RECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Sunil Chandy

I love the Autumn season. I love this beautiful season because it reminds me to be grateful! One month uniquely does this best for me - November!

November primes us to see our blessings while conditioning us to have thankful attitudes. For the Church, November begins with "All Saints Day," a day that the church remembers the saints of our lives. Contrary to a popular notion, saints don’t have to be paragons of virtues, they are not called to be "perfect"; instead, they are human beings who chose to believe in Jesus and do their best to live the Christian life. These saints witness their faith by living lives of faith. Some are famous, but often they
are more familiar than significant figures of history. Their faithful witness even in the midst of struggles intrinsic to life, nurtures our own faith. The very act of remembering them gives modern day Christians a model of faith, for this we have to be grateful to God for them.

Also, in November, our nation gratefully acknowledges the sacrifice of Veterans on Veterans’ Day. We remember their service in the Armed Forces, a sacrifice that has ensured the liberties of our democracy.

Finally, our nation sets aside time in November to celebrate Thanksgiving! From the earliest days of its foundation (during the final days of the Civil War), this national holiday bears witness to the historical challenges of our nation even as we struggled through our modern-day challenges. Yet this holiday inspires us to overcome these, and more significant challenges, by focusing on our blessings. Among these gifts is the understanding that we don’t face our trials alone; we can rely on God and our neighbor to help.

At Christ Church, November reminds us to be grateful for our ministries dedicated to build the kingdom of God. This November 24th at the 10am service, we celebrate the work of the Acolytes as we recommission them. In recent years this ministry of servers at the altar has enjoyed enormous growth, especially among younger servers. On the 24th, as we commission these acolytes, we also have invited former acolytes to don their vestments as we gratefully acknowledge saints such as Everett Perrin, former Acolyte Master, and Verger of Christ
Church. Also, on November 24th, we will commission Caswell Cooke and Seth Tulman into the ministry of Vergers. Caswell and Seth will join George Parent in this important lay guild. **Please see the next page to learn a little more about this great ministry of the Church.** The sacrificial work of our acolytes and Vergers help our worship services to be orderly, helping Church to focus our attention on our relationship with God. For this, we have grateful hearts!

Yes, there is much for our Church to be grateful for - this a good thing. Modern research tells us that grateful people are happy, healthy, resilient people. Perhaps this is one of the secret ingredients that has helped saints both past and present meet the challenges of the day. In *Pilgrim's Progress*, by John Bunyan, there are two characters, Christian and Hopeful, drawing near to the river of death. As they reach the river, they meet two shining figures, "whose raiment shine like gold and whose faces shine as the light." These two people lead Christian and Hopeful through the river of death and finally into the Celestial City. These shining figures are not angels - Bunyan calls them saints of God, shining as a light in the world of darkness. They are saints who are grateful for a God that has given them grace, love, and life filled with immense possibilities and gifts.

Friends in November and for your lives, I encourage you to follow the example of the saints and be grateful!
This fall has been a busy season for the Altar Guild. Along with our usual duties, we also participated in the annual service to honor our firefighters, police and EMS personnel.

The hangings will remain green until the weekend of November 23rd-24th when we change them to white for the last Sunday in Pentecost or Christ the King. Advent begins the first week of December. For the past few years, we have been alternating the colors between purple and blue during this season. This year, we will be using the purple hangings. Both colors represent “waiting and anticipation”.
During the month of November, we will be welcoming new members to our church through the sacrament of Baptism. The sacrament requires a special set up at the font. The EWER, or large brass pitcher, is filled with water and placed next to the font. Also, placed on the font, is the baptism shell, the baptism towel (handmade and donated by the Altar Guild), and the oil of Chrism. In addition, a candle is given to each baptized person and lit at the sacrament to represent the Light of Christ. The towel and candle, along with a note from the Altar Guild, are given to each person who is baptized. Each child also receives a handmade Christening Cap and note from the Knitters’ Group.

After the service, the water in the font which has been blessed is emptied on the ground outside and given “back to the earth” from whence it came.

