

Third Sunday of Lent - March 3rd & 4th

Saturday, March 3rd

8:30 am Anne Price
5:00 pm Deacon Edward Lally
Theresa McGinty

Sunday, March 4th

7:00 am Felipe G. Martinez Estrella
8:00 am Deacon Ed Lally
Gladys Bonilla
9:15 am Anne Price
10:45 am Deacon Edward Lally
12:15 pm George Bain III

Monday, March 5th

7:00 am Jeffrey Stolfi
12:05 pm Rudy & Diane Valian

Tuesday, March 6th

7:00 am Dominick Cecere
12:05 pm Alfred Carlsen

Wednesday, March 7th

7:00 am Special Intentions - Raheeda Vaz
12:05 pm John Poje

Thursday, March 8th

7:00 am Barbara Ann McGuire
12:05 pm Special Intentions for Healing -
Cheryl Lotito

Friday, March 9th

7:00 am Special Intentions Healing -
Jocelyn Becker
12:05 pm Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo

Saturday, March 10th

8:30 am Anne Price
5:00 pm Josephine Halteman - Barone
James Schultz
Consuelo Melendez

Sunday, March 11th

7:00 am John Vill
8:00 am John Mucerino
Anthony DiFalco
9:15 am Thomas Scrudato
10:45 am Michael & Teresa Arcieri
Deacon Edward Lally
12:15 pm James Miller, Jr.

*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary
Light will be for the
special intentions of:*

The Purcaro Family

for the month of March, 2018

*Please remember in your prayers all
the departed family and friends of St.
Christopher's Parish, especially:
Vincent M. Montanino.*



March 10th & 11th

Altar Servers

5:00 pm A. Anastasi, D. & A. Perez
7:00 am The Rozanitis Famly
8:00 am The Marsh Familiy
9:15 am A. To, G. Harris, A. Mogan
10:45 am C. Rizzo, L. Taylor, C. Dumapit
12:15 pm The Imperati Family

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm J. & A. Rochacewicz, E. Shabet, J. Sole
7:00 am B. Carroll
8:00 am C. Ocker, P. Luther, S. Marsh
9:15 am D. & S. Kaschalk, K. Lucibello, C. To
10:45 am B. Pactwa **Visit:** J. & L. Reinke, C. Uy
12:15 pm W. Koeller, R. Lang. M. Pasuco,
C. Walsh

Lectors

5:00 pm C. Haney
7:00 am C. Johnson
8:00 am Karen Longo
9:15 am Missy Rankel
10:45 am J. Cesaro
12:15 pm B. East

JESUS

From the Pastors Desk

Third Sunday of Lent - Living in Hope

As you move through these sacred days, praying, fasting, and giving alms, what is the hope that draws you? Today's Scriptures offer portraits of individuals and communities living between despair and hope. Lost in the desert, alone at the well, escaped from slavery, waiting for the Christ to come. From the oldest to the youngest around your table - what is it that you hope for? I once heard the renowned liberation theologian, Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez, who has spent a lifetime among the poor of Peru, give a speech. He said, "Hope is not a train". We do not wait for hope. We are hopeful because we do hopeful things. Moses cries out to the Lord and strikes the rocks. The Samaritan woman drops her bucket down the well and engages the fascinating stranger. So, what are you hoping for? How can living in hope be a reflection of the love of God pouring out of your heart?



Abstinence and Fasting

Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 (beginning of 60th year) must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means limiting ourselves to one full meal a day and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day in addition to the full meal.



Weekly Collection

First Collection \$11,929.00
(including online giving \$1,058.00)

Last Year \$10,805.75

Attendance: 718

Thank you for your generosity

20 Week Club

Our eighth lucky winner was:

#72 Don McDermott.

Congratulations!! Thank you all for contributing to such a very important fundraiser.



Religious Education

If you have any questions concerning our CCD program, please call Mary Ann Jacisin in the CCD office from Monday thru Thursday at (973) 539-6208.

Baptism

*Our next **Baptism preparation meeting** will be on March 12th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.*



First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Through Moses, God passed on the commandments he wished all people to follow. He tells us not to worship idols or take the name of the Lord in vain. All the laws God gave to us, if followed, would ensure that we could live in peace and harmony with one another as he had planned.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. Although they claimed to possess wisdom, "God's folly is wiser than men, and his weakness is more powerful than men."

