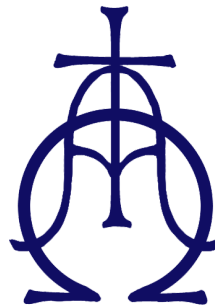


## **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH XENIA**

**NewsNote Vol. 2, No. 11**

**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Celebrant and Preacher: Rev. Jennifer**



**Service will be by Zoom this Sunday  
and by live stream to Facebook.**

**FACEBOOK link**

**Link for Sunday Worship on Zoom 9.30 am Sunday:  
click button below**

**ZOOM link**

**A message from Rev. Jennifer**

For a people who have limited mobility due to a pandemic, we are a busy people!

Coming up:

**Feb 14th (Sunday) at 10.30 am** Annual meeting (by Zoom--use the link above)

(Feb 16-Mar 1) by USPS: voting on motions from annual meeting)

**Feb 17th (Ash Wednesday) at 12 noon and 6 pm:**  
**Ashes to Go--Imposition of Ashes** (see below)

**Feb 18th (Thursday) at 2.00** Memorial service for Barbara Symonds  
**Attendance by Facebook (use link above)**

***Stay tuned for Lenten series and worship announcements.***

God bless you--

Jennifer+

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## **Those with demons**

One of the characteristics of the Gospel according to Mark is that the demons all recognize Jesus, and his people, including his followers, do not. So many of those demons are the cause of mental distress and illness--of people who have become so tormented that they can no longer live in community with others.

In my work at the university, in the church, and in my personal life, I am struck by how many people struggle with mental illness, either their own, or that of someone they love, and of the difficulty of being frank about the problem with wider world. The burden of being weighed down with despair, depression and anxiety--and then trying to hide it--is awful. I don't know if people in Jesus' day were lucky that they could think of the problem as a demon that could be exorcised, or whether we're lucky that we have specialized doctors and medications and treatments for those who do suffer. But I do know that in following Jesus, we need to learn to respond with compassion and to hope that we can be a part of the healing process. I've copied a lovely prayer that is prayed each week on [dailyoffice.org](http://dailyoffice.org)...and every week I think about this very terrible kind of suffering.

Many people have felt extra challenge during COVID. Please do reach out if you need help, and know that Jesus lovingly tended those who were ill around him, including those struggle with inner demons.

j+

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**A Prayer for Those Suffering Mental Illness**

[dailyoffice.org](http://dailyoffice.org)

O heavenly Father, look with your love on all your children who are living with mental illness; bless them with kindness and patience. Give them true friends who understand them and knowledgeable therapists with competence and compassion. Soothe their worries, lift their spirits, help them to trust others, quiet their negative thinking, help them care for themselves and give them peace; through the infinite mercy of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Your Information--at Christ Episcopal Xenia

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**Wednesday, February 17**  
**Ash Wednesday/Ashes to Go:**

**12.00 noon: Drive through Masonic Home parking lot**

**6.00 pm: Drive through public parking lot across  
from Xenia library and Nickell house**

**For Ash Wednesday, you may receive ashes on your forehead  
while in your car at 12.00 noon or 6 pm. Rev. Jennifer will wear  
face shield and mask; ashes will be imposed with disposable Q-  
tip**

**We will ponder together the meaning of Ash Wednesday  
throughout Lent.**

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**February 7, 2021 Epiphany 5**  
**First Sunday**

**Preacher: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore**

**Scripture Readings for February 7**

**Isaiah 40:21-31**  
**Psalm 147:1-12**

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

**Mark 1:29-39**

*you can find copies of the scripture on our weekly devotional  
at the bottom of this note*

### *Stewardship and Pledges*

We are behind in receiving 2020 pledges

***Please help us close the 2020 financial year with your remaining pledge,***

***We also have only received about half of our pledges for 2021. You will receive your pledge card and a stamped envelope in the mail***

**Click on the [button below](#) if you'd like to give your pledge via the Diocese of Southern Ohio (this is set up especially for churches like ours). You can also mail or deliver your pledge to Becky at Nickell House.**

Give pledge online

### **++Parish Prayer List++**

***Please contact church office to update or add names***

**Prayers for your daily devotions**

#### **Healing**

For Karen Cummings, Cheryl, Ruth Hazel, Ruby Webster, Clois, Aubyrn, Holly, Jim S, Barbara B., Roxanne, McKinsey, Billy, Deb, Bob, Brad, Marilyn, Heather, and for all who suffer from COVID-19.

#### **In God's Nearer Presence**

Andrew H, Maxine and Larry's brother-in-law  
Vickie F.

Larry Killian, Jon Feinour's father-in-law

Rev. Stephen Casey

For all victims of COVID-19

All the victims of racial unrest

**We pray for comfort and healing for those who grieve, especially for Courtney, Maxine, Larry, and Cynda.**

**On-going prayer**

*If a name has been removed from the list that you would like to see here, please let Rev. Jennifer or Becky know.*

Amelia, Cynda, Madysun, David O, John G, Diana, Peter, Rev John T, David E., Olivea,

Diocese of Southern Ohio

***Please keep our diocese in your prayers, especially Bishop Ken, Bishop Nedi, and Bishop Wendell, and the Standing Committee who will be serving the diocese for the coming months as we discern the process for calling a new bishop.***

**++Sermons++**

***Fr. Mike Kreutzer's Sermon Jan 31: Click below***

**[++Fr. Mike's Sermon++](#)**

**On-going Outreach at Christ Episcopal Xenia:  
Clothes Etc. with added ministry**

Clothes, Etc., has added a new dimension to its ministry and is now providing clothes for children in foster care who may have only the clothes on their backs when they leave their homes. We still have local people come in for their clothing needs, but also have **times for social workers to pick up prepared clothing packets** that provide a change of clothes in the right size all ready to go.

In particular, clothing for older children sizes 12-18 is always needed. If you or friends with older children are cleaning closets, or if you just want to donate, here is a list of what they could use.

**Clothing for older boys and girls: sizes 12-18**

Jeans/pants (both)

Long sleeved warm shirts (both)

Socks (both)

Sweatshirts (both)

Cotton tshirts (boys)

Tops (girls)

Coats, hats, gloves

**New** underwear and panties (all other clothes can be used clothing)

Athletic bras (girls)

## Hygiene Items

Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Deodorant  
hairbrush

### ++Christian Formation++

#### Weekly Devotional

Our readings this week include exploration of hunger--spiritual and physical hunger. Suzanne Guthrie's weekly devotional is found at the button below. At the top left hand corner you will find the readings of the week.

Here is the link for the week's readings as well as the devotional **Edge of the Enclosure**

#### Weekly Devotional

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#### **A Prayer for Medical Scientists ...as we await our vaccines...**

God of wisdom,  
bless medical scientists and researchers around the world  
with insight and skill, dedication and fortitude  
as they combat coronavirus,  
so that their work yields knowledge and understanding,  
speedily finding a vaccine, treatments and deterrents to its spread.  
Source of life,  
grant public health and government officials  
the strength to act swiftly and decisively  
with compassion and understanding  
in service to humankind,  
fighting this outbreak  
and the other diseases that still plague the planet,  
diseases threatening the lives of our brothers and sisters,  
nations and communities,  
young and old.  
Rock of Ages,  
bring an end to disease and suffering  
so that all may know  
your compassion and your grace.  
Praised are You, Adonai, healer of flesh, maker of wonders. Amen.

from [dailyoffice.org](http://dailyoffice.org)

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Tue, Feb 2, 2021 at 10:01 AM

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