Membership in the Altar Guild is “a labor of love” mixed with fellowship and caring, not only for our church, but also for each other. Our dedicated group would welcome the opportunity would like to know more about what we do or who we are, please contact Fr. Chandy, Cheryl Leong or Natalie Pukas.
What a difference a day makes! On November 3rd, we return to our default schedules of doing things one hour earlier. We are left in relative darkness until the Solstice when daylight hours start to grow gradually and noticeably longer.

The shortened days provide cover for our difficult times, but they are also a sign of infinite order in the universe. We are aware of war, poverty and disease in our midst, but we also know and trust in God’s almighty power to overcome.

Christ Church is now offering an opportunity for fellowship and food, followed by the quiet service of Compline, on the last Sunday evening of the month. Compline is a contemplative Office that emphasizes spiritual peace. Historically it is the final church service of the day in the Christian tradition of canonical hours. The word Compline is derived from the Latin word completorium, meaning complete.

Compline is often sung, or chanted, further enhancing our worship experience. At last, at day’s end we are blessed to behold the peace, wonder and mystery of God’s deep darkness, comforted and enlightened solely by the flame of God’s love, a beacon of hope for the day that is tomorrow.

For many, the course of any given day may be fixed or uncertain, grueling or boring, or the occasion of a life changing event. Most days deserve a period of reflection and prayer; a time to review the joys and disappointments of the day, and give thanks for them all.

Jesus said, “Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.” So come, share a meal, and the peace of the Lord, and be renewed. Open your hearts, let go of your burdens, and don’t be afraid of the dark. It is where we first see the light.

Faithfully,
Anne
Capital Campaign Update

The roof reconstruction project continues to run smoothly and with no foreseeable problems.

The Elm Street side is complete as of this date, with the exception of some minor work remaining on roof drain leaders.

Paul Kelaita (Eagle Restoration) has called for the scaffolding to come down beginning Wednesday of this week. The actual deconstruction depends on the schedule of the scaffolding contractor.

Scaffolding needs to come down at the front of the Church so that the area over the door may be completed. Signed slates will be installed in this area.

Scaffolding in the slype area will remain in place longer, to facilitate the final work on the flat roof over the priest's sacristy.

The project has been reviewed throughout by our architect/consultant, DBVW. The quality of work remains well within specification.

We have tentative plans for a wrap-up meeting with Eagle, DBVW, and Christ Church, scheduled for Oct. 29th at 10am., to be confirmed this week.

There will remain some minor clean-up issues into November, but we anticipate full completion well within the 120 day contract allowance.

I continue to believe that this project has been a fruitful use of our time, talent and treasure, and we should be proud of the result.

Respectfully, John Wilks, Clerk
Acolytes In Training
Family Day at Clark Farms
Treats & Eats Party
FIELDS OF FIRE CONFIRMATION CLASS TRIP
I’d like to thank my Christ Church family for a lovely celebration of my retirement. You were all so generous! I know that we will be there for each other in good times and bad. This is what a family does. I am humbled and most grateful. Thank you all.

Thanks, Barbara
Christian Formation is the lifelong process of growing in our relationship with God, self, others and all creation. We are continuing on with this process in our Sunday School program with energy and enthusiasm! Our fall events were so successful with hayrides and corn mazes at Clark Farms, witches eyeballs, vampire tongues and zombie toe touching at the annual trick or treat party filled with spooktacular costumes and hosted by our incredibly clever teens. We had a daring evening of challenges and bonding at Fields of Fire ropes courses with our confirmation class as well last month. The kids have been meeting regularly, minimally twice a month, enacting baptisms, hearing about the creeds, creating their own creeds, learning about ways in which their world influences them through social media and how God and creeds can support them and most recently participating in the Compline service. Looking ahead to November, things don’t slow down for our Christian Education program! We are gearing up to help with the exciting Sermon on the Mount production by Frank Runyeon, which the kids will be selling tickets at and working the lights for, and acting as stage hands. We are also planning a parish Advent Wreath Making event on December 1. The youngest Sunday School classes have been busy learning about Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, and David and Goliath. Alison Patton’s larger than life, Goliath has added an exciting element to class while the children used a slingshot to shoot “stones” at the giant. They will be acting out the stories of Daniel in the lion’s den and Jonah and the whale. Our class of older children has twelve children, like Jesus’ followers! They have decided to call themselves the Tiny Tigers and their clever teacher, Janice Skonord has gotten them tiger pillows and headbands to match! They are creating a banner and hope to show it off for all to see! They have been studying the family of God, Jacob and Esau, and Esau meeting with the Angels. The children are also learning about All Saints Day. Lots of learning going on at Christ Church!

