



# Christ Church Chronicle

FEBRUARY 2021

*“...but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

*– Philippians 3:13-14*



## Forgiveness

*Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.*

*Ephesians 4:32*

I have spoken words I ought not to have said to another person. I have done things I ought not to have done to another person. After I have said the hurtful words and done the hurtful things, I have felt badly, ashamed, remorseful. Eagerly, I try to make things better. That is, I call out to God, admit my wrong, and ask forgiveness. Also, I take another step. I communicate with the one I have hurt. I take responsibility and ask for forgiveness.

Once, I argued with a fellow passenger over the use of the compartment above the seat on the plane. I had overreacted. I felt awful. After the plane was in the air, I called for the flight attendant and asked her for a piece of paper and a pen. She responded kindly to my request. On the piece of paper, I apologized and asked for forgiveness; I handed the paper to the man seated across the aisle from me. The man read my words. He did not say anything, but through his

non-verbal expression, he knew I had felt ashamed and meant the words on the paper.

In another instance, I had once angered a good friend to the extent, he told me to kiss one of his body parts. His words shocked me and hurt, but I said nothing in return. I stewed about what had happened. I forgave him, even though he never asked for forgiveness. I have not forgotten the incident, but I have not held it against him. I learned to keep from pushing his button again. We remain very close friends.

It is essential for me to forgive others and to ask God and the people of God: family, friends, strangers, et al for forgiveness. For me forgiveness has led to feelings of understanding, empathy, and compassion. Forgiveness has not meant I have forgotten or excused the harm done. It also has not always meant I have made up with the person I have hurt or who has hurt me. When I have forgiven someone or when someone has forgiven me, I have felt released from any anger, hurt, and desire for vengeance. Forgiveness has given me peace which has helped me go forward with life.

“Peter came and said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but I tell you seventy-seven times.’” Matthew 18:21-22

The point Jesus makes is that we do not count the number of times we forgive someone. As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a permanent attitude.”

*-Fr. Henry Doyle*

## Ash Wednesday Meditation: Charity

Dear People of God: I invite you to the observance of a holy Lent, a time to renew our repentance and faith, by prayer, fasting, and self-denial, and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word (paraphrased from the Book of Common Prayer's Ash Wednesday liturgy).

It is Ash Wednesday, the day when Christians focus our hearts on prayer and repentance as we begin the season of Lent. During Lent, we re-boot our practice of discipleship through spiritual exercises of prayer, fasting, and generosity. As we focus on Christ's life and ministry, leading to his sacrifice and resurrection, we begin a season of living an intentional Christian life. In popular culture – and often in practice – Christians observe the Lenten custom of “giving something up” like alcohol or chocolate or meat on Friday as a practice of self-denial and repentance.

The prophet Joel, the psalmist, and Jesus, in today's Gospel passage from the Sermon on the Mount, each call for sincere, interior repentance. The psalmist cries out: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me!” The prophet Joel urges us to return to God with all our hearts, with fasting and repentance. Jesus offers us some guidelines for a spiritual practice of repentance: giving alms, praying, and fasting in secret. Charity (or giving alms), prayer, and fasting are manifestations of the repentance and faith we are to practice with cheerful and humble hearts during Lent.

Jesus' directions for the correct methods of practicing our faith are clear. We are not to practice our piety in order to be seen and recognized by others; rather, we are to give alms, pray, and fast in the privacy of our homes and hearts. When Jesus teaches us to beware of practicing our piety before others in order to be seen by them, he urges us – indeed, commands us – to avoid self-righteousness, to fast in secret, and when we give alms, to not let our left hand know what our right hand is doing. Humility is an essential quality of the practice of giving alms, of charity.

Jesus' teaching to the gathered disciples by the Sea of Galilee echoes traditional Jewish teaching. Tzedakah (tzay-DAH-kah), often translated as “charity,” is an important obligation in Jewish thought, an instinctive way to give thanks to

God, to remember the departed, or to ask for forgiveness. In Jewish tradition, three acts gain forgiveness from sins: teshuvah (repentance), tefillah (prayer) and tzedakah, or giving to the poor. The word tzedakah is derived from a Hebrew root meaning righteousness or justice. Thus, giving to the poor, in Judaism, is an act of justice and righteousness.

