

SOUNDINGS

Saint
Christopher's
Episcopal
Church  Winter 2023

A Gem



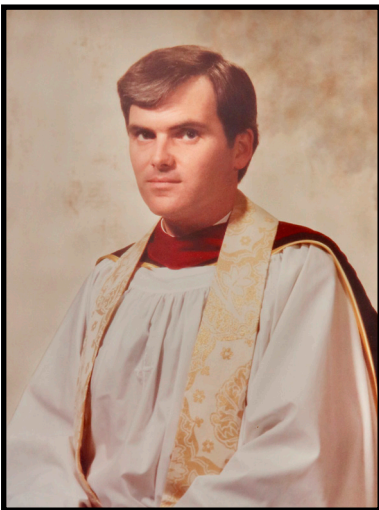
**The Rev. Brian W.
McGurk**
Rector

A few years ago a person from the “distant” past mysteriously appeared. Jamie Chalker, the Parish Administrator, entered my office and said, “Rev. Carlozzi is here, and he would like to meet you.”

Here’s the backstory: The Rev. Carl Carlozzi was the first long-serving Rector of St. Christopher’s. Established as a mission in 1963 and as a parish

in 1967, St. Christopher’s called him as rector in 1969.

I had never met him, but his reputation certainly preceded him. Everyone who knew Carl Carlozzi paints a similar picture: He was a charismatic personality as well



The Rev. Carl Carlozzi

as a gifted pastor and priest. In the late 1970s he led the expansion of the church facility—adding a new parish hall, kitchen, chapel, and administrative offices. One parishioner glowingly remembered the good reverend’s sporty convertible and sartorial flair. But it was his facility as a fundraiser that drew the biggest smile from Cliff G. He said, “Carl Carlozzi solicited a

large contribution for a new chapel *as we waited in line at the Chatham Post Office!* He presided over a growing, vital, and vibrant church before leaving for All Saints’ Episcopal Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

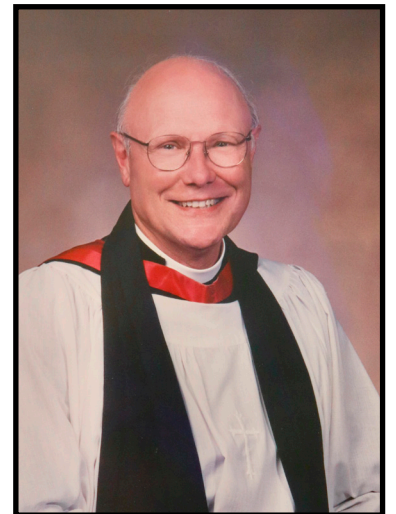
gifted pastor, priest, and administrator, he expanded the size of the congregation and deepened its mission and ministries. I was blessed to follow Whitney: From him I “inherited” a church possessing a gracious, warm, and welcoming spirit. What a gift for a new Rector! In my estimation this is St. Christopher’s greatest gift and asset.

Back to my visit with the Rev. Carlozzi. Together we sat—Carl, his wife, and me. In every way, he lived up to his reputation. He was—in fact—warm, charismatic, and intelligent. His wife was equally delightful. We reminisced about St. Christopher’s—the people, the times, and the place. And I learned a great deal about the “early” years of our church.

Here is what I did not know at the time: This was a “retrospective” journey into his past—a nostalgia tour of sorts—a revisiting and review of his life—geographically, vocationally, emotionally, and spiritually.

A few months after that visit, I read his obituary in a church publication. I was shocked and saddened, but grateful for the opportunity to meet someone I knew by reputation only; but, whose legacy directly influenced and benefited my ministry.

What I want to pass on to you is a comment the Rev. Carlozzi made to me after touring our church. He said, “Brian, I loved serving this church. And I always harbored very high expectations for what this church could be and do. What you [plural] have accomplished



The Rev. Whitney Burr

continued on p. 2

A Gem, continued

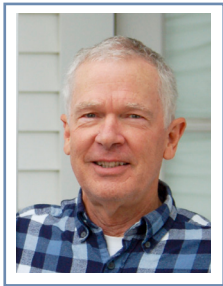
far exceeds my highest hopes.” He concluded by adding something that has stuck with me ever since: “This church is a *gem*.”

