

FROM THE PASTORS DESK - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God wants to dwell in us.

We do not dare to believe or trust the incredible truth that God could live in us, and live there out of choice, out of preference. Whether you understand or not, God loves you, is present to you, lives in you, dwells in you, calls you, saves you, and offers you an understanding and light which are like nothing you ever found in books or hear in sermons. If you dare to penetrate your own silence and dare to advance without fear into the solitude of your own heart, and risk sharing that solitude with the lonely other who seeks God through you and with you, then you will truly recover the capacity to understand what is beyond words and beyond explanations because it is too close to be explained. It is the intimate union in the depth of your own heart, of God's spirit and your own secret innermost self, so that you and God are in all truth one Spirit.

20 Week Club For the next coming weeks until May 18th, we will be pulling numbers every Saturday of the winners for the 20 Week Club.

6th winner: #90 Betty Carroll.

Congratulations and thank you all who participated.

"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is in the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream: It fears not the heat when it comes, its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit.... And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said..."

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Weekly Collections

First Collection	\$ 10,241.75
(including online giving \$ 1,183.00)	
Church in Central/Eastern Europe	\$ 1,262.00
Last Year	\$ 10,154.25

Attendance 736

Thank you for your generosity

Saturday, February 16th

8:30 am Carol Miller
 5:00 pm Santiago Iglesias

Sunday, February 17th

7:00 am Elisa Raimo
 8:00 am Bill Taylor
 9:15 am Frank Calabria, Sam & Connie Calabria
 Alice Schmid
 10:45 am Anthony G. Bilotti
 12:15 pm Johanna Poggi
 Arnold Trauth, Joe Scannella

Monday, February 18th

7:00 am The Forrest Family
 12:05 pm Martyna Pietrkiewicz

Tuesday, February 19th

7:00 am Special Intentions - James Distasio
 12:05 pm Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli
 Frank Skladanny

Wednesday, February 20th

7:00 am Irene Skromek
 12:05 pm Bill Taylor

Thursday, February 21st

7:00 am Dominick Cecere
 12:05 pm Anne Price

Friday, February 22nd

7:00 am The Shanahan Family
 12:05 pm Jacklyn Zampella

Saturday, February 23rd

8:30 am Special Intentions - James Distasio
 5:00 pm Mothi Saroja Pillay

Sunday, February 24th

7:00 am Mickey Markson
 8:00 am Michael Bonomo
 9:15 am Jane Foster
 David Miller
 Scott Freeman
 10:45 am Bill Taylor
 12:15 pm Sean Maughan
 Anthony & Jeannie Scannella



The Living Flame for the Sanctuary Light will be in memory of: Anthony Bilotti & Barbara Bilotti McCann For the month of February, 2019

Please remember in your prayers those who entered into their new and eternal life in Christ recently.

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Jeremiah compares a man who seeks strength in flesh but abandons God to a bush in the desert, bereft of nourishment and unable to grow. Yet a man who trusts in God is like a tree beside a river, fed & strengthened by it even during times of drought.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Paul addresses those who believe in Christ's teachings, but are not convinced that he rose from the dead. He calls their faith worthless, because they have not been freed from their sins. Paul then emphatically declares that Jesus did rise up again, as will all those who truly believe in him.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus tells his followers that those who are insulted in this life because of him will be rewarded richly in heaven. Yet those well received by all will despair in heaven, since people had often respected false prophets and mistreated true prophets. Those who hunger, perhaps for spiritual knowledge, shall be filled. Yet those who are full in this life will be hungry.

Sunday Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26, **Monday** Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13, **Tuesday** Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21, **Wednesday** Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26, **Thursday** Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33, **Friday** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Religious Education

If you have any questions concerning religious education please contact Mary Ann Jacisin at 973539-6208, Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Baptism preparation meeting: The meeting will be on March 11th at 7:00 pm in room 101 of the school. Please call the rectory to enroll or if you have any other questions.



Let us pray for the safety of the following members of St. Christopher Parish who are actively serving in the military:

2LT. Sean Arcilla, PVT. Shane Arcilla, LCPL. Cormac Bradley, CPT. Liam Connor, LTJG Megan Costello, LCPL. Patrick DeBenedette, Airman Danny De La Esperia, J. Fortes, OP. SPEC. S. Gross II, PVT. Ryan Jandora, SGT. Lauren L. Ferrel, Capt. Luis Marti, Capt. Michael A. Piccini, Michael Simoni, SPEC. Cory Therriault,

Sgt. Philip Schlegel.

If you know of any St. Christopher's parishioner who is currently serving in the military and would like them added to this list please contact the rectory (973) 539-7050.