While the word “charity” suggests a magnanimous act by the wealthy and powerful for the benefit of the poor and needy, tzedakah is actually an act of respect, of giving the poor their due. The spiritual benefit of giving to the poor is so great that a beggar does the giver a favor by allowing a person to perform tzedakah.

The levels of tzedakah were codified in the Talmud by the great twelfth-century scholar Maimonides but had been a part of oral Torah scholarship even before the time of Jesus' earthly life. Maimonides' discussion of tzedakah is deeply instructive for our Lenten practice of charity. At the bottom of the list is giving begrudgingly, followed by giving less than you should, but cheerfully. Awareness of this spiritual distinction has practical application for daily giving. Rather than cheerfully putting our eleven or thirty-seven or sixty-three cents change in the tip jar on the coffee shop counter, perhaps you will find yourself moved to pull out a dollar bill. Next in the ascending order of righteousness is giving after being asked, then giving before being asked. Note that these are all good things, but the greater spiritual benefit is still to come.

The higher levels of tzedakah address giving alms in secret. Giving when you don't know the recipient's identity, but the recipient knows yours, is lower on the list than giving when you know the recipient's identity, but the recipient doesn't know yours. Giving anonymously is an essential act of humility. It is even more righteous to give when neither party knows the other's identity. When we give anonymously, without expectation of acknowledgment, recognition, even thanks, then we truly become selfless, giving for the glory of God, who sees in secret. This is Jesus' point exactly.

For most of us, giving anonymously is more difficult than giving generously. Storing up treasures on earth might include having your

name at the top of a list of generous donors, while storing up treasures in heaven may take a bit more thought and prayer.

Let's look at a case study. A neighborhood church is offering its space as part of Family Promise, an interfaith hospitality network that provides shelter, meals, job support and case management for homeless families. Your parish is supporting this program as a local act of social justice. The call goes out: sign up to bring and host a specific meal, or provide a dessert, or do laundry, or perform various other tasks associated with this act of holy charity. You sign up to bring a dessert one evening and put together a pleasing plate of homemade cookies and pastries. It's late afternoon, after the church office hours, so you let yourself into the church kitchen, using the door code you've been given. You leave your offering on the counter, with a simple note, "Dessert for Family Promise", and you quietly depart. You've spoken to no one, you've not met the recipient of your small act of charity, you've not left your name. This is anonymous giving, and it feels very different from dropping off a meal face-to-face. Anonymous giving is different for the recipient as well, and it merits contemplation and prayer to discern the different spiritual benefits. Who to thank? To whom to offer gifts and hospitality? In the absence of a

designated giver or receiver of an act of charity, the offerings and thanks must be to God!

On this Ash Wednesday, let us focus on charity as penitence and prayer, a practice of discipleship and intentional Christian life. Say yes to storing up treasures in heaven! Establish a Lenten practice of tzedakah, charity, of simple, local acts, done quietly. Put money in the tip jar, write a check to your church or a local charity, give to a GoFundMe. A charitable act doesn't have to be about money. Include simple acts of hospitality and welcome in your practice. Smile, be kind to a stranger, write a note or card, let someone ahead of you in line. If you have an impulse toward a charitable act: do it. Act. Now. Cultivate the habit of being open to opportunities for charity. Discipline yourself to give anonymously and give thanks to God. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Amen.

*Susan Butterworth, M.A., M.Div., is a writer, teacher, singer, and lay minister. She leads Song & Stillness: Taizé @ MIT, a weekly ecumenical service of contemplative Taizé prayer at the interfaith chapel at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She teaches writing and literature to college undergraduates and writes book reviews, essays, and literary reference articles.*  
<https://episcopalchurch.org/library/sermon/charity-ash-wednesday-2020>

## Forgiveness is Healing

One part of our revamped Chronicle is a focus on a particular topic that we can then dive deeper into over several weeks. Our focus to begin this year is forgiveness. Forgiveness is good for your body, mind and spirit. You probably know that intuitively. There is plenty of research to prove that forgiveness helps heal the body and works in the brain to counteract the negative effects of anger.

When it comes to forgiveness, God takes the initiative, and when we are able to forgive someone that is a gift of grace from God, but there are things we can do to open ourselves to receive the grace as well as to receive the ability to forgive someone who has hurt us.

