**Editor’s Note**

Welcome to the winter’s edition of your own Church magazine, the Compass. As editors, we depend on the contributions of our parishioners and this issue is the result of many creative writings.

We just celebrated a glorious Christmas Season, culminating in (a slightly postponed) Twelfth Night at the Rectory on Sunday, January 7, with many parishioners and guests attending. Advent Season was highlighted by the well-attended Festival of Lessons and Carols, a visit by St. Nicholas, another by Charles Dickens, and the glorious Christmas Pageant, which changed the final Sunday in Advent to the Christmas Eve celebrations.

In between we were visited by Mr. Winter and endured bitter colds and snow storms. Thanks to the hard work by Hector our services were minimally disrupted, although attendance may have suffered a bit.

Lent this year falls on Valentine’s Day – which makes for an interesting combination! Our Lenten Series and Soup Suppers will be led by Father Jack Zacker. From his perspective as Priest and Lawyer, we will examine the “Evidence for the Resurrection.”

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Compass. If not, offer up your criticisms in a silent prayer and talk to us privately!

*Ton Heijmen, Editor*
*Peggy Heijmen, Design Layout*
From The Rector

A survey recently published by the UK charity ‘Tearfund’ reports that more than a quarter of Christians said they had never prayed. I wonder whether the question was poorly worded, producing such a bizarre result? Being a Christian without praying seems impossible: like being a fish that doesn’t swim, a car without wheels, a loving couple who never speak to each other.

Prayer is our living link with God. It can take many different forms, only one of which is probably our ‘stock’ image of prayer: someone kneeling down, in a church or at their bedside. Kneeling is wonderful, but it is just one of many postures for prayer. It is possible to pray while walking, or brushing our teeth, or taking out the garbage, or waiting at a stop light. We may pray standing, sitting up, or lying down, with or without words. One of my favorite ways to pray is sitting in a big chair, with a view of an icon and a window with the trees outdoors; and yes, we can pray with a cup of tea or coffee at our side! That’s as suitable for a conversation with God, as it is for conversation with a family member or friend.

Last month, after preaching a sermon on prayer, I was interested to note the number of requests for a copy of it afterwards. People have a natural interest in prayer, a longing for it, a kind of hunger. Our inner spirit needs to be fed and nurtured by spending time with God. People are eager to reflect on what prayer is, and how to make time for more of it.

So, what is prayer? I would say ‘Spending time with God’ is a pretty good definition. That means the greatest single enemy of prayer is thinking we have something more important to do. In my sermon on prayer I quoted a popular poem by Grace L. Naessens, reprinted here on the next page. As you read it, think of the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:7 (‘Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you’).

Where to start? Well, for those who are in a hurry in the morning, there’s a prayer of only about twenty words, short enough to memorize, written by the founder of the Anglican monastic Order of the Holy Cross. He composed it in response to someone who said the daily rush of a typical morning made it hard to find time to pray. Since it’s a prayer I occasionally use myself when getting out of bed, I can recommend it personally:

\[
\text{I praise my God this day;}
\]
\[
\text{I give myself to God this day;}
\]
\[
\text{I ask God to help me this day.}
\]
Many Episcopalians are unaware that our 1979 Book of Common Prayer also contains short forms of prayer (honestly, really short) for the morning, at noon, in the evening, and at the close of day. They are under the heading, ‘Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families,’ starting on page 136. The length is manageable even for someone in a hurry. Towards the back of the book, there are more short prayers and thanksgivings for all sorts of occasions and situations (page 810 onwards). What – you say you haven’t got your own copy of the Book of Common Prayer? Why not consider getting one, and maybe even a small cross or icon to create a special place, a focus for prayer, at home? There’s an excellent, very friendly ‘Episcopal Book Store’ in Seattle that sells our Prayer Book in a variety of sizes and bindings, via online orders or over the phone. They have prices to fit every budget – a prayer book could be at your door within a few days.

But you don’t need a book of prayers to begin. Set forms can be helpful, but what God wants most of all are the cares and hopes and concerns of our heart. We know our hearts are ready; so is God. We just need to carve out the time, open up, and make space for the conversation. Bishop Provenzano recently urged all the people of the Diocese to join him in a renewed commitment to prayer: ‘No cell phones, no computers, no TV or newspapers. Just each of us and Jesus, as a way to help change the tone and tenor of the world that God has given into our care.’

