

The Angelus

January 2019



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The **Angelus** is published 10 months a year.
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News From Our Senior Warden

Fellow Christ Church Voyagers – We are coming to the end of a nearly year-long voyage. Fr. McDuffie retired a year ago the end of January, and we have spent the time since then searching for a new rector, while trying to maintain the atmosphere of welcoming and love that characterizes Christ Church. We have had ups and downs, and things haven't always gone quite the way we expected, but as we near the end of our voyage, I think I can say we have survived it remarkably well. That I can say this is due to a lot of hard work and dedication by many amazing people. Our Search Committee, chaired by Janice Musselman, hit the ground running the day after Fr. McDuffie left. They met almost every Monday evening from the end of January until the middle of October when they presented a list of candidates to the Vestry. They held focus groups, listened to the congregation, prepared a profile of our wants and needs, interviewed candidates, visited candidates to hear them preach, and generally did an incredible job of honing the applicants down to three stellar candidates. The congregation owes a huge debt of thanks to Dave Craig, Barbara Fennelly, Honore Kaseya, Susan Lin, Emily Pearce, Lynn Posorske, Steve Renfroe, Jim Suit, Mark Wright, and of course, Janice Musselman.

As soon as the short list of candidates was presented to the Vestry, this wonderful group of people cleared their calendars so that the candidates could be interviewed as quickly as possible (and these were multi-day interviews) and a discernment process could begin. As you all hopefully know by now, a call has been made to a new rector, and this call has been accepted. We are not able to announce more about our new rector until early January, but rest assured that this was a unanimous decision by the Vestry who believe that the individual selected is the ideal person to lead Christ Church into our future. As soon as we are able to announce our new Rector, the Transition Committee will take over and prepare to welcome the rector to Christ Church. Amy Ellis is chairing this committee comprised of Joyce Bryant, Peter Heister, Emily Krebs Davis, Megan Mossman, and Allison Roulier. They will be calling on various committees and individuals as needed in this endeavor. Thanks, in advance, to this great group of people as well.

Throughout our entire journey, we have had as a guiding presence, the Reverend Cindy Simpson. She has tirelessly assumed the additional ministerial duties that fell to her in the absence of a rector, and even during the interim period, carried a more than full load. Her joyful presence, her enthusiastic sermons, and her enveloping pastoral care kept us grounded even during periods of unsettling change. To many, the Sundays on which she preached became known as Cindy Sundays. During the first part of the year, and again from now until the new rector starts, she has been and will be assisted by the Rev. Peter Bastien and the Rev. Dr. Hemchand Gossai, preachers much loved by our congregation. And while Cindy kept our liturgical processes moving forward, Michele Craig kept our youth programs robust, and Judith Schneider maintained our office on an even keel. And recently, Jason West has insured that our music program remains strong and that our choir expands its reach. Thank you to all these wonderful people.

As I mentioned, things didn't always go as we expected. We didn't get an interim rector here as soon as we had planned, and once we did, that tenure did not last as long as we had

originally intended. We lost a long-time staff member. Change came on us too fast and furious for us to appreciate or adapt to. And yet, we have not only survived, but fared pretty well, I think. We hope that people who stayed away for various reasons will come back to welcome our new rector. We hope that people who have not pledged for various reasons will once again feel the call to support the church in all that it does. I personally am grateful for having had this opportunity to serve Christ Church. It has been an exhausting adventure and one that I hope never to have to repeat, but I give thanks to you, the parishioners of Christ Church, who make it all worthwhile.

Christine K. Carrico, Senior Warden

Epiphany Sunday – January 6

7:45 & 10:00 am Services

Unveiling Fr. John McDuffie's Portrait & Reception

January 6th will be a very exceptional Sunday for Christ Church, not just because Epiphany falls on a Sunday this year, but because we will be unveiling the portrait of Father John McDuffie that was taken and presented to Christ Church by photographer Jill Bochicchio. Fr. McDuffie and his wife, Mary, as well as Jill Bochicchio, will be joining us for this special event. There will be only two services on Sunday, January 6th – at 7:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. The unveiling will follow the 10:00 a.m. service during a reception in the Murdock Room. Please join us. The portrait will be hung in the Oratory.