Forgiveness is a decision to let go of resentment. We cancel the emotional debt the other person owes us to free our self from destructive feelings. Religious people decide to accept God's grace of forgiveness and extend it to others. But that is a challenging, but nothing worth doing is ever easy. When we forgive, we feel differently. We can pray for the person rather than plan on how to get back at the person or about how they have hurt us.

I hope all of us are able to take a few minutes and think about where forgiveness might fit in your lives? Is there someone who if we forgave it would help lighten our soul? Start this year and begin that cleansing. We hope to help you along this path, but one thing I know is that the release

you experience once you forgive, instead of holding on to it, is so revitalizing and refreshing

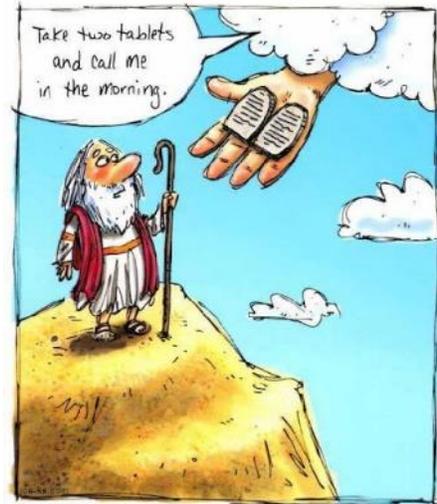
and is therefore something we each need. Blessings to you all in 2021.

- Savile Lord, Senior Warden

## Reflections - Forgiveness and Lent

*We hope to make this a regular feature of the Chronicle where members and friends of our community can share their own reflections and thoughts.*

There has been a reunion  
A friendship restored  
Trespasses forgiven  
Bridges rebuilt  
On bonds reformed  
The jagged edges of spiteful words  
Dulled and worn through time  
Hands extended  
Arms held in embrace  
In honor of shared memories  
And differences overcome  
~Daniel Montenegro



## Worship Schedule

Feb 7 (Epiphany 5)	Drive-through Eucharist 10-10:30
Feb 14 (Last Epiphany)	No Service
Feb 17 (Ash Wednesday)	Possible service to be determined
Feb 21 (Lent 1)	Online (Zoom) Eucharist 10-10:30 with Drive through Communion until 12 noon.
Feb 28 (Lent 2)	Morning Prayer (Zoom online)

## February Events

*The season of Lent is coming! It starts with Ash Wednesday on Feb. 17. The plan is for us to begin having Zoom services on Feb. 21 in the chapel section of the sanctuary where the focal point is the baptismal font. In many years of church music, one of my favorite things has always been the drama of the liturgy. To me it is most fitting that our Zoom worship will be in this location because, historically, Lent is a time of preparation for baptism, as well as penitence as we prepare spiritually for the joy of Christ's resurrection. - Gail Thurnau*

Sunday, February 7 is a busy day at Christ Episcopal! First, there will be a drive-through Eucharist from 10am to 10:30 am. Then you can hurry back home and catch the Annual Meeting online! The Zoom code to join the meeting will be sent out soon!

There currently are no plans for a service on Ash Wednesday, February 17, but that may change. Stay tuned for any announcements about that!

On Sunday, February 21, there will be an online (Zoom) Eucharist service at 10 am, followed by a drive through communion that will be available until 12 noon! Information on how to log in to the service will be sent out.

Also on Sunday, February 21, there will be a Vestry meeting at 9am.

Sunday, February 28, there will be Morning Prayer streaming online using Zoom. Information on how to log in to the service will be sent out.



*A huge and heartfelt “Thank You” to Betty Loper for her more than 50 years of service on the Altar Guild!*



### **Jerry Blakeslee**

On Monday, December 7, 2020, Jerry Blakeslee, 90, suffered a stroke. Because of an extended illness which began several years ago, Jerry had become inactive and very much missed his participation in the life of Christ Church. On Tuesday, December 15, 2020, Jerry ended his earthly journey at home surrounded by his beloved family. His wife Bev and the children have decided to celebrate Jerry’s life when we may gather at Christ Church.

Rest peacefully, Jerry, and rise majestically. Let light perpetual shine upon you, through God’s grace and mercy.



