



- THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER -

PENTECOST

With a Litany for Healing



August 31, 2025 10:00am

"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

Gathered by God from many cultures | Reunidos por Dios de muchas culturas
Transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ | Transformados por la gracia del Jesucristo
Sent out empowered by the Holy Spirit | Enviados en el poder del Espiritu Santo
Christ Church Cathedral | 35 Chestnut Street | Springfield, MA 01103 | www.cccspfld.org | 413.736.2742

Service Times on Sundays: 8:00AM, 10:00AM and 12:15PM en Español Wednesday Service at 12:00 Noon

Welcome to Christ Church Cathedral. We are the Cathedral for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, and an active community serving greater Springfield. It is a blessing to have you with us today. If you are new here, we encourage you to fill out a Visitor's Card to receive more information. Our clergy and leaders would love to make a connection with you. Christ Church Cathedral is an open and inclusive community which invites all people to the incredible love of God, with no barriers of race, culture or sexual orientation. You are loved and welcomed here.

Participants in today's service

Celebrant The Reverend Jerry True

Organist & Choir Director Dr. Colin Britt

Acolytes Sean Asante, Jacob Jackson, Maame Asante & Bijou Asante

Lectors Elizabeth & Michael Stevens

Intercessor Megan Gallagher

Altar Guild Sarah Betsher & Caroline Toner

Eucharistic Ministers Mark Betsher, Megan Gallagher & Oswald Howard

Ushers Elsie Riley & Pamela Owusu

Livestream Team Stephanie Rangel & Yolanda Hernandez

Coffee Hour Host Sarah Betsher & Rachel Wheeler



Cathedral Staff

The Right Rev. Douglas Fisher
The Very Rev. José Reyes
The Rev. Canon Jerry True
The Rev. Dr. Kate Derose
Dr. Colin Britt

Bishop of W. Massachusetts
Dean, Christ Church Cathedral
Assisting Priest
Deacon
Organist & Choir Director

Mr. Sergio D'Orsini, Cathedral Canon
Music Director
Ms. Amanda Paredes
Office Administrator

Mr. John Lamoutte Sexton

Mrs. Judith Cooke Coffee Hour Liaison

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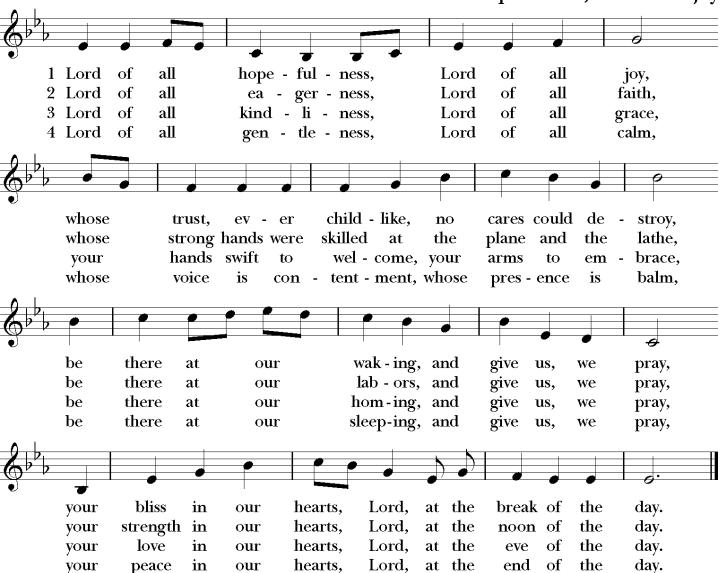
Donate to the Cathedral through PayPal: Point your camera at the QR code to the left and it will lead you to a link where you can donate electronically. We rely on the pledges and financial support of our members and friends, and we thank you for making all of this possible.



Christ Church Cathedral broadcasts and shares images and video taken at our services through social media. If you prefer not to have your image shared, please let the clergy or the ushers

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY: "Day by Day (from Godspell)" -Stephen Schwartz

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN: The Hymnal 1982 - #482 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy



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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GLORIA: Lift Every Voice & Sing, II # 241 Glory To God





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**.