St. Christopher’s is not perfect in any way. But the warm, gracious spirit of this congregation is what makes it a true “gem.” What drew me to this church 20 years ago, and what I suspect drew the Reverends Carlozzi, Burr, and each of you, is the wonderfully warm and gracious spirit of the place. All three of us have shared the honor of leading a congregation that is a gem, which continues to sparkle with the light and love of Jesus Christ in and through all the joys and sufferings of our lives and our world.

As was the case with the departures of the Reverends Carlozzi and Burr, and is the case with mine, change will inevitably come. Questions will arise. Challenges and uncertainties will present themselves. But keep in mind: This is only a temporary transition into a wonderful future—the birthing of a New Creation. Richard Rohr, the Franciscan priest, said, “Our uncertainty is the doorway into mystery, the doorway into surrender, the path to God that Jesus called “faith.” The rich history of our church is proof positive that St. Christopher’s will continue to shine far into a bright and holy future.

Led by the Holy Spirit; the Bishop and Diocesan staff; our Vestry, Wardens, and church staff; and each and every one of you, this “gem” will continue to sparkle.

Rector Transition



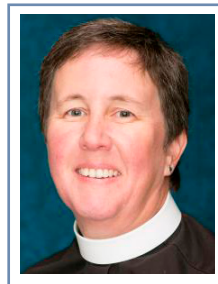
Ted Miller
Senior Warden

As your Senior Warden, this will be my first of many updates regarding our rector transition. I want to assure everyone that this transition will be in accordance with the canons of the Diocese of Massachusetts. We will begin with meeting the regional canon, Rev. Kelly O’Connell, a recent speaker at St. Christopher’s.

The wardens and Vestry are the formal, canonical leadership of our congregation until a transitional priest is appointed. Together we will be choosing a course of action best suited to our particular parish. The wardens will make arrangements for our church worship and pastoral care until our transitional priest is appointed.

At this time, I ask you to take a moment to remember any major transitions in your personal lives. Transition in our parish community will be an equally unsettling yet exciting grace-filled adventure. I feel confident that we will all approach this transition with optimism, positivity, and open minds. Together let us continue to maintain St. Christopher’s as a strong, vibrant parish community.

I also wish to share a message with you from the Rev. Canon Kelly O’Connell, Regional Canon for the Diocese of Massachusetts:



The Rev. Kelly A. O’Connell
Regional Canon,
Diocese of
Massachusetts

Dear Members and Friends of St. Christopher’s,

You are about to enter an exciting time in the life of your congregation. Rev. Brian has announced his retirement and you will be entering a season of transition. Congregations always want to know what they can do. Right now, your job is to take the next few months to celebrate your ministry with Brian and give thanks for all the work that you have done

together. We know that when there is a good leave-taking, it sets the stage for a good transition process and welcome of a new rector. During this time, I will be working with your wardens and treasurer to prepare a Transition Review which is necessary for any parish entering transition. I will meet with your Vestry some time in the next couple of months to outline the transition process for them and begin to make plans. However, we do not begin the search for a new rector until the current one has left. So, enjoy and celebrate this time together.

Please note: This update was originally shared in the Midweek Message, Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

2023 Annual Giving Campaign Exceeds Goal!



**John Sargent, Mary Cavanaugh,
& Pam Hufnagel**
*Co-Chairs,
Annual Giving Committee*

gifts by our parishioners. A heartfelt thank you to all who participated.

The 2023 Annual Giving Campaign has raised over \$565,000 vs. its goal of \$545,000. This year's fund also exceeded the total in 2022. We attribute this year's success to a number of new gifts, over 40 increased donations, and a better understanding of the importance of annual

Our annual giving is the core of St. Christopher's budget. With a relatively small endowment, we are extremely dependent on this source of funds. It supports many of our programs, staff, and gives us the flexibility to react to unexpected needs (like the flood!) without reducing services. It is also an important measure of the strength of a church. We look forward to continued success next year.



Uncommon Thrift



Louise Montross
*Manager,
Uncommon Thrift*

Uncommon Thrift completed a wonderful 2022 and "thanks" go out to so many people—volunteers, donors and customers.