### **Prayer for Our Country – At the beginning of a new administration – BCP, page 820**

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thanksgiving, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail, all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



*“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” – Desmond Tutu*

## New Revised Common Lectionary Sunday Readings

Eucharist Lectionary – Year B

Daily Office Lectionary – Year 1

2-Feb-21	Presentation of the Lord	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84 or Psalm 24:7-10	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
7-Feb-21	Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
14-Feb-21	Transfiguration Sunday (Last Sunday before Lent)	2 Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
17-Feb	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
21-Feb	1st Sunday in Lent	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
28-Feb	2nd Sunday in Lent	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9



### Fr. Henry - Please keep me in the loop

*Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Henry Doyle*

*Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Gerald Loper*

*Senior Warden: Savile Lord*

*Junior Warden: Kenneth Johnson*

*Vestry: Peggy Havener, Jeff Shaft*

*Organist: Gail Thurnau*

*Treasurer: - Joy Shaft*

*Parish Secretary: George Favell*

Far too often, you might hesitate to inform me of your desire/need for pastoral care, because you do not want to bother me. On the contrary, you are not bothering me when you inform me of a major illness, yours or a loved one’s illness. Because of privacy issues and regulations, staff at hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities will not contact me. You, a family member, or a close friend must contact me, if you have a pastoral need.

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

*– Acts 2:42*

*Even though we may not be able to assemble as a community at this time,  
we can still be a fellowship of powerful prayer!*

## Christ Episcopal Church Birthdays

19 – Craig Havener

21 – Peggy Havener

## Episcopal Church in Minnesota Cycle of Prayer

For the month of February please pray for those who serve on the Council as Mission Area Team members, the Trustees, the Standing Committee, the Commission on Ministry, the Disciplinary Board, the Chancellors and for the treasurer of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota

Sunday, February 7 CHURCHES OF THE MESSIAH Prairie Island, St. Paul

Sunday, February 14 SAINTS MARTHA & MARY Eagan

Sunday, February 21 EMMANUEL Alexandria, Rushford

Sunday, February 28 SAINT DAVID'S Minnetonka



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## Community Communication

### Father Doyle

Home – 507-334-3742

Cell – 507-491-2695

Office – 507-333-1651

Email: [henry.doyle@s-sm.org](mailto:henry.doyle@s-sm.org)

Mailing Address: Shattuck-Saint Mary's School, 1000 Shumway Ave., Faribault, MN 55021

### Parish Office

The Parish Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursday from 10am to 2pm.

Office Phone: 507-373-3188

Office email: [cecalmn@gmail.com](mailto:cecalmn@gmail.com)

### Weekly Sunday Bulletin

Please get all items for the following Sunday to George Favell (Church Office) by 10am Thursdays.

### Monthly Christ Church Chronicle

Please get all items to George Favell (Church Office) by 10am of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the preceding month.

# Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer

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**Monday 1 February 2021**  
The Diocese of All Saints Cathedral –  
The Anglican Church of Kenya

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**Tuesday 2 February 2021**  
*Candlemas*  
The Diocese of Aluakluak – The  
Province of the Episcopal Church  
of South Sudan  
(*Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province*)

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**Wednesday 3 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Amazônia – Igreja  
Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil  
(*3 Province*)

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**Thursday 4 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Amichi – The Church  
of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)  
(*Niger Province*)

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**Friday 5 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Amritsar – The  
(united) Church of North India

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**Saturday 6 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Andaman & Car  
Nicobar Islands – The (united)  
Church of North India

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**Sunday 7 February 2021**  
*Second Sunday before Lent*  
The Anglican Church of Burundi

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**Monday 8 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Saint Andrews  
Dunkeld & Dunblane – The Scottish  
Episcopal Church

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**Tuesday 9 February 2021**  
The Anglican Missionary District –  
Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil  
(*3 Province*)

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**Wednesday 10 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Angola – The Anglican  
Church of Southern Africa

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**Thursday 11 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Ankole – The Church  
of the Province of Uganda

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**Friday 12 February 2021**  
The Diocese of North Ankole – The  
Church of the Province of Uganda

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**Saturday 13 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Northwest Ankole  
– The Church of the Province  
of Uganda

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**Sunday 14 February 2021**  
*Sunday next before Lent*  
The Anglican Church of Canada

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**Monday 15 February 2021**  
The Diocese of South Ankole – The  
Church of the Province of Uganda

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**Tuesday 16 February 2021**  
The Diocese of West Ankole – The  
Church of the Province of Uganda