While 2018 is still young, let’s all resolve to spend more time with God. He is always ‘more ready to hear than we are to pray’ … waiting only for us.

In Christ’s love and service,

Michael

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I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn’t have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
And heavier came each task.
‘Why doesn’t God help me?’ I wondered.
He answered, ‘You didn’t ask.’

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
But the day toiled on, grey and bleak;
I wondered why God didn’t show me.
He said, ‘But you didn’t seek.’

I tried to come into God’s presence;
I used all my keys in the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
‘My child, you didn’t knock.’

I woke up early this morning,
And paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish,
That I had to take time to pray.

Grace L. Naessens
The Warden’s Corner

Tim Brown

Grace assumes that we are all a little more broken than we like to admit and a lot more loved than we have the capacity to fathom. The Rev. Canon John Wharton Newton, IV

These words seem particularly appropriate coming out of the season where everyone tries to be on their best behavior and we contemplate the extraordinary gift and meaning of the Incarnation. It is also pertinent to the well-attended presentation that was sponsored by the Men’s Fellowship this past December 5 regarding the challenges faced by our Hispanic community. We heard from Luz Torres of the Centro Cultural Hispano (discussed in more detail by Bill Denslow), Pastor Aldo Romo of Camino De Vida (which holds services in our Parish Hall), and our own Hector Henriquez (who is also a member of Pastor Aldo’s congregation). The stories were compelling as well as disturbing. As others have said, there is need and there is compassion, and then there is meeting needs with compassion. We can and should do more, and the first step is to recognize and acknowledge what is happening, often right under our noses. The next step is to figure out what more we can do. We are working on that, so please speak to myself, any vestry member, or Fr. Piret if you have any thoughts or suggestions.

Advent and Christmas got us off to a good start in the new church year. Our choir did its usual wonderful job, the Pageant went smoothly and as always was well attended, and small adjustments were made in the services that seemed to work well without disrupting usual expectations and creating distractions. Christmas Eve on Sunday is always a bit hectic, but we will not have to deal with it again until 2023. Our stewardship campaign is officially past, but if you have still not pledged please consider it. The amount is not important but the process is. If you value our services and beautiful music in our lovely and historic church, if you value what we do in the community, if you value your faith and the witness to it that we represent, then live those values and pledge your support as generously as possible. We will all benefit.

Looking ahead, Ash Wednesday will be on Valentine’s Day and Easter will be on April Fool’s Day, and in between we will have our annual meeting on March 4. We are caught between love and foolishness, and will be looking to elect the next class of the Vestry. If anyone is interested in serving, please inform a vestry member or Fr. Piret.

One of the service adjustments made this year brings some final thoughts. Instead of wax candles we obtained permanent refillable liquid candles for the Advent Wreath, so we could no longer watch the candles burn ever lower, threatening to set the whole thing aflame. While a flaming
Advent Wreath might be a dramatic metaphor for Christ, the Light of the world, it is one best avoided! The normal symbolism of the candles is quite sufficient.

Every action and item in liturgical worship has some sort of symbolism and meaning (which is what I love about it) though that symbolism is often not explicit in a particular service. The progression towards Christmas is obviously marked by the lighting of an additional candle in the Advent Wreath each Sunday as the Light of Christ approaches, but a traditional understanding is that the candles also represent meditations on different spiritual aspects that help us prepare for the upcoming Birth. Those aspects are usually described as hope, peace, joy, and love, in that order, but there are a large number of variations, some examples being: prayer-penance-joy-preparation, prophecy-love-joy-peace, expectation-hope-joy-purity, death-judgment-heaven-hell. This year I focused on hope in the sense of trust, how peace is different from quiet, how joy is different from happiness, how love requires commitment. May you also continue to appreciate the richness of our traditions in new and rewarding ways as we move through the church year!
Stewardship
Peter B. Colgrove
Stewardship Committee Chair

Although the “Stewardship Season” has officially ended, there is time for those who have not yet pledged for 2018 to still do so.

Last year Christ Church parishioners pledged a little over $243,000 (86 pledges), while 2018 pledges to date total $231,247 (76 pledges). It helps our financial planning to have our pledges early into the new year. This is particularly important for those whose pledges are paid in installments, by credit card or direct withdrawal from a banking account.