We have a terrific **volunteer** force of 42 diverse and talented people, approximately half of whom come from outside of our parish. In addition, our **donors** come not only from the parish, but many come from the community as well. Many of our generous donations are brought to the shop weekly and many come from houses where we are able to obtain large collections of furnishings. Our **customers**, as you know, come from everywhere and they are happy to find the unexpected and support a good cause.

Consequently, we are not only a thrift shop to benefit St. Christopher's, but a thrift shop to benefit the whole community. In recognizing this fact, we feel a need to give back to the community, and we were able to do just that in 2022. Revenues from Uncommon Thrift enabled St. Christopher's Outreach Fund to make donations to the

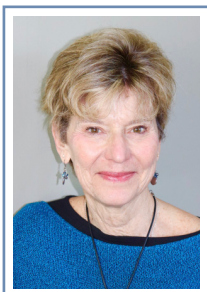
Homeless Prevention Council, Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod, Community Development Partnership, Chatham Ecumenical Council for the Homeless, Lower Cape Outreach Council, Monomoy Community Services, Goll Farm School in Liberia, and Ukrainian Refugee Fund.

For the shop to continue to thrive in the community, it is critical that we continue to give back ever more strongly to this whole community that supports Uncommon Thrift, which we will do in 2023!

Volunteers present a donation to Theresa Malone of Monomoy Community Services (below); Volunteers present a check to Maryann Campagna of the Homeless Prevention Council (right).



Crossing the Road



Judith Felton
Pastoral
Associate

Recently, I had the honor of presenting aspects of our pastoral care ministries to the parish during a Sunday morning forum. My hope was to shine a light on the pastoral care ministries that are made possible by so many. Below are some excerpts from my remarks.

St. Christopher's website states the following about pastoral care: "(Pastoral Care at) St. Christopher's entails emulating the compassionate

acts of the Good Samaritan—by crossing the road to bind up the wounds, and make whole, any and all persons who suffer in mind, body, spirit, or soul; and to reveal and share something of Christ the Healer with the world."

Crossing the road to bind up the wounds. I emphasize this because this is what the ministries within our pastoral care program attempt to do: within our parish and by "crossing the road," our pastoral care program strives to make whole those who face some of the harder challenges and transitions of life, whether it be a crisis of loss, a crisis

of spirit or spirituality, a crisis of heart and soul. And, as we do this, we want to remember that the notion of "crisis" merely means a time in one's life when change and opportunity can be discerned, supported, and held before God. I suppose I can say that our pastoral care ministries serve as mediators in this process.

There is so much that we do: bereavement support; individual pastoral and grief counseling; companionship and visitations by our trained Lay Pastoral Ministers; community worship services at our neighborhood long-term care facilities, and soon, a more extensive nursing home ministry; "Through the Storm Door" and "Friends Helping Friends" initiatives. *So much of our pastoral care is about connecting, bringing people together, forming relationships that have, at the heart of them, the power to listen.*

I can say with confidence that this is a parish, each of you as part of it, that practices justice and loves kindness, that considers its call to listen, to share each other's narrative, to nurture our own hearts and souls by cradling the hearts of those who mourn, who grieve, who need compassionate presence. Thank you.

Planned Giving Need Not Be Complicated



Rob Boas
Chair, Planned
Giving Committee

Estate planning....legacy.... bequest.

If these terms seem intimidating and make you think of wealthy people and complicated legal documents, you are not alone. But the truth is, making a planned gift to St. Christopher's is not just for people with a lot of money, and it need not be complicated. In fact, it can be as

simple and straightforward as naming St. Christopher's as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy. To do that, you don't even need to get a lawyer involved.

Over the years, many of our fellow parishioners have made legacy gifts to the church through planned giving, enabling St. Christopher's to establish an endowment that has grown to its current level of \$2.41 million. This endowment is critical to the financial stability of our parish.

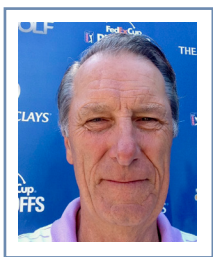
Twelve years ago, St. Christopher's established the Cloister Society to recognize and thank parishioners who had made these important donations to the church. Gifts of any amount—large or small—are welcomed.