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**Wednesday 17 February 2021**  
*Ash Wednesday*  
The Diocese of Antananarivo –  
The Church of the Province of the  
Indian Ocean

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**Thursday 18 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Antsiranana – The  
Church of the Province of the  
Indian Ocean

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**Friday 19 February 2021**  
*Joseph of Nazareth*  
The Diocese of Araucanía –  
Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

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**Saturday 20 February 2021**  
The Diocese of the Arctic – The  
Anglican Church of Canada  
(*Rupert's Land Province*)

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**Sunday 21 February 2021**  
*1st Sunday of Lent*  
The Church of the Province  
of Central Africa

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**Monday 22 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Argentina – The  
Anglican Church of South America

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**Tuesday 23 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Northern Argentina  
– The Anglican Church of South  
America

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**Wednesday 24 February 2021**  
*Matthias the Apostle*  
The Diocese of Argyll & The Isles –  
The Scottish Episcopal Church

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**Thursday 25 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Arizona – The  
Episcopal Church  
*The Annunciation of Our Lord to the  
Blessed Virgin Mary*  
(*VIII (8) Province*)

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**Friday 26 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Arkansas –  
The Episcopal Church  
(*VII (7) Province*)

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**Saturday 27 February 2021**  
The Diocese of Armagh –  
The Church of Ireland  
(*Armagh Province*)

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**Sunday 28 February 2021**  
*2nd Sunday of Lent*  
Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central  
de America

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# Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Present: Peggy Havener, Kenneth Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Jeff Shaft, Joy Shaft, Father Henry Doyle

Father Henry opened the meeting with prayer.

## FINANCIALS

Joy presented the financial report for last year. On the income side, the decrease in building use was quite significant; on the expense side, the decrease in clergy compensation and payroll taxes was quite significant. [Note: The President had issued the executive order to suspend payroll taxes for many months.] For income, the budget had projected \$109,800; the actual amount was \$111,036.56. For expenses, the budget had projected \$133,863.28; the actual amount was \$105,789.56. As a parish, we had approved a deficit budget. Thanks be to God that did not happen.

Joy reminded us that State Farm had moved its CDs to US Bank. Since the move to US Bank, Joy had not received a statement. She said she would contact State Farm and ask the reason for no statements.

## 2021 BUDGET

Joy presented the proposed budget for 2021. She decreased the amount we projected for building use in 2020. Everything else, except our diocesan assessment, is flat. We decreased the amount for advertising. We will make more use of social media, than advertise in the newspaper. The 2021 budget projects \$106,250.00 in income and \$127,063.84 in expenses.

The amount for ground maintenance may increase. Cindi had mowed the lawn at a

monetary rate most likely lower than the rate of a lawn service. Father Henry said Tom Jones had offered to mow the church lawn. Father Henry would contact Tom and ask him for his rate for mowing. Peggy motioned to accept the proposed 2021 budget, and Kenneth seconded the motion. All favored the motion.

Addendum: We will add a webhosting tab for \$59.00/month. Peggy had paid the monthly fee for several years. Heartfelt thanks to Peggy! Since she has responsibility for this fee, we needed to amend the budget. Jeff made the motion to amend the budget, and Kenneth seconded. All approved.

## SERVICES GOING FORWARD

On Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, Father Henry will be online at the church for the annual meeting. Before the meeting starts, he will distribute Holy Communion by doing a drive-by from the parking lot, from 10:00 to 10:40. Our meeting will start at 11:00. This is a great idea and moves us a step forward to normalcy.

On Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have an actual Zoom service of Holy Communion, at which Father Henry will preside and Gail will play some hymns. The service will begin at 10:30 and end around 11:00. Afterward, Father Henry will remain at the church until 12 noon for parishioners and friends to do another drive-by Communion. Through Zoom, we plan to have Holy Communion, the first and third Sundays of the month, and Morning Prayer the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Father closed the meeting in prayer.

Next Vestry Meeting: Sunday, February 21, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.



# February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD	3	4	5	6
7 Drive-by Communion – 10-10:30 Annual Mtg – 11am	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 ASH WEDNESDAY	18	19	20
21 Vestry – 9am Eucharist Online 10:30 Drive up Communion til 12	22	23	24 ST. MATTHIAS	25	26	27
28 Morning Prayer - Online						



*prayer for the good of your soul*



*fasting for the good of your body*



*almsgiving for the good of your neighbor*