We rely on our endowment to cover more than 50% of our operating expenses. But we risk spending down our endowment if we continue to heavily rely upon not only the income earned thereon, but also the principal to cover our operating expenses. To stem this over reliance and to preserve our endowment, we need our parishioners to pledge generously. By being more generous, not only we will preserve our endowment, we will also have more funds available to help others in need.

I want to thank everyone who has generously pledged for 2018. We are fortunate to have so many generous and caring parishioners.

Father O'Malley answers the phone:
“Hello, is this Father O'Malley?”
“It is”
“This is the IRS. Can you help us?”
“I can”
“Do you know a Ted Houlihan?”
“I do”
“Is he a member of your congregation?”
“He is”
“Did he donate $10,000 to the church?”
“He will.”
In 2009, I joined the Board of Directors of Episcopal Charities of Long Island (ECLI). Three years ago the board of ECLI and the board of Episcopal Community Services agreed to come together to create Episcopal Ministries of Long Island (EMLI). We brought the best of the predecessor organizations into one entity to enable us to develop ministries that are making a difference and changing lives.

The New Year always offers a good time for reflection and I looked back over these years to see if we were living out that mission and making a difference.

This past summer, with funding from EMLI, the North Brooklyn Angels launched a food truck that is providing one thousand free meals each week to people in need. The project, which is spearheaded by Father John Merz of Church of the Ascension in Greenpoint, is about much more than the food. There is office space on the truck that is used by other organizations to offer help with everything from housing and legal services to healthcare. With support from community volunteers, local businesses and community organizations, it’s truly fulfilling their motto of “neighbors helping neighbors.”

EMLI has helped to cultivate significant diocesan partnerships that leverage the assets of the diocese -- our properties -- to create ministry centers. The property of Grace Church in Riverhead is being transformed in partnership with Rural and Migrant Ministry to include a worker education center for farmworkers and day laborers. And in Astoria, desperately needed transitional housing is being developed in partnership with the Ali Forney Center for homeless LGBTQ young people on the grounds of St Andrews Church with funding from NYC.
As the church, we need to stand with people who are the most vulnerable, and that is what we’re doing.

Episcopal Ministries is trying to do our part in the movement to end the Opioid epidemic by working with LI-CAN which is a coalition with representatives of the faith, recovery and medical communities. LI-CAN has developed a plan to change how drug addiction is handled in healthcare, schools and the faith community. Several Episcopal parishes are involved and participation is growing - and the urgency is growing.

EMLI is also making an impact in partnership with parishes. In this past year, EMLI has provided support to 70 parish communities through educational programs, funding or consultation. If we just consider the parishes that have received grant funding from EMLI, we’ve helped provide 17,000 meals and 1,800 pounds of organic produce to people in need in the past year. Parishes are making a real difference in their communities. And when we add in the meals served from the North Brooklyn Angels, that number will triple next year. That’s really making an impact.

As we look ahead, we’re hoping to add another truck to the East End of Long Island to serve day laborers, farm workers and others who are struggling.

In his address to the Diocesan Convention in November, the Bishop said “We can be proud of the work of Episcopal Ministries as it supports our ever increasing focus on justice, reconciliation, mercy, and service to God’s people.” And I have to agree with him.

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Editor’s Note: For more information or to see how you can participate, please contact Scott Treiber directly at 516-403-3437 or visit the websites of: EPLI (episcopalministries.org) and/or LI-CAN (li-can.org)
Centro Cultural Hispano – CCH

Bill Denslow

Christ Church has donated office space, administrative and financial support to the Oyster Bay/East Norwich Hispanic Cultural Center since 2003. Although it has a Board of Directors, most of its activities are supervised by Luz Torres its executive Director (631-813-0955 cell).

CCH has many programs that support the educational, social and economic development of the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Hispanic community. They have an after-school program for K-8 youth, English as a Second Language program, Community Integration Time Exchange and advocacy services such as legal, job and home location services.

CCH ministers to over 500 Hispanics, many of them in need of additional economic support. During this time of immigrant crisis, it is appropriate to reach out to CCOB parishioners and ask them to volunteer to help our local Oyster Bay residents.

One of CCH’s more pressing needs are volunteers to help the after-school children with their homework. Anyone with time in the afternoon is welcome; no particular skills necessary; only a love of children. Classes/homework is from 2:45-5PM at local Oyster Bay elementary schools. These children need to hear English spoken since they do not have that reinforcement at home. This program is the most effective in preventing later problems with wayward youth who gravitate to gangs and drugs. Talk with Rene Warren or Marie Brussel about their experiences in volunteering.

