075	4,075	19%
Property	43,596	40,804	-2,792	43,596	44,092	496	1%
Office	20,775	19,670	-1,105	20,775	22,437	1,662	8%
Christian Ed	1,350	802	-548	1,350	1,325	-25	-2%
Music	3,390	2,670	-720	3,390	3,030	-360	-11%
Worship	1,100	942	-158	1,100	1,100	0	0%
Stewardship	700	-324	-1024	700	700	0	0%
Outreach	52,450	52,450	0	52,450	66,450	14,000	27%
Pastoral Care	800	306	-494	800	600	-200	-25%
Parish Life	1,250	257	-993	1,250	1,300	50	4%
Communications	2,000	2,066	66	2,000	2,430	430	22%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>580,408</b>	<b>574,168</b>	<b>-6,240</b>	<b>580,408</b>	<b>607,079</b>	<b>26,671</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>YE Balance</b>	<b>-9,483</b>	<b>71,807</b>	<b>81,290</b>	<b>-9,508</b>	<b>-38,920</b>	<b>-29,412</b>	
Without PPP		-85,800					
Balance No PPP		-13,993					

#### Key Points on the Budget:

- Without the PPP loan, we would have finished \$14,000 in the red. This includes expenses finishing \$6,000 under budget.
- We DO NOT have the option of a PPP loan in 2022.
- We are beginning 2022 with a \$39,000 deficit budget.

## Parish Life

### Apple Blossom Parades!

Yay for Apple Blossom this spring! We will return to selling tickets for parade seats. All proceeds will go to support our Panda Packing/Bright Futures outreach, helping to feed school kids in our local area. We will sell tickets to parishioners after services on Palm Sunday, April 10th, in the Tilford Room. Ticket sales will begin for everyone in the Parish Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from noon to 2:00 pm, beginning on April 12. All sales are in-person by cash or check. Tickets will be \$5 each for the Firefighters Parade on Friday, April 29, and \$8 each for the Grand Feature Parade on Saturday, April 30. We will not sell any parking spots this year.

There is a Signup Genius on the church website for volunteers to sign up to help sell tickets both during the sale hours and on parade days. Many hands are needed—from selling tickets, to setting up chairs, to taking tickets, selling water, cleaning up. It's a great way to be part of the fun! Please contact Katie Harvard (klhwsh@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

### Coffee Hour Anew

It has been so great seeing the church fill up again, greeting old and new friends and relinquishing our masks so that we can truly reconnect to each other! It has reminded us how much we have missed this fellowship and how important it is to the life of the church. As we re-open and restart our traditional activities we want to do so gradually and carefully to continue to help keep our congregation safe from illness.

On Sundays, following the 10:30 am service, we are resuming Coffee Hour for your enjoyment and the opportunity to have a short visit with friends and the clergy before leaving church. We will gather from 11:30 am to noon with coffee only for a while to be sure that COVID infection rates remain low. If weather permits, we will utilize the courtyard as much as possible and encourage people to gather there. Some chairs will be available for those who need to sit.

After Easter, we will ask Coffee Hour hosts to sign up on Signup Genius so that we can make sure someone is available to make coffee each Sunday. A link will be available on the church website.

We hope that these small changes will allow us to offer the fellowship we have so missed while at the same time keep us mindful of what is still going on in the community around us. We look forward to seeing you!

### Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont 2022

Our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont will be May 6-8, 2022—Mother's Day weekend. Our theme this year is **Mindfulness and Movement on the Mountain**.

Shrine Mont is often called *a place apart*. But in a world with constant activity and endless distractions and demands, how do we slow ourselves down enough to actually 'be' apart? Join us as we explore various ways to cultivate mindfulness and calm. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. No prior experience or acrobatics required!

The rest of the weekend is to experience Shrine Mont. This includes opportunities to sample the wonderful cooking, hike the various trails, rock on the porch with friends, do a puzzle, or take a nap.

We are fortunate, because of a generous gift, to be able to have all parish youth and children over the age of four come with no expense to parents.

Registration forms will be available soon. If you'd like to learn more about parish weekend, the Church Office is happy to put you in contact with families who have attended previous years.

## Outreach News

### CCAP Donations in April

Spring has sprung! For the month of April, CCAP is asking Christ Church parishioners to donate **waterproof poly ropes**. These are available at the Harbor Freight Tools online or at the local store located at 1131 Berryville Avenue (Rt. 7) in 100' lengths for \$3.99. CCAP has purchased tarps for clients to use as protection from the weather while living outside and these ropes are for use with the tarps.

CCAP is also asking for donations of **adult disposable underwear**.

Donations can be left in the entrance to the church on Sunday mornings or dropped off in the foyer of the Church Office at 114 W. Boscawen Street on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Please consider being a **volunteer for CCAP**. Ann Taylor and some friends work a few mornings in the CCAP baby & toddler clothing room, preparing items for CCAP families. Another way to volunteer is to drive a CCAP vehicle any morning, Monday through Saturday, to collect donations from local retailers. There are many other opportunities to help at CCAP. Come and join the fun!

Please call Jim Taylor at 703-403-5264 or send a message to [annjimtaylor@verizon.net](mailto:annjimtaylor@verizon.net) if you'd like to learn more. CCAP is operating under a new executive director this year and they continue to make great strides helping the neediest in our local community!

Thanks for the great response in  
March for Easter basket donations!



# Pastoral Care

## Why We Need to be Alert

You may be telling yourself that the COVID-19 alert is past history and the answer is “wrong.” All of us parishioners need to still be alert to what is going on in our area and around the world. The website to be tuned into is [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

At this time, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, and China are dealing with the new variant of the omicron virus- BA.2. You might say, “Well it is not here, so who cares!” We all need to care and stay alert especially for our immunocompromised family members and friends, diabetics, older citizens, and people with disabilities. These folks are at the higher risk for serious illness and face challenging decisions navigating the world of COVID-19.

Our local area is currently in a COVID-19 Community Level of LOW, which means we have fewer than 200 NEW COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in the past seven days. Here are some facts:

- People who are up-to-date with their vaccines and are boosted have a lower risk of severe disease and death from COVID-19 compared with unvaccinated people.
- Continue to practice physical distancing and consider masking when in crowded stores (Walmart, grocery stores, etc.).
- Stay up-to-date on vaccines and boosters.
- Maintain improved ventilation throughout indoor spaces when possible.
- As weather permits, walk and get outdoor exercise.
- Follow CDC recommendations of isolation and quarantine, including getting tested if you are exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms of COVID-19.
- If you are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, talk with your healthcare provider and have a plan for self-testing if needed (having a home test available).

Future articles will be featured in the Angelus concerning COVID-19 variants.

See you in church.

Your Parish Nurses, Rosalie Lewis & Helen Zebarth