Sign ups for the Christmas Pageant will begin on November 24th and December 1. We will also be carolling at local nursing homes and to some of our shut-in parishioners in December. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas. —Kristy

**NOVEMBER TRIVIA**

1. The Feast of St. Martin, also known as Martinmas, comes on November 11th. Who was he?

2. The Consecration of Samuel Seabury as the first American Bishop is on Nov. 14, 1784. Do you know the history of that?

**Answers on page 16**
HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Living Supplies Closet Closed:

November 28th
December 24th and 26th

Building & Office Closed:

November 28th and 29th

PRAYER LIST

Please help us keep our prayer list current! Please take a look and send any updates to the

secretary.christchurch@verizon.net.

Please also contact us if you would like to be placed on the Thanksgiving List of Healing.

Thank you, The Pastoral Care Commission.

TRIVIA ANSWERS (from previous page)

1. Martin of Tours, one of the patron saints of France, was born around 330 AD (some sources say 316). After a term of service in the Roman army, he traveled about Europe, after a vision of Christ impelled him to baptism and the religious life. He met and joined Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, whom he had come to admire for his defense of orthodoxy. Hilary ordained him around 353, and then inspired by the new monastic movement coming from Egypt, Martin established a hermitage nearby. He was elected Bishop of Tours in 372, to his annoyance, and he agreed to accept the position only if he were allowed to keep his strict, ascetic habit of life. His monastery near Tours had a great influence on the development of Celtic monasticism, and his shrine at Tours became a popular site for pilgrimages and for those seeking sanctuary. He died on Nov. 11, 397. 2. Seabury was born in Groton, CT on Nov. 30, 1729. He was ordained in England in 1753, was rector of two churches in NY, and served as a chaplain in the British army during the American Revolution. After the war, he served the new nation and was selected, along with another priest, to become bishop, but the problem was, they would have to sail back to England to be consecrated. The other priest declined, but Seabury took the opportunity to become the first American (Episcopal) bishop, and took the voyage. In England, after he was refused by the Church of England, since he would not swear allegiance to the king, arrangements were made to meet with certain Scottish bishops, who said they would do it without the oath, as long as some of their Scottish rites were included in the colonial liturgy, and the deed was done in Aberdeen on Nov. 14, 1784. Upon his return home, he was recognized as Bishop of CT in 1785, and was active in the organization of the Episcopal Church at the General Convention in 1789. In 1790, he became responsible for episcopal oversight of the churches in RI and at the General Convention of 1792, he participated in the first consecration of a bishop on American soil. He died in 1796 and is buried in New London, CT.
ALL SAINTS' / ALL SOULS'
Candle Lighting Ceremony

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd
10:00 am Service

In Christianity, All Saints’ Day falls on November 1st and the day celebrates and honors the lives of all the departed Saints, known and unknown. November 2nd, All Souls’ Day, commemorates the faithful departed members of the church. Christ Church will hold a candlelight service on November 3, 2019 at the 10:00 am Service in remembrance of our loved ones who have passed on.

If you would like the name of a departed family member or friend shared at the service, please submit by October 31, 2019 via the online form found here:

http://www.christchurchwesterly.org/allsoulsday OR

Name of requester ____________________________________________

Name of loved one(s) _________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Please specify loved ones who have departed between 11/01/18 - 11/01/19__________________________________________

$5 suggested donation per family. Donations and form can be mailed or dropped off to office.
TV star
FRANK RUNYEON
in:

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

“STUNNING!”
THE REV. DAVE JOSEPH ASS. BISHOP EISCOTTAL Diocese of New Jersey

“BRILLIANT!”
Trinity Episcopal Church
Fort Wayne, IN

“POWERFUL!”
The Union Baptist Church
Mystic, CT

followed by:

Hollywood vs. Faith: The 3 Other Beatitudes
Using hilarious anecdotes from his years in Hollywood and his own family’s life, Frank helps all ages to laugh at the way the media portray the world.