The second most needed assistance from CCOB parishioners is providing employment. It doesn’t have to be a permanent job, it could be part-time activities such as yard/landscaping assignments, house cleaning or baby/child-sitting. Especially needed is work for females. Luz can also use places to stay, for families or single persons. If you have an extra room or unused cottage Luz would love to talk with you.

Of course, donations of cash or assistance in their fundraising campaigns are always warmly welcomed. CCH helps our local Hispanic residents, some of whom arrive homeless. Please help.
Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative (HIHI)

Mike Bibla, Vestry

On New Year’s Eve, members of Christ Church had the opportunity to participate with the preparing of meals and in helping to shelter homeless men living in the Huntington area. The homeless shelter is located at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington and is administered through the Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative (HIHI).

These men normally survive by living in tents and makeshift shelters. They have little food and sparse clothing. So during these cold winter months, the food and shelter that is provided by HIHI is much appreciated and could be lifesaving.

We had a wonderful group of over 18 outreach volunteers from Christ Church that evening. We all assisted with the cooking and preparing of meals for dinner, breakfast and lunch. The dinners we cook and serve are typically fish with a starch and vegetable and a soup. Breakfast and lunch is portable and preassembled by us, so that in the morning, the men can leave with food and spend the day working. In the communal room, we assemble cots and beddings for them to sleep on. In addition, we set up soap, towels and toothpaste for them to wash and use to clean themselves up. We also had some volunteers spend the night accompanied by a paid employee from HIHI.

This outreach program is open to all church members, their families and friends. The only cost is your time and what a better, more rewarding use of your time can there be than to share it helping those who truly are in need. Come join with us and make a difference.

Our next HIHI evenings are February 11 and March 4. For more information contact the church office 516-922-6377.
Parish Spotlight
To get to know one another better, we are asking our parishioners to fill out a short questionnaire to share with our parish family, answering questions such as what you like to read, where you’ve traveled or, even what or who would you like to be! Questionnaires are available at the back of the Church. Why not take one home and fill it out?

Elizabeth (“Liz”) Roosevelt has been a parishioner for many decades and is the sole Roosevelt still around in the greater Oyster Bay area. She is well-travelled and has visited all continents, except Antarctica. At CCOB, Liz has been a lector for many years. Interestingly, Liz wanted to be a cattle rancher and managed to be one for four years in Sebring, Florida! In 1983 Liz was instrumental in starting the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg, The Netherlands, the original homestead of the Roosevelt family. She studied Dutch for 70 hours, and that “messed up her language even more.” Enjoy this Spotlight and if you do not know Liz, please introduce yourself to her.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tell us where you’ve lived.</th>
<th>I was born in New York City, and have lived most of my life in Oyster Bay. I have traveled to every continent except Antarctica.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What first brought you to Christ Church Oyster Bay, and when?</td>
<td>Being a flower girl at my sister’s wedding in 1939.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you like best about Christ Church?</td>
<td>That is has been my family’s church for generations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are some activities you enjoy and/or what is your favorite way to unwind?</td>
<td>I am a life-long sailor and enjoy messing about in boats and gardening. I also read a lot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who is the most famous person you have ever met?</td>
<td>Ronald Reagan</td>
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<tr>
<td>What is your favorite passage in the Bible?</td>
<td>Psalm 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your favorite hymn?</td>
<td>Joyful, joyful we adore thee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What did you want to be when you grew up?</td>
<td>A cattle rancher – and I was for four years!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you could have only one book with you on a desert island (apart from the Bible), what would it be? (b) One movie to watch? (c) One CD/album? Book: Kipling’s Traffics and Discoveries; movie: Giant; CD: John Denver

If you could have dinner with any person in the whole history of time (except for Jesus), who would it be, and why? Herodotus – to discuss his history and travels.

What is your favorite place for quiet reflection? My porch.

In the past year, what was your most treasured experience at Christ Church? The church picnic. For good company.

If you could be anything at all in God’s creation, other than human, what would it be? A porpoise.

What has been your greatest blessing thus far and why? To be a part of a large family. There have always been cousins and others to visit and adventure with.

Did you know …?

