

January 9, 2022

St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish  
276 S. College Ave Newark, DE  
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weekly newsletter

# The Carpenter's Helper

*This Week, we wish Deacon Cecily a happy retirement!*

## Deacon Cecily



Congratulations on your retirement!  
Thank you for faithfully sharing God's love,  
not only with your word, but also with your life.  
You have made a difference in many lives  
because of His light in you.  
Thank you for being such a wonderful example of  
"The Way of Love".

## ALL are Welcome!

**Sunday**

Rite 1 spoken  
8:00 am

**Sunday**

Rite 2 with music  
10:30 am

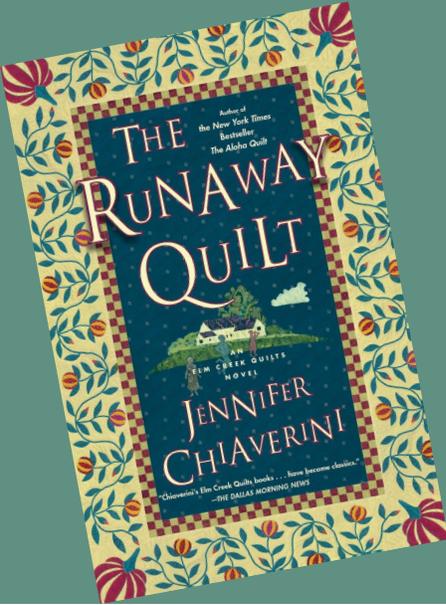
**Wednesday**

12 noon  
Intercessory Prayer

**Thursday**

7 pm  
Evening Compline

# January Novel Theology 1/9 at 9:30am *All are Welcome!*



This book chronicles the founding of Elm Creek Manor and the tumultuous years when characters Hans, Anneke, and Gerda Bergstrom sheltered fugitive slaves within its walls, **using quilts as a signal of sanctuary**. But little did the staunchly abolitionist Gerda know that a traitor was among them, placing the Bergstroms in grave danger and leading to family discord, betrayal, and a secret held for generations.



## Covid-19 Update from Bishop Brown

Hello my sisters and brothers in Christ:

With the spike in COVID cases in Delaware, the governor has issued a state of emergency declaration "to combat the winter surge of COVID-19 and hospitalizations." We are reminded again that each of us can do simple things that can make a powerful difference in returning our state and nation to health: wear your mask in public places and get your vaccine and booster. As from the beginning of the pandemic, avoid shaking hands, keep good social distancing, stay home if you are experiencing any symptoms, and remember to wash or sanitize your hands. These measures — taken individually and as parishes — will not only help us avoid spreading COVID, but they will also help us avoid spreading the flu and common cold, too. In worship, I encourage everyone to wear a mask and discourage shaking hands and/or embracing at the Peace.

Last week I tested positive for COVID. Like many vaccinated folks, I experienced a breakthrough infection. My symptoms were quite mild, and my wife and daughters all tested negative. I quarantined at home for five days, per CDC guidance, and I am now in the five-day period of full-time mask wearing when around anyone (vaccinated or not). I am back at work this week, and I really do feel fine. I am glad to know there are simple steps I can take to help minimize the potential spread to someone else.

Finally, take a deep breath and get lots of rest. Check in on each other and be kind to yourself. This is a very challenging time for us all. May we continue to look for and to behold the light of Christ in one another.

In Christ Jesus,  
+Kevin