Inside Outreach

An Update on the Christ Church Outreach Program



*“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”
Galatians 6:2*

As we enter a new year, we have a chance to review the year past as well as look forward. Your Outreach Committee is a focal point for outreach activities at Christ Episcopal Church and is the place where a part of the church budget is donated to various charities. Last year, we continued our focus on Community Ministries of Rockville, while also donating to Loaves & Fishes, Samaritan Ministries of Greater Washington, and others. We also donated to funds we had not helped before, including the Diocesan Immigrant Relief Fund and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. As a church, we also put our hands to work. In 2018, we held another successful Rise Against Hunger event and also helped those in need in new ways by volunteering with the charity: A Wider Circle. Looking forward to the new year, we hope to continue old partnerships and will look for new opportunities, all while ensuring the funds we share with others are used wisely. The beginning of a new year brings hope for people everywhere. Perhaps we can be part of God’s love by reaching out to our neighbors, near and far.

The Outreach Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House beside the church. The next Committee meeting will be January 8th. All are welcome to attend and learn more about the opportunities to live our faith through service

to those who need us most. For further information, contact Ben Shuman at benofwater@gmail.com.

Environmental Stewardship

The Environmental Stewardship Committee's next meeting is Sunday, January 20th at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish House. Come join us! All are welcome!

St. Francis Flock

My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise His holy name for ever and ever. Psalm 145:21

HAPPY

NEW

YEAR

FROM

ST. FRANCIS FLOCK!!!!



**Mark Your Calendars! Adult Forum – February 3rd, 2019, at 10:10 a.m.
David Clough, On Animals: Theological Ethics**



We are thrilled to announce our next upcoming speaker! David Clough, Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chester in England, will be joining us on February 3rd, 2019, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service for the Adult Forum. Here is an idea of the kind of discussion we will enjoy – From David's keynote speech at the Sarx Creature Conference (March 2017): *Animals: So Who Cares?*

“Who cares? Sometimes it seems like no one does, based on how we treat them. Who cares? Sometimes it seems like everyone, from the popularity of kitten pictures on Facebook, from how many people invest time, trouble, and money in companion animals, and giving to animal charities. Who cares? Often it seems that it is secular animal groups that lead on animal issues, such as the RSPCA, or PETA, inspired by the atheistic utilitarianism of Peter Singer, or Tom Regan or Gary Francione's animal rights theory.

So what about Christians? Well, there's plenty of evidence of caring about particular animals, just like everyone else, but animals are not prominent among current faith concerns. Few Christians seem to think of concern for animals as a faith issue. I think we tend to think of animals in the same category as soap operas, or Game of Thrones, or

football, or your guilty pleasure of choice, we love them, but we don't connect them to our faith, and don't expect to hear about them in church. We confess faith in Jesus Christ, and we love animals, but we don't often put the two together. And this situation seems very odd to me, because there are strong biblical and theological reasons to care about animals.” If you would like to learn more about David, please check out **CreatureKind** (www.becreaturekind.org), an organization he formed to work with churches to foster new ways of thinking about animals in the context of Christian faith. We hope you will join us for a stimulating discussion!

Reflections on Our Recent Pet Memorial Service

With November comes Thanksgiving which, at Christ Church, has come to include thanksgiving for our animal companions. On November 18th, we came together as a community to honor and remember our beloved companion animals who we have loved and lost. In attendance were parishioners as well as members of the community, including those in the rescue community. It was a remarkable and moving service that the members of St. Francis Flock feel so privileged to have put together and participated in.



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CES: Inspiring minds to learn, hearts to love and hands to serve

Thank you Leslie Porter for opening our service with a reminder that we are never alone when we walk through the valley of death with our pets, God is with us. Thank you Cindy for presiding over our service and offering a heartfelt sermon reflecting on God's unconditional love as shown to you by your dog, Remy, who you lost in recent years. Thank you to our acolytes, Louise Keenan, Marie Matulka-Nicely, and Rachael Pepper; our readers, Louise Keenan, Rachel Pepper, and Debbie Thompson; and thank you to our fellowship food team Laurel and Jim Pepper, Laura Keenan, Leslie Porter, and Carolyn Cole for the thoughtful and delicious food and drink that was provided in the Murdock Room after the service.