Nancy Magnatta, a member of our Choir, has become a champion of the Mute Swan, after learning that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has plans to control their numbers and habitat expansion. Mute Swans are not native here, and are designated an “Alien Invasive Species” by the DEC. She has done extensive research and discovered that the Mute Swan is protected in seven other states, including Connecticut. This swan, revered by Native Americans, helped our early settlers survive. If you’d like to learn more about this species, talk to Nancy. She’d love to discuss her research with you!
Youth Formation
Kathryn Cantanno

Church School and Youth Group have been busy since October!

Church School has been focusing on the Old Testament. The Church School teachers have taught lessons including Noah’s Ark, The Tower of Babel, Abraham & his Adventures with God to name a few.

On October 29, we enjoyed our annual All Hallows’ Eve event. We had a nice turnout despite the stormy weather. The Church School, Youth Group and Treble Choir members who attended enjoyed pizza, apple cider, desserts, Halloween candy and some autumn crafts.

On Sunday, November 19, youth from Christ Church had a great time at RPM Raceway/Go Karting. This event was a big hit last year as it was this year. We’re hoping to plan another evening at RPM before the Youth Formation year ends in June.

December was a very busy month in Church School and Youth Formation. It started off with our St. Nicholas Celebration on Sunday, December 3 during Coffee Hour after the 10 a.m. Eucharist. It was obvious that the children and their families really enjoyed visiting with St. Nicholas. We’re fortunate that he was able to set time aside for us during his busy season. We’re told that St. Nicholas has a very special place in his heart for the children and families at Christ Church! After reading a story to the children, sadly, St. Nicholas had to go. But, the children found treats that he left for them in their shoes which they left by the fireplace in St. Hilda’s Room. Thank you, St. Nicholas!

The remainder of December was a blur as we rehearsed and prepared for the Christmas Pageant. On Christmas Eve, many members of Christ Church, Church School, Youth Group and Treble Choir joined together for the annual Christmas Pageant. It was a huge success! We are grateful for all of the people who helped make this event so memorable.

We enjoyed Movie Night at the Rectory on January 28 (including the home made pizza and ice cream) as we watch a movie called A Street Cat Named Bob. Stay tuned for more events in 2018!
Treasurer’s Corner
Laura Dougherty

It was a great year to be the Treasurer at Christ Church Oyster Bay. Expenses were down, pledge giving and investments were up – we were most blessed!

Christ Church maintains a solid financial base with managed investments totaling $12,250,000 (12/31/2017) that provide substantial support for outreach, music and capital needs, as well as subsidizing the operating budget.

Greatest Challenges

- **High** Expenditures vs. **Low** Revenues
- Strong dependence on Investment Draw and Listerine -- 62% of all 2017 expenditure

Our primary goal is to attract greater contributions, donations and revenue sources, with less dependency on investment funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 EXPENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$629,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$321,000 (51% revenue)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$308,000 (49% investment draw and Listerine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Expenses</td>
<td>$29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100% funded by investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>$118,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100% funded by investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>$63,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100% funded by investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017 Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$839,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 51% of the operating budget funded by revenue sources (pledged & non-pledge giving, facility based contributions).
- 49% investment draw pays the remainder of operating expenses.
- By-laws limit investment draw to 4% for operating expense.
- The draw amount is based on a 3-year average of investment fund value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 REVENUE SOURCES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draw from investments</td>
<td>$433,000 (52%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listerine royalties</td>
<td>$85,000 (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$321,000 (38%)</td>
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For additional information please contact our Treasurer, Laura Dougherty, at haroldougherty@aol.com or Ton Heijmen, Ass’t Treasurer, at tcmh44@hotmail.com.
Parish Life

Parish Life in the late months of 2017 mostly focused on Advent and Christmas, with a few Thanksgiving events thrown in! It was a whirl-wind of enriching music, special services, fun events and camaraderie. If you’d like to see more of Parish Life – please visit our website: christchurchoysterbay.org/parish-life.

We often comment about the beautiful choral music we enjoy here at Christ Church, especially during special services, and this fall was no exception. The choir, under the direction of Michael Haigler, performed Faure’s Requiem at the Eucharist Service for All Souls on November 2. The Treble & Adult Choirs sang seasonal hymns, including works by Benjamin Britten, G.F. Handel, and John Rutter at the Festival of Lessons & Carols on December 17. If you were not able to attend either of these memorable services, or if you would just like to experience it again, you can listen to a sampling of the music at our website at christchurchoysterbay.org/music/choirs.