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Jesus went to the temple of Jerusalem to find merchants there selling sheep and doves. He knocked over their tables and drove the animals away. The merchants asked him for a sign that he was authorized to do this. He told them to "destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up." The merchants misunderstood, and did not believe he could rebuild in three days what had taken nearly 50 years to build. Still many believed in him, after seeing the miracles he had performed.

Sunday Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25, **Monday** 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30, **Tuesday** Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35, **Wednesday** Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19, **Thursday** Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23, **Friday** Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34, **Saturday** Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14



Reflections - *We all know the Ten Commandments. It seems simple enough to follow these rules but do we really think about what they mean. Reflect on each one and consider what it means in your life. We proclaim one God, but do we create little gods - money, approval, status? Does keeping the Sabbath holy mean attending Mass or is there more to it? Are there ways we might "kill" people without inflicting mortal, physical wounds? Jesus summed up all the Commandments: Love God and love your neighbor as yourself. How well are you keeping the Commandments?*

*The command of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eye.
-Psalm 19:8b*



LIVING STATIONS will be performed at Saint Christopher's on Good Friday, March 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Anyone wishing to participate as an actor, reader, musician, or to help with lights, costumes, or props should come to the organizational meeting on Thursday, March 8th from 7:00 to 7:30 pm in the Church. If you wish to participate but cannot attend this meeting, please leave your name and phone number with the Religious Education Office (973-539-6208) or come to the next meeting on March 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Costumes will be distributed at this meeting.

~0~

- Encounter Safiata

In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more .

Parish Activities

Men's Group - Issac Jogues Society

Meets on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, in room 101 in the school.

Our Mission Statement is: "Life as a Catholic Man – A Truly Catholic and Spiritual Way of Life".

*

Monday morning adult education at 10:30 room 110.
New Topic: Pope Pius XII

*

St. Christopher's has a Pre-Cana Program, for more information please call the rectory at 973-539-7050.

*

St. Christopher's Prayer Group

Will be every Tuesday, at 10:30 am and every Thursday, after 12:05 pm Mass

Pray the Rosary every Monday – Friday after the 12:05 pm Mass.

Miraculous Medal Novena & Rosary will be at 12:30 pm every Monday at St. Christopher.

*

St. Christopher is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month. Please join us on March 3, 2018 at the first floor of the Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop; stop by for an hour or the day, you are all most needed and welcomed anytime between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. For details call Josie Mendez (973) 887-7835 or Jeanette East (973) 334-8766.

*

Jr. Choir practices every Thursday from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm and they will sing the 2nd Sunday of every month at 9:15 am Mass. Contact Therese Steinel at 973-299-7977 or Karen Blunt at 973-887-1989 for more information.

*

Martha & Mary Society - This is a group of dedicated women who maintain and decorate the Church throughout the year.

Saints Peter & Paul Society – As a companion to our Martha & Mary Society, this group handles all the handy man activities both inside & outside of the Church.

These two groups meet every Saturday at 9:00 am in the Church. All are welcome.

Come play **Bingo** with one of the best groups in town. Great food, great prizes (\$1000 worth of prizes with two 50/50). You are sure to want to return and play.

Wednesdays at 11:30 am in the St. Christopher All Purpose Room.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...

For programs and events and to register visit www.insidethewalls.org or call (973) 377-1004

The Pope Francis Society

Our program helps Hope House Food Pantry, a program of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Paterson, which in turn helps those in need. The food box will be in the entrance of the Church.

Mission statement: "If you love me, feed me".

Food List: Peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, canned corn, baking mixes, mustard, ketchup, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, toothpaste, deodorant, cold cereal, granola bars, cookies, crackers, tuna, Chef Boyardee, canned chicken meat, canned fruit, shelf stable milk, bath tissue, facial tissue, paper towels.

Pancake mix, pancake syrup, tea, coffee (ground or instant), soup, rice, canned beans (any variety), jelly, macaroni & cheese, side dishes (rice-a-roni, pasta sides, etc).

For more information contact the rectory and speak to Fr. Joe.

St. Christopher's Senior Social Club is a club to have fun and socialize. The meeting will be at the Community Center, at 1130 Knoll Road, Lake Hiawatha, N.J. Dates: **March 16th.**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **March 12th.** If you wish to learn more about the St. Christopher's Senior Social Club, please call John Mola at 973-335-8947 or Anne Purcaro at 973-887-5186.