A special thank you goes to Lori Nicely. We are grateful for the time, attention to detail, and love that Lori gave to preparing the music and the slideshow for the service. The music for the service was beautiful and unique. Lori was inspired to alter the lyrics of a song from the 2014 movie "Annie" ("Who Am I") for the event and was joined at the piano by Maren Lewis, John Lewis, Susan Lin, and Jim Suit to sing it under its new title "Thank You Lord" which expresses thanks to God for His gifts of animal companions, recognizes the sorrow and loss that comes with their deaths, and the praises the promise to see them again someday in heaven. Next was the slideshow of our beloved animals. Over 100 pets were included in a beautiful slideshow that Lori created. She accompanied the slideshow with live music –

truly moving piano arrangements that were timed with the slides and included a mix of traditional hymns, contemporary music, and original underscore music that she created specially to honor the memory of the pets. There was not a dry eye at the service. One of her favorite photos from the slideshow is above. Mino Lynch and his beautiful smile were rescued by our friends at the Senior Dog Sanctuary of Maryland (www.seniordogsanctuary.org). Mino passed knowing the love of people on earth into the hands of the everlasting love of our Creator. May all of our companion animals rest in peace. We loved them so.

Ongoing Activities – Great Opportunities to Help Animals and People!



- **Clean out the old in this new year!!!** Donations of gently used dog beds, old towels and blankets, and (new) pet toys are ALWAYS welcome. Many dogs, cats, and other critters are waiting for their forever families at the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center. They would love to have toys (gently used or new) to play with, soft blankets to lay on, and towels & blankets to be cleaned up with. Drop off your donations in the shopping cart in the main dining area of the basement and the Flock will deliver them to the shelter.



- **Pet Food Drive.** Don't forget our pet food drive to help keep pets with their families. Please provide unopened donations in the shopping cart in the main dining area of the basement (same cart as Manna donations) and the Flock will deliver to the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County's Chompers Pet Food Bank. Pet food donations benefit local families struggling to provide for their pets. In many cases, providing pet food to families makes the difference between being able to keep their pet or having to surrender them due to a lack of food. With our donations, Christ Church is making a difference!



- **Pet Grievance Ministry.** St. Francis Flock provides ministry to those grieving the loss or illness of a beloved pet. Please contact Carolyn Cole at stfrancisflock@cecrockville.org for more information.



- **Assistance To The Elderly and/or Disabled.** St. Francis Flock provides assistance to Christ Church elderly and/or disabled parishioners in driving them and/or their pet to the veterinarian. Please contact stfrancisflock@cecrockville.org if you need assistance.

Meeting Time: Second Sunday at 12:30p in the Parish House! All who feel called to expand their circle of compassion, please join us! For more information contact stfrancisflock@cecrockville.org.

Adult Forum

Coming in Adult Forum

January and February, 2019 10:10 a.m. – 10:50 a.m., Murdock Room

January 13th – "Reclaiming Jesus," part 2 – with The Rev. Peter Bastien

We live in complicated and difficult times for the Church in terms of our relations with the political order. How do we as a Church respond when the secular state does things that violate Christian ethical and social norms? In this second session, we will look at The Boston Declaration, a document in which Christian leaders, bishops, and theologians have tried to address these concerns. We will also look at the history of the Confessing Church in Germany during the Third Reich and also at the Lutheran doctrine of *status confessionis*. Finally, we'll briefly examine next steps – how we can join hands with non-Christian people (Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Humanists, etc.) to work for a world where Peace and Justice are the norm.

Don't miss this session with our favorite, astute Lutheran colleague! Peter and wife Pat are beloved parishioners, worshiping with us when he is not preaching or teaching in other congregations.

January 27th – Hebrew Prophets and a Just Society, part 1 – with The Rev. Dr. Hemchand Gossai

What does it mean to live a just and good life? What do the Hebrew Prophets and the Bible in general have to say about a just society? What does it mean to live a principled life? What does it mean to act justly? What does it mean to live courageously? How do we welcome and embrace the outsider? What do the Prophets say about the connection between worship and living a just life?