Saturday, November 9th at 7 pm
At Christ Church, Westerly
Reception to follow

Tickets available during coffee hour or from Christ Church office

Tickets: $20 per family
Or $10 per person

FRANK RUNYEON has starred in over 1,000 television shows over the last 20 years... opposite Meg Ryan on AS THE WORLD TURNS, on SANTA BARBARA, FALCON CREST, GENERAL HOSPITAL, LA LAW and MELROSE PLACE. He is also an honors graduate of General Theological Seminary and Princeton University.

WWW.FRANKRUNYEON.COM

PEOPLE MAGAZINE
SAYS “REMARKABLE!”
JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR BRAVE VETERANS

On Saturday, November 9th and Sunday, November 10th, Christ Church will remember our veterans during our services. Please share the names of your beloved veterans in your life, living and departed with their military branch and their years of service.

please share your loved one’s names with the Christ Church office or email parishadmin@christchurchwesterly.org

Name of requester ________________________________
Name of veteran(s) - Please include branch, years of service, wars fought, awards, status, etc.
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Form can be mailed or dropped off to office by November 6th
Christ Church
7 Elm Street
Westerly, RI 02891
ACOLYTE
RECOGNITION & REUNION
SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 24 AT 10AM
PROMOTION OF CURRENT ACOLYTES
DEDICATION OF THE NEW VERGER GUILD

A reaffirmation of the Acolyte tradition past, present, and future.
Sunday, November 17

Presentation & Book Signing

with the author

Parish hall after the 10am service

Christ Church
7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891
(401) 596-0197 • Fax: (401) 596-6529
Email: christ-church@verizon.net
ChristChurchWesterly.org
Navajoland Update and Tour Presentation
Sunday, November 24th at 11:30 am
with George and Marlies Parent

A brief report on the history of Christ Church's outreach to Navajoland, and a sharing of impressions and visual images from our most recent "Senor Pilgrims" to the region will be presented after the 10am service in the parish hall.

Hope you can join us!
Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner: Save the Date!
Thursday, November 28, 2019 12:00 – 2:00 pm
Christ Church Parish Hall - Free!

Celebrate Thanksgiving Dinner with a traditional dinner of: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, turnip, yams, green bean casserole, creamed onions, and pumpkin pie.

We are need of Cooked Turkeys, and Pies/Desserts. Monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. We invite all to help in providing for this community dinner, free to all who would like to share on this special day.

We also have to take out dinners! We will deliver dinners to the local area. For a delivery or to make a donation, please call Christ Church office 401-596-0197, or Liz Dobson at 401-596-7164.
COMPLINE SERVICE

A beautiful sung service of Compline will take place in the church at 7pm. Before the service, we will have a pot luck supper in the parish hall at 6pm. All are welcome.

Compline is the monastic hour service sung traditionally at 9:00 p.m. By the end of the 4th century the hour services were in place in European and Middle East monasteries. Monks traditionally sang hour services originally started at 3:00 a.m. and Compline, a very beautiful service was the last service for the blessings of the day and to anticipate God’s gift of a new day.

Sunday, October 27
Sunday, November 24
6pm Potluck Dinner
7pm Service of Compline

CHRIST CHURCH
Westerly

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891
(401) 596-0197 • Fax: (401) 596-6529
Email: christ-church@verizon.net
ChristChurchWesterly.org
Sign ups are Nov. 24 and Dec. 1 at coffee hour
Rehearsals are Dec. 8, 15, 22 from 11:15-12.
It is important to come to rehearsals each week!
Pageant is December 24th at the 5 pm service.
We need your children to make this tradition a success! Many parts need filling!
Children 4 and older may participate.