Catholic War Veterans of America - Parsippany Chapter - Named: Chaplain (Major) Charles Joseph Watters, USA Post 1967 –CWV will meet on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm in room 101 at the school.

*

St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Join us for our next book club meeting which will be on Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00 pm in room 110. Delicious refreshments are always served, as well as a very animated discussion about the books. Definitely a fun time! The new book selection is: "**The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo**" by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

Hope to see you there, new members are always welcome.

Soft yoga for hard times at St. Christopher

Every Thursday from 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm in room 110. Come and experience for yourself the wonderful range of healthy benefits that yoga and meditation can offer you.

For more information including price, contact Penny Prospero, who is the yoga instructor at pprosperi51@gmail.com.

Parish Activities

Monday, March 5, 2018, the Women's Society will meet at 1 PM in Room 101 in school. At this meeting we will go over the schedule for the second half of the schedule. You are welcome to bring your lunch.

Refreshments will be served. The meeting is open to all. Please feel free to join us.

*

Eastlake School 5th Grade Annual Tricky Tray will be on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at The Hanover Manor, 16 Eagle Rock Ave. East Hanover, NJ 07936. For more information and admission cost please call Charlyn VillaNueva at 973-902-5232.

*

A retreat for widows - April 27th to 29th Marinist Family Retreat Center, Cape May Point, NJ 08212 (609-884-3829). Join with other widows as we look at our own individual stories for courage and wisdom. We hope to discover how in the sharing of our stories we continue to find strength and hope. There will be time for sharing small groups, Eucharist and other appropriate liturgies. Beach walks, socials and fun are also included! Cost: \$135 p/p, double occ. Visit: www.capemaymarianists.org.

The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at St. Christopher Church, 1050 Littleton Road Parsippany, NJ at 7:30 pm in room 101. Program: "I'm only happy when I'm sad". For more information please call Lilly Capriglione at 973-568-4164.

*

Human trafficking is one of the great human challenges of this century.. Millions of men, women and children are enslaved and treated as commodities - bought, sold, shared, abused and discarded. Ending slavery is everyone's work. U.S. **Catholic sisters against trafficking.** Sistersagainstrafficking.org.

*

Pro-Life Holy Hour

Join the 20/20 Alliance for a Holy Hour for Life

Experience an hour of intercessory prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday, March 7th, 7:30 pm at St. Ann's located on 781 Smith Road, Parsippany, NJ. Bring your friends and family and pray for the protection of babies in the womb.

For more information rite to life office at the Diocese of Paterson.

St. Christopher's Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop

Thank you to all our loyal patrons and looking forward to meeting new ones.

Shop Hours:

Wednesday & Friday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Located in the Old Nursery School across from the Church

Due to the extensive amount of inventory we have, we will not be accepting any merchandise until further notice.

For more information call 973-713-4939

Journey Through Lent 2018 - If They Could Speak

1. Stations of the Cross – Every Friday night during Lent - 7:00 pm

2. Monday Evening Lent Series – 7:00 pm Mass and Meditation

- a. March 5th A Woman of Jerusalem
- b. March 12th The Mocking Soldier
- c. March 19th Mary, The Mother

3. Welcome Home Sacrament of Reconciliation –
Monday evenings during Lent at 7:00 pm
to 8:15 pm

4. Lenten Dinner & Movie - March 15th
Dinner – 6:30 pm
Movie – 7:00 pm (Full of Grace)

5. Lenten Penance Service - March 21st at 7:00 pm

6. Lenten Anointing Mass – March 24th at 11:00 am



Lenten Dinner and Movie at St. Christopher

When: Thursday, March 15th

Time: Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, Movie will begin promptly at 7:00 pm

Where: St. Christopher's All-Purpose Room

Come and enjoy a simple Lenten meal of tomato soup and bread and the wonderful movie:



“There is one person in scripture that had the experience of living thirty years with Jesus from birth through His resurrection: Mary. His Mother. After a full life lived with the Son of God, fleeing into Egypt, losing him in the temple and seeing him placed upon the cross- Mary is living her final earthly days pondering her life with Jesus. Set ten years after the Resurrection, Mary, eagerly awaits the return of the apostle Peter. Arriving at Mary’s home after years of traveling, preaching and narrowly escaping death, Peter expresses the overwhelming responsibility of preaching the word amidst heresies and conflict. Providing the encouragement only a mother can, Peter re-discovers the truth: he is not leading, he is following and walking in the light of God”.