Don't miss this journey with "our own" award-winning professor, priest and author as he leads a lively exploration of texts from Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Micah. Hemchand currently serves as Associate Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Annandale campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. He and his wife Viera are also beloved parishioners!!

February 3rd – "Be Creature Kind" – Meet Dr. David Clough, Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chester in the UK, where he also serves as a Local Methodist Preacher. See the larger article about Dr. Clough elsewhere in this Angelus. He is enthusiastically sponsored by St. Francis' Flock!!

February 10th – Hebrew Prophets and a Just Society, part 2 – with The Rev. Dr. Hemchand Gossai

February 24th – Hebrew Prophets and a Just Society, part 3 – with The Rev. Dr. Hemchand Gossai



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ROCKVILLE REWARDS PROGRAM

Buy your Rockville Rewards card at the Bargain Box for \$25 and begin saving **10% on your entire purchase** every time you shop. PLUS, they make great gifts! There are over 150 partners, including restaurants, services, activities and health and beauty businesses. And more partners are joining every week. Use your RR card at Color Me Mine (<https://rockville.colormemine.com/>) to experience the art of having fun and painting and get 15% off your total. You can find out more at <https://rockvillerewards.com/>.



SERVING OTHERS SUNDAY

January 20



The Bargain Box will be back in the Church Dining Room on January 20 for Serving Others Sunday. Our raffle will be "winter stuff" and we can promise you some snowmen. As always we will have lots of toys and children's books, plus jewelry and other gifts for Valentine's Day. Come to coffee hour and shop.

VISITED OUR STORE LATELY? WE HAVE SOME AWESOME STUFF!



If you are looking for some New Year's Resolutions that are useful and **FUN**, try volunteering at the Bargain Box and/or donating stuff you don't want/use anymore.

Winter Weather Closing Policy

For inclement weather, we use MCPS as a guideline. However, call the store to check our open/closed status. If driving is safe and the power is on, we aim to be open!

The Bargain Box will be closed Monday, December 31 - Tuesday, January 1.

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All our profits fund outreach projects in the community and diocese.

Children's & Youth Ministries

Sunday, January 6th



Worship Service at 10am – Epiphany and the Arrival of the Kings!
Nursery is available 10am – 11:00am for infants & toddlers
Presentation of Rev McDuffie's Portrait & Celebration for ALL-11am

Sunday, January 13th



Worship Services are at 7:45am, 9am & 11am in the Church
Nursery is available 9am – 12:15pm for infants & toddlers
Children's Church begins at 9am in the Murdock Room
Sunday School begins at 10:15 in the Classrooms
5th & 6th Grade Youth Lunch & Service in the Dining Room from 12 -3pm

Sunday, January 20th



Worship Services are at 7:45am, 9am & 11am in the Church
Nursery is available 9am – 12:15pm for infants & toddlers
Children's Church meets at 9am in the Dining Room
SOS – Serving Others Sunday at 10:15am in the Murdock Room



Smart Sacks, Sandwich & Granola Making & Valentine Cards for the Troops - We make 350 sandwiches & granola bags for McKenna's Wagon and fill 280 bags of food for 50 children at Meadow Hall Elementary School who need food on the weekends. We'll make Valentine's Cards for the Troops, too!

Monday, January 21st

MLK DAY of SERVICE from 11am – 4pm Meet in the Parish House – a day to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King doing service for those in need. We will work on a variety of projects at our church and travel by Metro to Bethesda for an afternoon of lunch and service. SSL hours will be given for work completed and friends are welcome with lunch included. **RSVP** to Mrs. Craig by Jan 13th at mcraig@cecrockville.org.

Sunday, January 27th



Worship Services at 7:45am, 9am and 11am in the Church
Nursery is available 9am – 12:15pm for infants & toddlers
Children's Church begins at 9am in the Murdock Room
Fellowship Hour for Everyone at 10:15am in the Dining Room
Ice Skating for EVERYONE from 6 – 8pm at the Rockville Town Center

5th & 6th Grade YOUTH

Sunday, January 13

12:00 – 3:00pm

Meet in the Dining Room

Youth in 5th & 6th Grades are invited to lunch in Rockville & a Service Project in the Dining Room.

RSVP to Mrs. Craig by 1/7 at mrcraig@cecrockville.org



ICE SKATING PARTY

ALL Ages & Abilities!