Contact information for the current members of the Planned Giving Committee as well as a helpful brochure with more information on the ways to make a planned gift to the church may be found on the St. Christopher's website: stchristopherschatham.org/cloister-society.

The legacy gifts of past parishioners have helped make St. Christopher's what it is today, and yours can help ensure its strength for future generations.



Twelfth Annual Robert M. Lynyak Golf Event



Ron Barnes
Co-Chair,
Robert M. Lynyak
Golf Event

I want to thank the 2022 Robert M. Lynyak Golf Committee members for all their hard work in preparing for the event, held on October 24 at Eastward Ho! Co-Chair Linda Barnes, Jim Bast, John Bendas, Judy Peterson, Joe Saliba, and Lee Tashjian. As it turned out, the biggest obstacle was the weather. Only two hours before registration did we get word from Eastward Ho! PGA First Assistant, Andy Walkley, that we could play! Very exciting to drive over to the course in the dark to set up the registration room for the twelfth time.

St. Christophers Parishioners contributed to the amazing gain of \$33,900 in many ways. You not only made donations, purchased tee signs and raffle tickets, but the Milley, Onstead, and many other family members participated in the tournament. Surprise first place winners were Graeme Milley's team: Frank Appicelli, Rob Napolitano and Tom O'Shea. Second place winners were Alan Onsted's team: Erin Cook, Danny Cook and Peter Cook. The winner of the raffle ticket was a St. Christopher's parishioner.

I am especially grateful to the local community of business owners who care about supporting our mission through the purchase of tee signs. Our goal was to raise \$10,000 in this effort and we raised \$10,400.

We were successful with pre-golf fundraising of tee signs and Sunday raffle tickets weeks and months before the event. The fundraising continued the day of the event. Our goal was to sell mulligans and raffle tickets to 88 pre-paid golfers. We only had 73 golfers register. Some teams canceled the week before due to reports of foul weather. Some teams simply lost faith that the weather would hold out. The mulligan table brought in \$1,070, just short of the goal of \$15.00 per golfer. With parishioners contributions of pre-day 50/50 raffle purchases and only 24 from golfers, we raised another \$1,075. The silent auction items contributed \$1,890, \$1,500 of which was raised before the event. General donations added another \$850.

The questionable weather had turned for the worse in the afternoon and our golfers struggled to see in the dense fog that rolled in from Pleasant Bay. I waited at

the putting clock for the first team to come in. The Pro Shop team waited for them at the score board. Twelve other parishioners waited in the dining room. They were tired and hungry and ready to celebrate their efforts at completing 18 holes of golf at the prestigious Eastward Ho! Seventy-three heroes of another successful St. Christophers Golf Event.

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped with registration and working the tenth hole as a spotter. Thank you to Mary Bast, Ilene Bendas, Maria Grotz, Diane McGurk, Paul Peterson, Ginger Plexico, Bridgette Renaud, Debbie Saliba, Happy Van Sickle, Allen Ward, and Ann Ward. My final thank you is to the highly professional golf staff at Eastward Ho!

Volunteers McGurk, Van Sickle, Saliba, Bendas, and Bast



Committee Members Saliba, Bendas, and Tashjian



Celebrating Bob Lynyak's legacy at the 10 am Choral Eucharist on Sunday, January 15: Joe Saliba, Debby Saliba, Bob, Dale Alger, and Bob's son and daughter

A Sabbatical Journey



Maury A. Castro
*Organist &
Choirmaster*

“How was your sabbatical?” I’ve been asked this question countless times since I returned from sabbatical in the U.K. in late November. Not once have I known how to respond in a way that encapsulates my eleven-week journey. Daily Choral Evensongs and Eucharists; way too many cream teas; rain; the passing of a monarch; too many 7:55 am chorister rehearsals; rain; museums; concerts;

rail strikes; stained glass; rain; tombs; new friends; ruins; musical insights; organ recitals; rain.

So it sounds like sabbatical was simply life—messy, busy, endlessly fascinating, and always an adventure. But there were takeaways—many takeaways, in fact. Most of them were musical, technical, practical takeaways that would put you to sleep. But in the ceaseless round of liturgies that Erik and I attended, and it was truly a ceaseless round, I was reminded, again, the meaning of the word *liturgy*: the work of the people. When we “do” liturgy, we engage in the heart of our work. That work grounds us, brings us back to our center, and equips us to serve. Contemplating that work during sabbatical gave me a renewed conviction of the value of my vocation as a liturgist and sacred musician in our own parish.

