

Palm Sunday - March 24th & 25th

Saturday, March 24th

8:30 am Mike Cruz
 5:00 pm Edith Ann Powers
 Deacon Ed Lally
 Andrew Cicala

Sunday, March 25th Palm Sunday

7:00 am Deacon Henry Rohrmann
 8:00 am Gertrude Hurtreau
 9:15 am Frank Calabria, Sam & Connie Calabria,
 Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo, Rita &
 Mickey D'Ambrosa
 10:45 am Deacon Ed Lally
 12:15 pm Melvyn Patrick Lopez
 Renato Santos Magcase

Monday, March 26th

7:00 am Genevieve Ragucci
 12:05 pm Carmelo Gambino
 Special Intentions for Healing
 Christina Azares

Tuesday, March 27th

7:00 am Jerry Stolfi
 12:05 pm Col. Paul A. Kelly
 Robert Hartmann

Wednesday, March 28th

7:00 am Eva Rodriguez
 12:05 pm Special Intentions for Healing -
 Kathi Marshall

Thursday, March 29th Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Mass of the Last Supper

Friday, March 30th Good Friday

3:00 pm Service
 7:00 pm Living Stations

Saturday, March 31st Holy Saturday

11:30 am Blessing of the Food
 7:00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 1st Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 am Anne Paterno
 Josefina Renn
 John Ruscus
 8:00 am Chorny, Osterhaut, Mucerino & Lanza
 Families
 9:15 am Genevieve Ragucci
 10:45 am Barbara Bilotti McCann
 Vinancio Lascano
 12:15 pm John T. FAhy
 Santos & Raymunda Ruguian

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

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.*



March 31st & April 1st Easter Sunday

Altar Servers

7:00 pm D. & A. Perez, P. Whalen
 7:00 am I. & S. Lalo
 8:00 am The Valle Family, M. Morales
 9:15 am The Imperati Family
 10:45 am J. Summa, R. Bilbao LaVieja, C. Rizzo
 12:15 pm C. Dumapit, A. To, M. Villanueva

Eucharistic Ministers

7:00 pm D. & S. Kaschalk, K. Lucibello, J. Sole
 7:00 am B. Carroll
 8:00 am J. Mucerino, L. Scangarella, C. Metcalf
 9:15 am R. DiMaggio, P. Gatti, D. Giradelli,
 E. Haynes
 10:45 am The Arcilla Family Visit: **A. Calabria,
 J. & L. Reinke**
 12:15 pm S. Kobeszko, R. Long. L & M. Sostak

Lectors

7:00 pm L. Pascale, J. Lucibello
 7:00 am C. Ramoncionis
 8:00 am J. Valle
 9:15 am A. Licor
 10:45 am A. Bilotti
 12:15 pm M. Reyes



From the Pastors Desk - The Passion/Palm Sunday

A Time to Follow Jesus (Luke 9:23)

Holy Week begins with the procession, with palms, as all the people welcome Jesus. But, this week continues the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection. But what does living Holy Week mean to us? What does following Jesus on His journey to Calvary on His way to the cross and the resurrection mean? In his earthly mission Jesus walked the roads of the holy land. He called 12 regular people to stay with him, to share His journey and to continue His mission. He chose them from among the people full of faith in God's promises. He spoke to all without distinction: the great and lowly, the rich young man and the poor widow, the powerful and the weak. He brought God's mercy and forgiveness. He healed, comforted, understood, gave hope, brought to all the presence of God who cares for every man and every woman, just as a good father and a good mother care for each one of their children. God does not wait for us to go to Him but it is He who moves towards us, without calculation, without quantification. That is what God is like. God always takes the first step, God comes towards us.

What cross might Jesus be asking me to take up now in my life?

Parishioners of St. Christopher - once again we need your help.

Due to extensive destruction caused by the number of fallen trees and severe snow storms we have had, we will be taking a collection on Saturday & Sunday, April 7th & 8th, to help defray the cost of repairing this extensive damage. Please label your envelope Storm Damage. We will be very grateful for whatever help you can give us.

****The rectory will be closed on Friday, March 30th in observance of Holy Friday. ****

Weekly Collection

First Collection	\$11,056.00
(including online giving \$ 908.00)	
Scholarship Fund	\$ 1,245.00
Last Year	\$10,480.50

Attendance: 783

Thank you for your generosity

20 Week Club

Our eleventh lucky winner:

#138 Peggy Kudlac.


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 **April 9th @ 7:00 pm** in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.*



First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Isaiah describes the pain and insults of the Servant of God. Yet he sounds hopeful when describing God as his help, knowing he will not be disgraced.


Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Paul exults Christ's great sacrifice of humbling himself to become human and die on the cross. He explains that this is why we should now realize the importance of honoring both his name and memory.

Gospel: Mark 14:1—15:47


Mark describes the events leading up to Christ's crucifixion. The Last Supper is described, explaining where the Eucharist began. Judas betrays Jesus and his suffering at the hands of the Sanhedrin (Council) is detailed.