It was a dark and eerie night on Sunday, October 29, and the Church was lit by "pumpkin" light for our All Hallows’ Eve service, followed by a lively party in Parish Hall.

We asked for bakers, soup makers & shoppers - and we received multitudes of both! St. Hilda’s Guild outreach efforts this year are focusing on Harmony Heights, the local therapeutic residential and day school program, serving fragile adolescent girls who have been diagnosed with emotional and behavioral problems. Their annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale on Sunday, November 19 and the “stay warm this winter” soup sale held this past Sunday, January 28 raised over $1,700 for various programs at Harmony Heights! Stay tuned for the Cookie Bake Sale on February 11. Thank you all for your support of this important ministry.
On Christmas Eve, the youth and children of Christ Church retold the Christmas Story during the annual Christmas Pageant, with help from the Treble Choir, and many other volunteers.

The Wardens & Vestry were able to secure the celebrated Mr. Charles Dickens for a public reading of his delightful story, *A Christmas Carol*. Despite the inclement weather on Friday evening, December 15 -- a crowd of at least 50 gathered in Parish Hall. Proceeds from the event ($1,512) benefitted the work of the Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN), serving hungry and homeless Long Islanders.

St. Nicholas surprised us all and paid a special visit on December 3 to the good boys and girls of Christ Church!

The weather was absolutely frightful – but the fire at the Rectory was delightful as we gathered for our Annual Twelfth Night celebration (although it was actually 14th Night!) on Sunday evening, January 7. Delicious food and laughter was plentiful while we exchanged our Christmas stories and well-wishes for 2018!

*Master turkey-carver, Harry Slutter, hard at work!*

For more pictures, please visit our website at: christchurchoysterbay.org/parish-life
Deconstruct the Universe

Time to reverse the order.
First, the man.
Should have known,
good as it was at first,
his image would diminish to a point
he no longer bore a likeness.

Then, no longer useful
groundling creatures,
ones with claws, livestock with hooves.
Might be just as well removed
with no one left to govern them.
No longer any good.

And next, of course,
no need for birds, their eggs,
or fish, even angelfish.
They’re better off devolved,
returned to one-celled microbes,
or, simply done away with, the lot.

No need of light
to find one’s way,
no saving daylight,
no wake-up call today,
no tonight to put lights out.
Might better to have been left undone.

But what about the shrubs,
the crops and apple trees?
Oh, those, those caused
no end of grief,
picked fruit and leaf cover
Do away with these.

And ground and sky and seas?
Well, no need for that stuff
with crawling things all gone,
no landing strip for things already flown.
no water holes, no swimmers.
Get shut of those.

Get back to darkened heaven.
Earth best left formless.
No need to hover over depths.
Maybe start from scratch
and play it all again?
Oh, good God, no.

By David Sarles

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Palm Sunday, March 25
8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, March 28
12:00 pm Holy Eucharist
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday, March 29
6:45 pm Agape Meal
8:00 pm Holy Eucharist of the Last Supper,
followed by Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 30
12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Liturgy

Holy Saturday, March 31
8:00 pm Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter,
with Baptism

Easter Morning, Sunday, April 1
8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
From the Register
(Since January 1, 2017)

Holy Baptism
Sadie Jane Meyer, January 8
Ava Raelyn Wengrofsky, February 12
Stella Maris Brown, May 21
Mason James Perotto, June 4
Julia Jennings Benjamin, November 26

Thanksgiving for a Child
Alexander David Mihaltses, May 21
Jonathan Asher Suggs, July 2
Finn Christian Farid, November 26

Marriage
Jonathon Adam Hallman & Lindsey Blair Amparo, June 10
Thomas Edward Asher & Geraldine Knott, July 1
Andrew Robert Mericle & Amanda Lee Corbo, September 1
Matthew Edward Berrell & Kristin Frances Schmermund, September 29

Funeral, Memorial Service, or Burial of Ashes
Viola Anita Cope, January 7
Andrew Charlton, February 11
Janet McNicol Barton, April 8
Robert Alexander Yale, April 8
Alexander Elias Yako, May 4
Marjorie Cook Burberry, May 14
Angela Vickers Burberry, May 14
Anne Harkness Mooney, May 25
Nathalie Kingston Plummer, September 23
Rita Ravenel Weekes, November 4
Christ Church: A place of faith, hope, and uplifting worship, sharing Christ’s love and making a difference in the world.