

# The Carpenter's Helper

*This Week..we are praying for seafarers*



A group of our faith family has been working hard to put together a children's worship and Sunday school program for this unprecedented season of Covid-19, and a solid structure to carry us forward into the future.

**A survey was emailed to you earlier this week. Please take some time to complete this survey before Friday, Sept 25th.**

Not to be too corny, but it's true: the children are our future. A Sunday school program is important to fostering that future. Youth can not only learn about God and the faith, but they also find mentors, meet friends, form good habits, and foster a feeling that they are loved and valued members of our faith family.

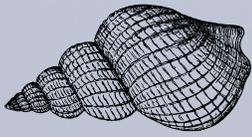
This survey is not only for adults, but also for youth ages 12+. It will help to build a program where the our kids can explore the biblical stories, and connect God's story to their own. If you are missing the survey email, please let the office know and it can be resent or a physical copy mailed.

## **During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well.**

We are worshiping via live streaming on YouTube (See our YouTube Channel and hit Subscribe!). The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request.

We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark Community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always. For more, see the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware COVID-19 site.



# Sea Sunday



This Sunday, we're asking you to remember seafarers as they play a vital role in the fight against COVID-19. They're not just keeping our supermarket shelves stocked through the crisis, but they're also transporting PPE and vital medical equipment to keep the world safe.

Sea Sunday – a day of prayer and remembrance of seafarers – has been celebrated by SCW (Seamen's Center of Wilmington) on the third Sunday of September for many years. Due to nationwide port security regulations, holding the service at the Center is no longer possible. However remembering seafarers, their families and the sacrifices they make to bring us the goods we enjoy has never been more important. Mariners are away from loved ones for extended periods of time when they go to work at sea, and their jobs are not without danger. Modern day pirates are all too real.

The Port of Wilmington is a full-service, deep water port and marine terminal strategically located on 308 acres at the confluence of the Delaware and Christina Rivers. Delaware's Port is the first major port on the Delaware River - only 63 miles or 4 hours from the Atlantic Ocean. The men and women who work at the port are our friends and neighbors.

Hold in your everlasting arms, O Lord, those who go down to the sea in ships. Give them patience to endure the hardships of their work and keep hope alive that they may return to their families and communities, knowing that they have served you and your human family by their strivings. *Amen.*

We rejoice, O God that seafarers of many backgrounds can work in harmony on the great ships at sea. May tensions between them decrease. Continue to breathe your Spirit into them that they may, in their daily work, manifest the unity of your entire human family. *Amen.*

Almighty God, you who calm the restless waves, bring your children who sail the seas safely into port, protecting them from all the dangers of the deep. And comfort their families who wait for their safe return. *Amen.*

Gracious God, we give thanks for merchant seafarers and for port chaplains and people in port communities who welcome strangers in their midst, providing a home away from home. May they continue to open their arms to welcome their brothers and sisters of the sea. *Amen.*

Heavenly Father, as your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, called seafarers to be his first disciples, we pray for all who go down to the sea in ships. Guard them from every peril, whether of spirit or mind or body, and bring them in safety to the end of their voyage. Hold them safely in your arms and let them feel your love. Give them patience to endure hardships, they are not forgotten by you or by those of us whose lives are enriched through their work. We also ask you to remember the families of those who work on the sea. Grant them strength, wisdom and peace of mind and spirit while they wait for the safe return of their loved ones. Comfort them and give them hope in times of fear, uncertainty and loneliness and let them always feel your presence in their lives and in the lives of those they love. *Amen.*

# HELP SUPPORT

Hope Dining Hall

Newark, DE



*Boscov's*



*better  
than  
ever!*

FRIENDS *really*  
**HELPING**  
FRIENDS

**2 BIG DAYS**

**SHOP OCTOBER 14TH & 15TH, 2020  
NO SHOPPING PASS TO PURCHASE!**

**YOU SAVE**

**20%\***  
**OFF**

**LOWEST SALE PRICES  
ON ALMOST EVERYTHING**

\*10% discount items and exclusions apply.

**WE RECEIVE**

**5%**  
**BACK**

**OF YOUR TOTAL  
PURCHASE**

**MENTION OUR ORGANIZATION BY NAME  
IN-STORE AT THE REGISTER OR ONLINE AT CHECKOUT  
& WE'LL RECEIVE 5% OF YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE.**

Visit [www.boscovs.com/friendshelping\\_friends](http://www.boscovs.com/friendshelping_friends)  
for a listing of items receiving a 10% discount and exclusions.