THE FIRST READING – Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me

that they went far from me,

and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the LORD

who brought us up from the land of Egypt,

who led us in the wilderness,

in a land of deserts and pits,

in a land of drought and deep darkness,

in a land that no one passes through,

where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land

to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land,

and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"

Those who handle the law did not know me;

the rulers transgressed against me;

the prophets prophesied by Baal,

and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD,

and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,

send to Kedar and examine with care;

see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods,

even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory

for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this,

be shocked, be utterly desolate,

says the LORD,

for my people have committed two evils:

they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: Psalm 81:1, 10-16

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength * and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- 10 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, * "Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, * and Israel would not obey me.
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, * to follow their own devices.
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! * that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies * and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, * and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat * and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

THE SECOND READING – Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with

what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

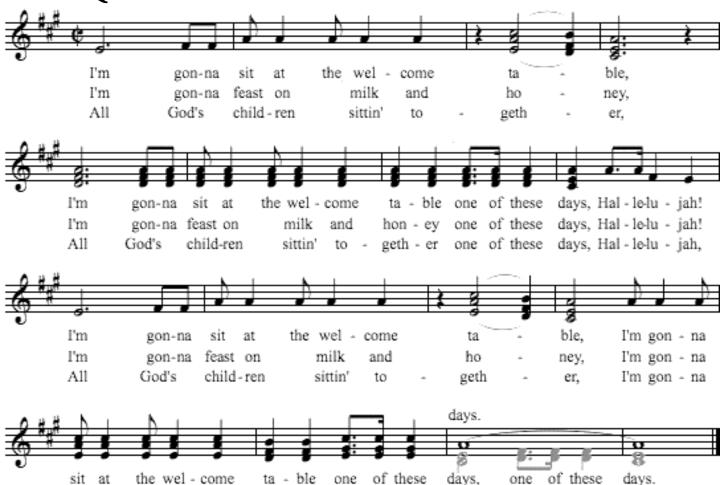
Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN: "I'm Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table"



THE HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Glory to you, Lord Christ

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jerry True

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE HEALING LITANY

Intercessor

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding.

We pray for those we name in silence or aloud at this time: Calista Dibble, Stephanie, Jasmine & Jacob, Burt Hansen, Cecily Perez, Maria Lamoutte, Sherry Branstetter, Karen and Bob Soderstrom, Kathy McBride, Monique Ray Burwell, Milagros Lopez, Charlie Murrin and his family, Robert Jewell, Sr. and his family, Charlotte Carrington, Todd Shepard, Beverly Rourke, Ann Lincoln, Joyce Howard, David and Kathy Johnston, Karen and Rich Authier, Louise Amerman, Blaise and her family, and Julius and his family.

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation; We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly; We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence; We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being; We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

We give thanks for the flowers on the altar today, given to the Glory of God in loving memory of John Harold Rourke and Mark David Rourke by The Rourke family.

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders:

You have declared your power among the peoples.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, including: Antolina Colon. We give thanks for those celebrating anniversaries this week, including Roland & Sharyn Holstead.

Hear us, O Lord of life.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

And in your light we see light.

Hear us, O Lord of life:

Heal us, and make us whole.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our companion and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good, and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens; and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

All who wish to be anointed and be prayed for may come to the altar rail at this time.

