

THE BRIDGE

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Rev. Charles Coen, Pastor

Rev. Peter Kulandai, Parochial Vicar

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From Our Pastor....

The year of 1995 is drawing to a close and it's very appropriate that we celebrate with Thanksgiving. We thank God for all the terrible things that could have happened but didn't, and for all the good things that needn't have happened but did. Life is so full of surprises, it is good that we don't know too much in advance. If we are honest with ourselves and think back over the last year, we see so many good things happening that we don't deserve and so many evil things that could have happened to us but somehow we avoided—no credit to ourselves. It's nice to stop and think, once in a while, how lucky we are.

People in some countries are ravaged by war; their children know nothing but hatred, revenge, fear, and violence. Other people have been left with nothing through storms, floods, hurricanes, or fires. While others still have their lives ruined by drugs, broken homes, poverty, and domestic violence.

When we stop to think: "Why should this happen to them and not to us?" we do not have an answer. We can offer some answers but not the real answer: "Why am I here and not there?"

We give God thanks for the fresh air and apples, and milk and friends, and all that we have in Red Hook. We thank God for the peace, and absence of conflict. We thank God for the many people of good will whom we meet in the course of the year. And as we approach Christmas, we thank God for His Son, our Saviour, the source of our peace and good will. Let us continue to pray and work to make our world a better place and be ever thoughtful and generous to those who are in need.

Charles F. Coen

New Rectory Purchased Adjacent to the Church



THE OLD AND THE NEW: The present St. Christopher's rectory, at 102 W. Market Street (above), is for sale following the recent purchase of the house at 58 S. Broadway (below) as the new rectory right next to the church. See story on page 10.