Sunday, January 27

6:00 – 8:00 PM

An evening of Ice Skating, Hot Cocoa, Cider & Donuts

Cost is \$5.00 pp (skates included!)

Meet at the Rockville Town Center & friends are welcome!

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said,
“What are you doing for others?”



Well, some of us are meeting at the CEC Parish House on **Monday, January 21 at 11am – 4pm** where we'll begin the day with projects making dog blankets for Best Friends, packing hygiene bags for shelter residents, making Valentine Bookmarks for the Troops and packing Lent Boxes. We'll have **lunch** before joining over 500 other youth volunteers from around the area at the Bethesda Marriott to work on additional projects for the afternoon.

We will return back to the **Parish House by 4pm for pick-up.** **The day is FREE and you earn SSL Hours!!!** **RSVP by Jan. 14th to mrcraig@cecrockville.org.**

For questions relating to Children's & Youth Ministries – please contact:

Michele Craig

Director of Children's & Youth Ministries

301/762-2191 #15 or mrcraig@cecrockville.org

January 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



OTHER PARISH EVENTS

(Date/Event/ Time/ Location)

- 1 New Year's Day (*office closed*)
- Pastoral Care Committee Meeting **7:00pm** (PH LR)
- 2 CES Classes Resume
- 3 CES Preschool One-on-One Fun **9:00am** (Preschool Library)
- Chorister Rehearsals resume **4:45pm** (Choir Room/Church)
- Choir Rehearsals resume **7:30pm** (Choir Room/Church)
- 4
- 5
- 6 **Church services at 7:45am and 10:00am**
- 7
- 8 *The Angelus* Submission Deadline for the February 2019 issue
- 9 Outreach Committee Meeting **7:30pm** (PH DR)
- 10
- 11
- 12 Adult Supper Club **7:00pm** (Jack Gregory & Delia McCormick)
- 13 St. Francis Flock Meeting **12:30pm** (PH LR)
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20 "MANNA" Sunday (*Third Sunday of each month*)
- Loaves & Fishes carpool **10:15am** (leave from Church)
- Bargain Box Outreach Table **10:15am** (DR)
- SOS - Serving Others Sunday 10:15am** (CEC DR)
- 21 Martin Luther King Day (*office closed*)
- 22 Vestry Meeting **7:30pm** (PH LR)
- 23 Lay Eucharistic Visitation at Collingswood **2:30pm** (Rockville)
- 24
- 25 CES Admissions Open House **9:00am** (Jefferson Bldng)
- 26
- 27 Parish & Youth Group Ice Skating Party **6-8pm** (Rockville)
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31

JANUARY 2019 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Regular Sunday Schedule
Services at 7:45, 9:00 & 11:00am

- 7:45 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite I
A Spoken Service
- 9:00 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite – Enriching Our Worship
A Family Service for All People and Ages
Featuring Choristers of Christ Church
- 9:00 AM** Children's Church – Murdock Room
A Service for Young Children
Using a Story-Telling Theme with Music 9:00-9:30am
(Jan 13, 20, 27)
- 11:00 AM** Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Featuring Christ Church Choir
- Nursery 8:45 AM – 12:15 PM** *for infants and toddlers*
6 months to 4 years old

ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

- 8:25 AM** Choristers Warm Up – Choir Room
- 9:00 AM** Studies in Christian Faith (*led by Fran Palmer-Hill*)
- 10:10 AM** Adult Forum – Murdock Room
- 10:15 AM** Sunday School – Classrooms Preschool-6th Grade
(Jan 13)
- 10:15 AM** Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM** Coffee Hour – Dining Room

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Monday**
 7:00 PM English Conversation Practice (CEC DR)
- Tuesday**
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting (PH)
- Wednesday**
 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Church)
- Thursday**
 12:00 PM AA (PH LR)
- 4:45 PM Chorister Snacks (Choir Room)
- 5:00 PM Chorister Rehearsal (Choir Room, Church)
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room, Church)

KEY	CEC = Christ Episcopal Church
PH = Parish House	CES = Christ Episcopal School
LR = Living Room	K = Kitchen
DR = Dining Room	N = Nursery
MR = Murdock Room	YR = Youth Room