Let us pray for God's providence in the calling of our next Diocesan Bishop.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the ministry we share in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. In this season of discernment, we ask your blessing and the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we prepare to call our next Bishop. Guide us in this important work, that your mission may be furthered, and your Gospel proclaimed. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

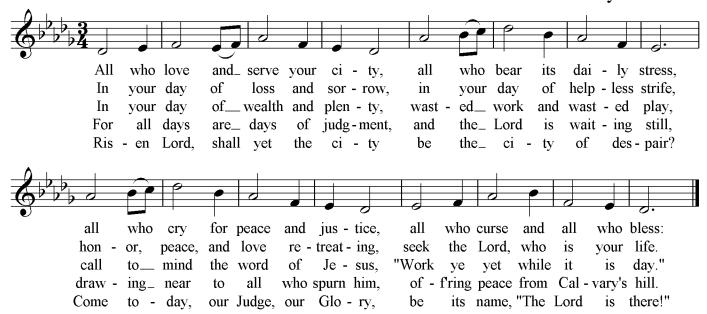
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the Offertory, the Altar is prepared. People may place pledges and donations in the collection basket during the offertory. You may also donate, and pledge online, just point your phone at the QR code.



THE OFFERTORY HYMN: "All Who Love and Serve Your City"



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up you hearts.

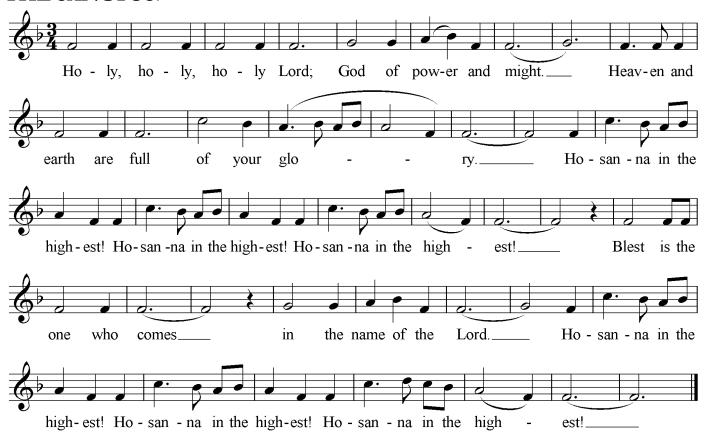
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS:



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

THE FRACTION ANTHEM:



The Gifts of God for you, the People of God.

Everyone is invited to receive the Holy Communion. Our practice is to stand or kneel at the altar rail in front, where the clergy will give you the host and then will give you the chalice. If you desire only a blessing and not the Communion, please indicate by crossing your arms before you. If you prefer Gluten-Free wafers or non-alcoholic grape juice, please tell the eucharistic ministers.

THE COMMUNION HYMN: "Once We Were No People - Evans



THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING – From Teresa of Ávila

May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let God's presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN: "O Happy Day"



THE DISMISSAL

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY: "Doctor Gradus Ad Parnassum" - Claude Debussy

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS August 17, 2025

Questions, links: Contact Ms. Amanda Paredes at cccspfld@gmail.com or 413-736-2742

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, AN ACTION CENTERED TUTORING FUNDRAISER

The ACTS Mum Sale grower had a devastating fire in March and there will be no flower sale this year. (The sales represented 20% of ACTS operating budget.) Each fall the Mum Sale helped us launch the tutoring service programs. Despite this setback, we're about to begin our 40th consecutive year with 6 sites providing free, after-school tutoring to the elementary school children of Springfield. We're asking the churches that helped us by selling mums to again support us with a September fundraiser. Please consider donating what you might have purchased in the past (or perhaps more) to help us recover these lost revenues. Your gifts can be considered a charitable donation since ACTS is a 501 (c) 3 charity. Gifts can be made in cash or check made out to ACTS. Credit cards are also accepted with processing information on the gift form. Please complete a donor form so that ACTS has a record of your gift and to enable us to send you a proper thank you!

AFGHAN FAMILY UPDATE Afzal and Sharifa wish to thank the Cathedral community for inviting them to come and meet everyone on June 29th. Sharifa regrets that she had to help care for a friend's children and therefore could not come. Afzal and the 6 kids enjoyed the warm welcome they received. We want to thank everyone for their generosity. Dean Jose presented a \$2500 check to the family from donations given by the Cathedral family. Unfortunately, there is no news to report regarding their Asylum application nor Work Permit. Dean José had the great idea that they might enjoy going to Forest Park. So, we recently took the family to the park to get them a Parking Pass and Swimming Pool passes so that they can enjoy all that Forest Park has to offer. The park is beautiful, and close to their house. We will let you know if their situation changes.