To sign up, contact: pattonband@verizon.net
Mark your calendars...  
Parish Advent Wreath Making  
Sunday, December 1, following 10 am service

We will need **greens and greens and more greens**! If you are willing to cut and donate (or have someone come and cut) greens from your yard, please contact Kristy Allardyce at kristylivingston13@gmail.com, 203-209-1711 or call the church office 596-0197. Delivery of greens will be Nov. 29 by noon.

There will be sign ups in the parish hall. Wreath make and take will be $15. This is a fundraiser for the Confirmation Class trip to Night Watch in NYC at St. John the Divine.

Thank you for your support!
A Festival of Lessons & Carols for Advent

Sunday, December 1st
5PM
Reception to follow

All Welcome
The Choir of Christ Church
Christmas Bazaar Book Sale

We will have a selection of newer books, published in the last few years, which we will sell for $3 - $6. Please check your libraries for such books, as well as for older books in good condition (preferably dusted!), and bring them in boxes or bags. Leave them under the stairs to the Parish Hall the week of Thanksgiving, starting Sunday, November 24.

The Book Sale Room will be open early, on Friday, December 6, the eve of the Bazaar, from 5-7 pm, with wine and cheese. (This is a special preview for the Book Sale only, not for the rest of the Bazaar.)
2019 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, December 7  9:00am – 2:00pm
Christ Church, 7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI

Silent Auction and Raffle
* Fine Crafts * Hand-knitted Items * Visit with Santa * Poinsettias *
* Boxwood Trees * Attic Treasures * Book Room * Tag Sale
* Jewelry * Children’s Room * Fair Trade Items *
* Homemade Holiday Baked Goods *
* Thaw & Heat - Homemade Casseroles, Soups & Meatballs *

LUNCHEON SERVED 11:00am – 1:00pm
SANTA VISITS 10:00am – 12:00pm
Adults $10 * “Child Friendly” $5
Homemade Soups, Breads, Salads, Desserts

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891
(401) 596-0197 • Fax: (401) 596-6528
Email: christ-church@verizon.net • ChristChurchWesterly.org
**Chaplains:** The Reverend Sunil Chandy and The Reverend Della Wager Wells

**When:** November 2, 2020 - November 16, 2020. Although a group of us will be leaving from Christ Church Westerly on October 31st to fly out of JFK Airport.

**Where:** Room and Boarding will be at St. George’s Seminary, an Anglican Seminary in Jerusalem.

**Cost:** About $3450/person plus $1200/person for travel. A $500 deposit is required to reserve your space.

**Description:** Our Pilgrimage lasts for 14 days and combines biblical and historical studies with pilgrimage to selected sites connected with Jesus’ life, ministry, death, and resurrection. It will focus on the historical context and culture in which Jesus exercised his earthly ministry. The trip will integrate contextual biblical study with theological and spiritual reflection, encountering the roots and traditions of Christian faiths East and West. We will also explore some of the contemporary issues in Israel and Palestine. Classroom mini-lectures prepare course participants for site visits.
Service Hours

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist spoken service
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist spoken service
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Choral Eucharist w/Children’s Chapel and Nursery Care
Wednesday 7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 10:45 a.m.
Bible Study

Christ Episcopal Church

CLERGY
The Rev. Sunil Chandy, Christ Church Rector
The Rt. Rev. David Joslin, Rector Emeritus; Bishop in Residence
The Rev. Sandra Haines-Murdocco, Priest Associate
The Rev. Erik Larsen, Priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Anne Burke, Deacon

STAFF
George Kent, Organist & Choirmaster
Jacquelyn Smith, Parish Administrator; Wedding Coordinator
Dorothy Adams, Office Assistant
Kristy Livingston, Director of Christian Formation
Phillip Kurk, Sexton
Madeline Therrien and Sarah Poole, Childcare Coordinators

VESTRY
Betsey Rice, Senior Warden
Caswell Cooke, Jr., Junior Warden
Sarah Starkweather, Clerk
Stephanie Blanchette, Treasurer

Fred Allardyce
Connie Annand
Barbara Capalbo
Mike Evering
Katherine Hoxsie
Lisa Kitchen
Paul Kuhn
Doug Lawrence
Emily Mugge
Natalie Pukas
Thomas Quaratella
Richard Roy