Pasta Night at St. Christopher's



Join us on Friday, June 10th at 5:30 pm in the
All-Purpose Room at St. Christopher's for our
Pasta & Pasta Night.

Price per person: \$15.00 (21 and over). Included with this price is a complimentary appetizer, clam sauce, tortellini alfredo, eggplant in marinara sauce, salad, bread, coffee, tea

SOLD OUT

****We will have some Gluten Free Pasta****

As a special feature we will have a representative of "Make Wine with Us" (www.makewinewithus.com), for a wine tasting.

****no wine purchase will be possible, it will be strictly tasting. However, you are welcome to bring your own wine (no other type of alcohol will be permitted).**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of adults attending: _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Checks can be made payable to: Saint Christopher Church

Keep in mind we are limited to 120 people, so please reserve ASAP.

Questions?? Feel free to contact the rectory at 973-539-7050 between 10:00 am / 4:00 pm daily or email Jean at jekev3@yahoo.com

Be part of...

St. Christopher's Family Easter Egg Hunt



- 3 to 8 year olds
- Meet and take pictures with the Easter Bunny
 - Join the Egg Hunt
 - Enjoy a short Easter Film
- There will be refreshments and snacks



Saturday, March 17, 2017 At 9:00 am in the
All Purpose Room



DOLL HOUSE RAFFLE

This beautiful handmade doll house could be yours, all you have to do is purchase a raffle ticket for \$5.00.

Tickets are on sale now, you can purchase them after the Masses. The winning ticket will be picked on Easter Sunday, April 1st at the 9:15 am Mass.

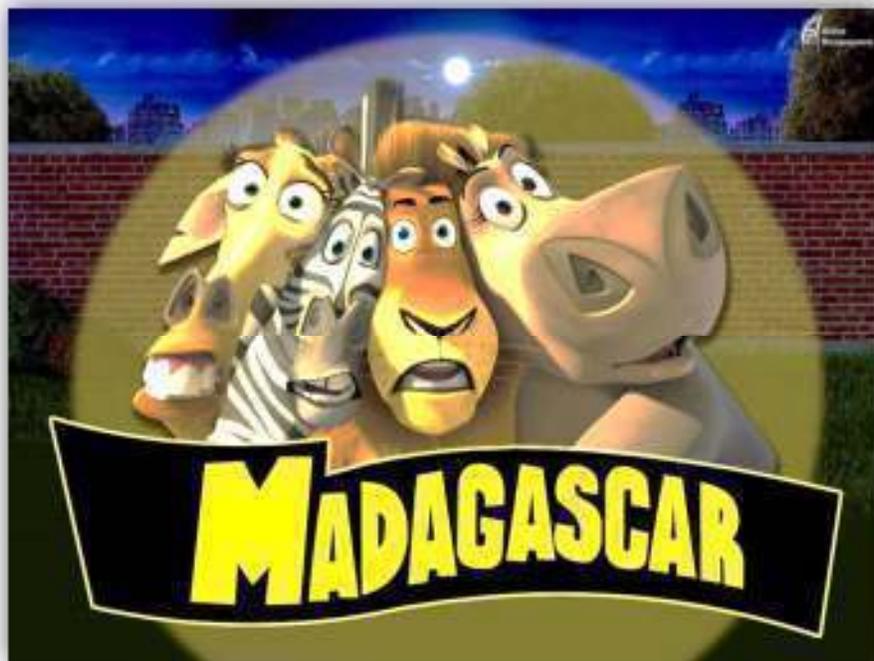
The doll house will be on display in the lobby of the Church, feel free to stop by and see it.



All proceeds from this raffle will be used to help defray the costs of running our Parish's Family Fun and Youth Activities.