UNDIE SUNDAY UPDATE In June, we revived our Undie Sunday Event to collect underwear for our guests at the Drop-In Center. The success of our efforts has not been publicized and we want to assure everyone who contributed - it was a success! Because some of the donations were delivered to the Center early, we have not been able to get a totally accurate account but...we know it was approximately 700 hundred pieces! Our sincere thanks for all who contributed! -The Daughters of the King

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE DROP IN CENTER

As a Cathedral, we should be proud of the success of our Thursday Drop In Center! We are getting between 60 and 80 visitors each week and their needs are great. We distribute snacks, coffee, and water as well as toiletry items and clothing to folks who are struggling to meet ends and those who are unhoused. Since March, we have provided our homeless guests with 27 tents and 22 sleeping bags, which we purchase. Consequently, our financial resources have dwindled.

How can you help?

- 1. You can donate funds to the Drop In Center to help pay for the supplies that we distribute!
- 2. You can donate clean new or used clothing, especially sneakers, sandals, jeans, and underwear for both men and women.

3. You can volunteer – once in a while or on a regular basis. If you want to "ease in" to helping, just come to the Undercroft during our busiest time - between 9 and 11 a.m. - and we will bring you to the storage room where you can fulfill clothing and supply requests. We will bring you a list and you can look for the items (men's XL t-shirt, ankle socks, shampoo, etc). Then one of us will bring back your finds to the guest.

See Jahn or Gary Hart for information or contact Director Jeanne Conrad at jeanne@conrad.us.com ©

THE COLUMBARIUM AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL For those who might not know, the "Columbarium" are the niches in the Cathedral that contain deceased person's ashes. Once ashes are placed in a niche, a name plate is put on the outside of the niche with the deceased name and dates of birth and death. There are 88 niches in the Cathedral....in the corner near the Chapel. The cost of a niche is \$1200. If a couple or family want to have niches next to each other, we will accommodate that request. The cost is \$1200 for each niche; the spaces will be reserved to be next to each other. There are currently 35 niches available for sale. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with Dean José or Laura Manship (Cathedral Treasurer).

HELP NEEDED! Christ Church has been responsible for serving the Loaves and Fishes lunch the first and second Wednesdays of the month for over 25 years. A few of our helpers are retiring next month and we need replacements. It involves coming to the Cathedral at 10am, making the sandwiches and lunch items, and you are finished by 12 noon. You can volunteer for only 1 of the weeks or for both. You might be asked to buy some of the food for which you would be reimbursed. Please contact Susan Forrest at 413-244-0622 via text or call for more information or if you would like to sign up. It is a very rewarding volunteer service.

JULY 2025 CATHEDRAL FINANCES - Projected 2025 Budget shortfall: **\$44,300** Financial Position as of June 30, 2025:

• Revenue YTD: \$329,744

• Expenses YTD: \$313,568

Revenue minus expenses = \$16,176 surplus

If you are 72 years of age (or older) and are required to take Distributions from your IRA, you can make a Distribution directly to the Cathedral. This is a Win-Win – the Cathedral receives the donation (your pledge) and you don't have to pay taxes on the distribution. Questions? Ask Laura Manship 413.275.4587, or send her an email at 'Treasurer@cccspfld.org'.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED! - Christ Church Cathedral is in need for someone who could assist us with our IT needs. We are looking for a technology-minded individual to volunteer a few hours a month to helping us update, install and maintain all of our Information Technology Systems here at the church. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

THE PRAYER TEAM IS BACK! We have resumed this important ministry at the 10 am Service. During July and August, we will continue 'on duty' in the space behind the Altar in the undercroft. The Prayer Team will be available on the second and the fourth Sundays. We look forward to praying with/for you.