Now here are some random photos.

Sir Edward Elgar statue in Worcester (right); Posing with a drawing of G.F. Handel, at the location in Dublin where his Messiah was first performed (below)



My daughters posing with a statue of Paddington Bear at Paddington Station in London



Traditional musicians enjoying their daily session at The Cobblestone in Dublin



508-945-2832

stchristopherschatham.org

The Rev. Brian W. McGurk
Rector

The Rev. Dr. John Martin
Priest Associate

Judith Felton
Pastoral Associate

Maury A. Castro
*Organist & Choirmaster;
Communications Director*

Bridgette Renaud
*Parish Administrator/
Assistant Treasurer*

Ali Crockett
Facilities Manager

Scott Goodwin
Treasurer

Sandra Bowden
Curator, The Gallery

Peter & Linda Hughes
Managers, Food Pantry

Lou Augustin
Sexton

Parish Statistics

Baptisms

Thomas Dalton Kelly
June 12, 2022

John Kenneth Bazzle
July 3, 2022

Blake Matthew Warren
September 11, 2022

Callen Jay Dill
June 19, 2022

Archer Robert Marg
August 10, 2022

Holland Dill
November 3, 2022

Ozzy Hugh McCluskey
June 26, 2022

George Banwell Deadrick
August 14, 2022

Kaia Claire Ricci
November 6, 2022

Weddings

Jessica Batzell &
Michael Tobey
April 23, 2022

Claire O'Melia &
Colin Morris
June 18, 2022

Georgine McCarthy &
David Hankins
September 14, 2022

Kathleen Lockhart
& Tanner Buzick
May 28, 2022

Mikaela Puth & Ian Ford
July 17, 2022

Christina Rojas &
Tyler Fraites
September 30, 2022

Elizabeth Prins &
James Wyatt
June 4, 2022

Madison Acton &
Ethan Powley
August 22, 2021

Laura Wilson &
Matthew Dyer
October 15, 2022

Emma Kate Sullivan &
Harry Brown
June 9, 2022

Melissa Turner &
Joseph Maro
August 20, 2022

Kathryn Orticerio &
Christopher Nesbit
October 22, 2022

Deaths

Joan Flash Davis
March 28, 2022

Joseph (Joe) Roller
June 10, 2022

Cynthia McCue
November 14, 2022

Ann O'Connell
April 10, 2022

Priscilla (Polly) Dickson
June 13, 2022

William W. Koerner
December 6, 2022

Thomas Begley, Jr.
April 10, 2022

Helen Healy Milley
July 1, 2022

William Ward
December 9, 2022

Frederick Lofgren
April 24, 2022

Sharon A. Gould
September 7, 2022

Blair Wormer
December 10, 2022

George Goodspeed
May 19, 2022

David Caulkins Gray
April 11, 2022

Shelby Compton Gasek
December 29, 2022

Eileen Pittenger
May 22, 2022

Church e-mail list: If you are not on the church email list and would like to be, please subscribe yourself at the bottom of the homepage of the church website, stchristopherschatham.org, or email Maury A. Castro at mcastro@stchristopherschatham.org. By adding your address to the list, you will receive the midweek e-mail and periodic messages from the Rector.

Digital Soundings: All who are on the email list receive *Soundings* electronically via email, and it is available on the website. If you would like to be taken off the print list, please contact Bridgette in the parish office.



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Chatham, Massachusetts 02633

Winter 2023

Non-Profit Organization

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Spring Liturgies

Celtic Evensong & Communion in Commemoration of St. Patrick

Thursday, March 16, 5 pm

Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 2, 10 am (no 8 am liturgy)

Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6, 5 pm

Liturgy for Good Friday with the Cape Cod String Quartet, playing Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ*

Friday, April 7, 5 pm

Festal Choral Eucharist for Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9, 9 and 11 am

Choral Evensong for Ascension Day

Thursday, May 18, 5 pm

Celtic Evensong & Communion

Thursday, June 8, 5 pm



For more information, visit stchristopherschatham.org