St. Christopher's Family Theatre Sunday

For our *second annual* theatre outing, we have been able to secure a number of seats for a wonderful stage performance. Be prepared to be amazed at the wild musical adventure of:



Date: April 29, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm

Place: The Growing Stage Théâtre

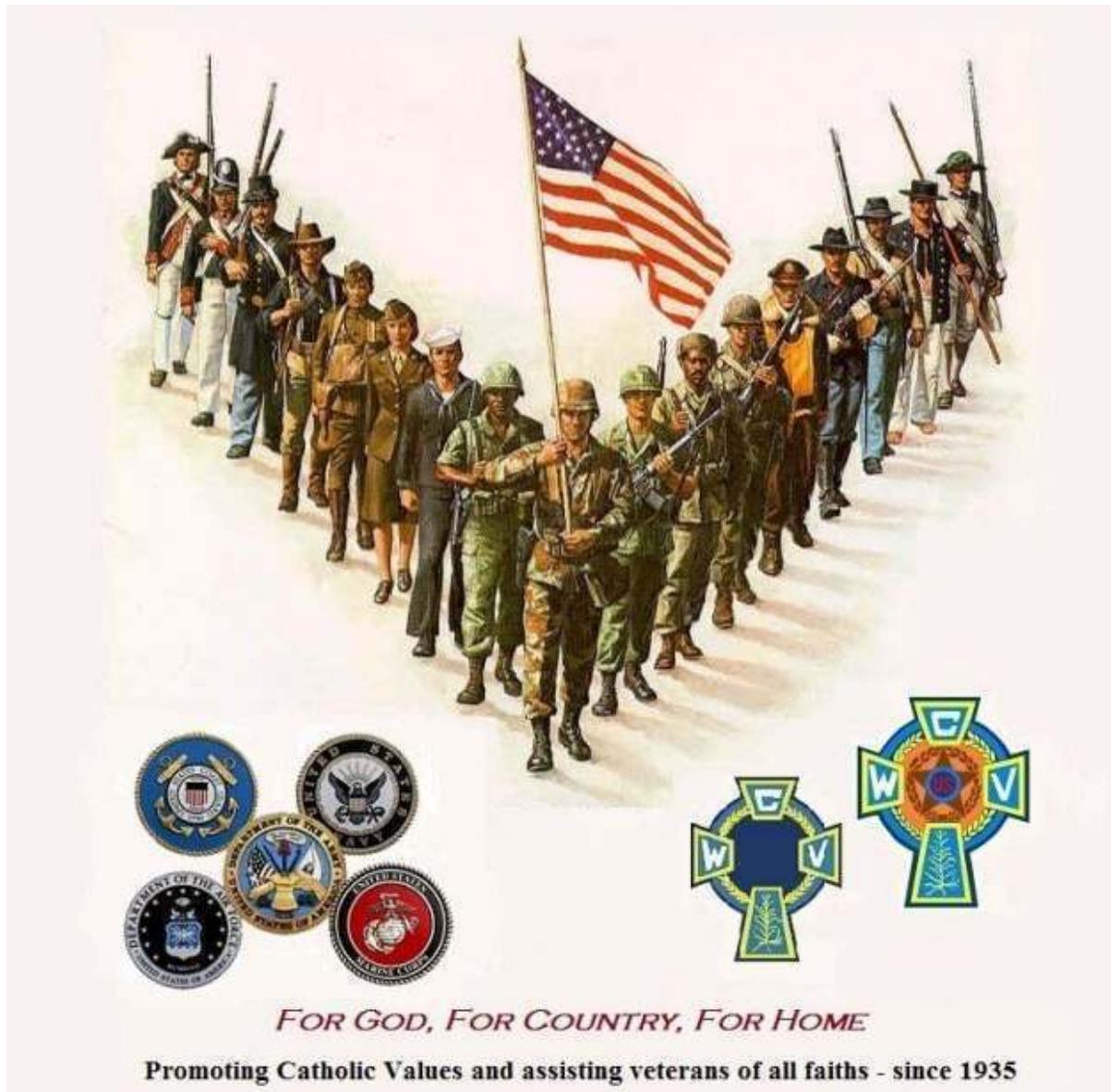
7 Ledgewood Ave., Netcong, NJ 07857

Price: \$15.00 per person

To purchase tickets and for more information call Eva at the rectory 973-539-7050 (Do not leave a message, speak to someone directly please).

We have 50 seats reserved, so please make sure you purchase your tickets early.





CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Join the CWV - We need YOU with US to help THEM

Membership eligibility requirements: Baptized Catholic, 90 days active duty, honorable discharge, any branch welcomed.

Why not consider joining us? For more information contact:

Deacon Rick Gaydo

Email: Deacon.Rick@yahoo.com

Or call: 973-539-7050

You can also visit the post (meetings are 1st Wednesday of every month @ 7:00 pm at St. Christopher's)