Sunday Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39, **Monday** Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11, **Tuesday** Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38, **Wednesday** Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25, **Thursday** Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15, **Friday** Is 52:13—53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42 **Saturday** Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a; Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ex 14:15—15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7.



“The Lord has given me a well trained tongue that I may know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. The Lord God is my help therefore I am not disgraced. I have set my face like flint knowing that I will not be put to shame....Because of this God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend.”

-HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly



Do you easily take offense at the words and actions of others? Do you assume such offenses were intentional? Do you dwell on these wrongs? Consider how such attitudes affect you and your relationships. Being quick to take offense and assuming the worst of others does not nourish a peaceful spirit. It does not help us respond to others with kindness and patience nor does it allow God's love and mercy to shine through us. Consider how you might become less judgmental.

Your attitude must be Christ's...he emptied himself and took the form of a slave.
-Philippians 2:5, 7

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- Encounter our Neighbors

We encounter Jesus this week Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? 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".

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

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

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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.

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St. Christopher is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month. Please join us on April 7, 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.

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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.

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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.

There will be no Bingo March 28th due to Holy Week.

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: **April 6th & 20th .**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **April 9th.** 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.

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St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Join us for our next book club meeting which will be on Tuesday, April 3rd 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 **The book that matters most by Ann Hood.**

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 Proserpi, who is the yoga instructor at pprosperi51@gmail.com.

Parish Activities

The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30PM in room 101. **Program: Signs, Dreams and Coping!** For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

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Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. - "Our Religious Sisters in Concert" at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Paterson (free parking in the garage across the street). Several religious communities will be represented as they sing hymns and songs.

Sunday, April 15, 2018 - As part of the Diocese of Paterson's 80th Anniversary and in celebration of the re-opening of St. John's Cathedral, an Organ Dedication Recital will be given by Mr. Stephen Tharp. Mr. Tharp is an internationally renowned organist, having served as the official organist for the 2008 New York visit of Pope Benedict XVI. It will be held at the Cathedral at 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. - World Day for Consecrated Life and Religious Jubilee Mass at Saint Mary Parish, Passaic.

Vocations Discernment for young men 15-25. **"Quo Vadis – Where are you going?"** Where is the Spirit acting in your life? Where is the Lord encouraging you to go? Quo Vadis Days is a time of recreation, fellowship, and prayer to help you explore the Lord's call in your life. Activities will include prayer, Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Liturgy of the Hours, Rosary, games, sports, talks, great food, and discussions. It is a time to share our faith and meet other young men seeking God's will. Quo Vadis Days will be held **June 27- 29, 2018** at the Saint Mary's Abbey Retreat Center in Morristown, New Jersey. There is no cost. For more information and/or registration, contact the coordinators Fr. Edgar Rivera and David Monteleone in the Vocations Office at (973) 777-8818, ext. #711, by email: revedgar@patersondiocese.org.

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Smith Road Coffee House announces the launching of its new concert series at St. Ann Church (781 Smith Road, Parsippany)with Loretta Hagen Band in concert on Saturday, April 14th at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 at the door; cash or check only. Doors open at 7:30 pm, refreshments available. For more information: www.saint-ann-net or call 973-884-1986.



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

Holy Week 2018

Lenten Penance Service

*Wednesday, March 21st
at 7:00 p.m.*

Palm Sunday Masses

*Vigil, March 24th at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 25th at 7:00 a.m.,
8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.*

Holy Week Masses

Monday, March 26th, Tuesday, March 27th & Wednesday, March 28th

7:00 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.

Holy Thursday, March 29th

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Last Supper

Good Friday, March 30th

3:00 p.m. – (Service) Passion of the Lord

7:00 p.m. – Living Stations

Holy Saturday, March 31st

11:30 a.m. – Blessing of the Food

7:00 p.m. – The Easter Vigil

(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Easter Sunday – April 1st

Masses: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m.,

9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 12:15 pm

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' 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.





DIOCESE OF PATERSON

Diocesan Center
777 Valley Road
Clifton, New Jersey 07013

Office of
THE BISHOP

(973) 777-8818 Fax (973) 777-8976

March 16, 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

On each Good Friday, our Diocese takes up a special collection for the Church in the Holy Land. I ask you to give your support during this Lenten season as we focus of the place where Jesus ministered, died and rose again to new life.

The collection for the Church in the Holy Land supports the work of the Franciscans who are responsible for promoting the faith in an area where Christians are a minority. The funds raised help support and maintain the Holy Places so that all who come on a pilgrimage experience a deeper connection to their faith. Your support also helps operate schools, provide housing for needy families and staffs parishes in the area.

Our Lenten journey promotes the joy of almsgiving. Please make the Collection for the Church in the Holy Land one way to respond to this call when it is taken up on Good Friday. May God bless you for being such generous stewards!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ *Arthur J. Serratelli*

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S.L., D.D.
Bishop of Paterson