

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



March 29, 2026

*Questions, links: Contact Mx. Alex Blenman
at cccspfld@gmail.com or 413-736-2742*

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: MARCH 22ND & APRIL: 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

(No Sunday School on the 29th)

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Saturday event for Children and Youth - March 28th 10:45am-1:30pm

Palm Sunday - Services at 8:00am & 10:00am (in English) and 12:15pm (in Spanish)

Holy Wednesday - 12:00pm service (in English)

Maundy Thursday - Agape Dinner at 6:00pm

Good Friday - Stations of the Cross in the City of Springfield with Bishop Doug Fisher at 12:00pm; Good Friday Mass at 5:00pm in English

Easter Vigil - Joint Easter Vigil with the Episcopal Churches in our area 7:00pm

Easter Sunday - 6:00am, 8:00am & 10:00am (in English) and 12:15pm (in Spanish)

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

There wasn't very much that was good about being sick last week. However, I did enjoy writing a message to the congregation and feeling like I was able to connect with you all in the moment. This inspired me to rethink how we send out announcements at the Cathedral. Beginning next week, our announcements will look different. You will receive an email with a personal message from me, your Dean, with a reflection about a particular topic, Bible verse or event. Then you will see some announcements about life at the Cathedral. My hope is that this will be a way that I can stay connected with you and you can be connected with your Dean during the week. If you haven't yet, please make sure that you are signed up to receive our weekly emails.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH FUN-HUNDRED

Have you ever pondered questions like: What is the Episcopal Church? What's the difference between all the denominations? What are sacraments and what do they mean? How do I pray? How do I begin to read the Bible and how do I figure out what it means? How can I deepen my faith?

These are all wonderful questions. Well, do I have the class for you! I am announcing the course "The Episcopal Church Fun-Hundred"! It is a 6-week course where you can bring all your questions and learn more about the Episcopal Church, faith, scripture and mission. By attending the class, you will get:

- A fun opportunity to learn more about God and faith with your dear Dean
- The opportunity to get to know other people in the Cathedral and make lifelong friends

- A Certificate for completing the class
- A Christ Church Cathedral T-shirt for completing the class
- Access to secrets of scripture and theology that you only learn about in seminary

This is open to people 16 years and older. In order to keep the class interactive, there are only 25 spots available. Sign up fast! All you have to do is simply emailing your Dean at dean@cccspfld.org with the subject line “Episcopal Church Fun-Hundred”. In the email, let me know about your interest and what you would like to learn more about. We will start meeting in April. Dates and times to be determined by the availability of the class.

This course is open to anybody interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church and faith. This class will also satisfy diocesan requirements for those looking to be Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church.

I hope to see you there!

BEMENT WATERFIELD GRANT APPLICATIONS: DUE APRIL 1, 2026 Our Diocese provides grant funding for post-secondary education for young people who are active in our parishes and missions. Applications for the coming year are due **April 1, 2026**. Application guidelines, application form, reference form and clergy reference form are all available on the website. Complete applications must be received by the deadline to be considered. Questions? Contact kwarren@diocesewma.org.

A JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND: Led by The Very Reverend José Reyes, The Very Reverend James Munroe & The Reverend Dr. Richard Simpson, Local Guides Canon Lyad Qumri & Rami Qumri will be taking us 12 days throughout Jerusalem! If you are interested in joining such a momentous trip, or for more information, speak to Dean Jose or call the main office at 413-736-2742! Space is limited and reservations must be made soon.

PHISHING SCAM ALERT: Over the last few weeks, many of our CCC staff and members been hit with mysterious emails from someone claiming to be our Dean, José Reyes or our Music Director, Colin Britt, always asking for some kind of favor, usually, to send them a copy of the church Directory. **CCC’S STAFF WOULD NEVER ASK FOR THAT KIND OF THING VIA EMAIL. THIS IS A SCAM!** Please be very careful and only respond to emails that you trust from the cathedral. If in doubt, please call the main office at 413-736-2742!

“SHARING OUR BLESSINGS” 2026 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN: During this Stewardship Campaign Season we have dived deep together exploring our theme of

"Sharing Our Blessings." God blesses us every day and invites us to share these blessings with the world. We invite all the members of the Cathedral to fill out your pledge cards and bring them in on Sunday. We will have extras in the church if you need them. At the time of the offering, you can place them in the collection plate and after our worship service we will gather in the library for cake to celebrate. Just as God blesses us, your generosity blesses the people we serve in the Cathedral, in our community and throughout our diocese. Thank you for sharing your blessings with the world!

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS: As you ponder your gift to the Annual Pledge campaign, please consider this: Individual retirement account (IRA) qualified charitable distribution (QCD); If you are 70½ or older, you can give directly from your IRA. A QCD is not taxable and, if you are subject to a required minimum distribution (RMD), it can count toward it. Thank you!

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.

See Jahn or Gary Hart for information or contact Director The Reverend Lora Smith at lams959@yahoo.com ☺

TELL US YOUR FAITH STORY: We will be sharing our faith stories during Coffee Hour! Please contact Verger Oswald Howard to schedule your testimony.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CALENDAR If you need to put something on the Cathedral Calendar, please email Mrs. Delphine Williams for assistance at

CCCCALENDARINFO2025@GMAIL.COM. Delphine will input the information you send onto the physical calendar in the office, as well as the Google Calendar Online.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAILED NEWSLETTERS! Sign up for weekly emails from Christ Church Cathedral, receive church news faster, and connect to the office much easier!

[HTTPS://MAILCHI.MP/CCCSPFLD/CHRIST-CHURCH-CATHEDRAL-NEWSLETTER-SIGN-UP](https://mailchi.mp/cccspfld/christ-church-cathedral-newsletter-sign-up)

CCC HOMEBOUND MINISTRY: Do you have a loved one that is currently unable to make it to church services? Sign them up for our Homebound Ministry, so they can receive weekly church communications in the mail directly to their homes! Call the Main Office to add them to our mailing list!

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.

WE ARE STILL COLLECTING MEAL KITS FOR SQUARE ONE! – Christ Church Cathedral is still collecting Meal Kits to send to Square One! Meal kits are items placed in a bag that will be given to parents. They should be non-perishables or items with an extended shelf life. Please consider donating today.

UPDATED CORI CHECKS 2026: All of those who participate in the following need to have an updated CORI check to be able to engage in any ministries involving children: Sextons, secretaries, choir directors, Sunday school leaders, activity chaperones, nursery, J2A, confirmation mentors, acolyte trainers and adult acolytes, VBS, Christmas programs, ACTS, Drop-In Center. Forms may be obtained from Delphine Williams or the office and must be returned with a copy of a valid ID in a sealed envelope.

BIBLE STUDY: Weekly on zoom, Sunday morning 9:00am, Wednesday morning 8:00am, Saturday evening 5:00 pm. Links and more information are available through the office.

CENTERING PRAYER: weekly on zoom, Saturday morning at 10:30. Lectio Divino with a guided meditation every week. Links and more information are available through the office.

BOOK CLUB - meets via Zoom every 6 weeks or so. Next Meeting: Monday, April 6, 2026, at 7:00 pm, via zoom. The Book is **"Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson.** For links and more information contact Laura Manship at laura@shouldertoshoulder.org