February 23rd 24th

<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
5:00 pm T. Lally, T. & J. Carifi	5:00 pm E. Lally, B. & M. Pactwa J. Sole	5:00 pm L. Pascale
7:00 am The Lalo Family	7:00 am B. Carroll	7:00 am C. Dillon
8:00 am A. Anastasi, A. & D. Guzzardo	8:00 am E. Shabet, S. Demaio, L. Valle	8:00 am M. Appio
9:15 am C. Ocker, G. Harrid, J. Summa	9:15 am D. & S. Kaschalk, B. Chmielewski, S. Hilgendorff	9:15 am I. Imperati
10:45 am T. Wyka, B. & E. Hollinghurst	10:45 am V. & R. Arcilla, Visit the sick: M. & M. D'Ambrosa	10:45 am A. Bilotti
12:15 pm The Marsh Family	12:15 pm W. Koeller, M. Pasuco, L. & R. Polanski	12:15 pm M. Reyes

Reflections

Jesus repeatedly said the poor, the hungry, and the outcasts were blessed. No one wants to be poor. But the more we have, the less time we have for God. When we feel self sufficient, where is there a need for God? Hunger gnaws at us until we are fed. Our bodies require food to function. Our souls also need to be fed, not just now and then but daily. Through prayer and the Eucharist we can nourish our hungry souls. Following God's will, doing what is right is not always popular and it may even make us outcasts at times. It is really more important to agree with others or to follow your own conscience? Reflect on the concerns that will your days. Where is God in your life?

*Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
Whose hope is in the Lord.
Jeremiah 17:7*

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. Topic: The Acts of the Apostle.

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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 meet every Tuesday, 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 **March 2nd**, on 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.

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.

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, dish-washing 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: **February 15th.**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **February 11th.** If you wish to learn more about the St. Christopher's Senior Social Club, please call Anne Purcaro at 973-887-5186 or Lorene Poje at 973-887-

St. Christopher Women's Book Club Our next meeting will be March 5, 2019 at 7:00 pm in room 110. Refreshments will be served, and they are delicious!!

March book – "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer

April - Tuning in by Richard Roberts

Hope to see you there, give it a try, I am sure you will want to join, 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.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...
For programs and events and to register visit www.insidethewalls.org or call (973) 377-1004.

Prayers of the day ...

Prayer before Study or Instructions.

Incomprehensible Creator, the true Fountain of light and only Author of all knowledge: deign, we beseech Thee, to enlighten our understanding, and to remove from us all darkness of sin and ignorance. Thou, who makest eloquent the tongues of those who lack utterance, direct our tongues, and pour on our lips the grace of thy blessing. Give us a diligent and obedient spirit, quickness of apprehension, capacity of retaining, and the powerful assistance of Thy holy grace; that what we hear or learn we may apply to Thy honor and the eternal salvation of our own souls.

Amen.

National Engineers Week at All Saints Academy

“National Engineers Week” will be celebrated across the country from February 17th - 23rd. Sponsored by the National Society of Engineers, this effort is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering, science, math and technology related careers. As a nationally certified STEM school, All Saints Academy is excited to participate in the spirit and purpose of engineering and STEM education and careers. During the week, professional engineers and scientists will visit ASA classrooms to share information about their studies and careers and to engage students with hands-on engineers lessons based on current coursework. Also, All Saints will host a Family STEM Night on Wednesday, February 20th. Family STEM Night provides an opportunity for families to work in teams to tackle fun and challenge STEM engineering design projects. At All Saints Academy, STEM Education encompasses a comprehensive, multi-curricular, rigorous academic program, centered in values-based school environment. For information about All Saints Academy, please contact our school principal, Mrs. Judy Berg, at 973-334-4704, to schedule a tour and classroom visit.

Christian Conversion

St. Ann Church invites you to join us for our Lenten Mission Sunday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m. Our presenter, Rev. Jared Brogan, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Church, Mt. Lakes, will speak at all weekend masses giving us a sneak preview to Sunday night's program "Conversion: Called, Nourished, Sent." All Are Welcome.

Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop..

Due to the death of our dear friend Bill Taylor (who ran the thrift shop along with his wife Pat), the thrift shop will be closed. It will be reopening in the future, as soon as we know an exact date we shall post it here.

Sacred Relics Of The Saints: Treasures Of The Church.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Rockaway, NJ, presents a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Tuesday March 12th at 7:00 pm. Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross will be here with a very special Vatican collection of over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition, there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Lady, as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church's history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many have been healed through this ministry. Please do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to **bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.**



Journey through Lent 2019

“Together in His footsteps”

I. Stations of the Cross

Every Friday night during Lent – 7:00 pm

II. Monday Evening Lent Series – 7:00 pm

-The Seven Last Words of Christ

a. March 11th – Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing (Lk 23:34)

b. March 18th – Jesus said to his Mother, “ woman, here is your Son,” then He said to the disciple, “ Here is your mother,” (John 19:28)

c. March 25th – I am thirsty (John 19:28)

d. April 1st – Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise (Lk 23:43)

My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?
(Mk 15:34)

e. April 8th– It is finished (John 19:30)

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit
(Lk 23:46)

III. Welcome Home Sacrament of Reconciliation –

Monday evenings during Lent at 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm.

IV. Lenten Dinner & Movie - March 15th

Dinner 6:30 pm

Movie 7:00 pm (I am David)

V. Lenten Penance Service – April 10th at 7:00 pm

VI. Lenten Anointing Mass – April 13th at 11:00 am

FISH AND CHIPS DINNER

CATERED BY THE FAMOUS ARGYLE'S RESTAURANT, Kearny, NJ



WHEN: Friday, March 8, 2019

WHERE: Saint Christopher's All Purpose Room

TIME:

5:30pm-7:00pm **EAT-IN ONLY**

(No Seating until 5:30)

5:00pm-7:00pm **TAKE-OUT ONLY**

PRICE: Adult **\$18.00**/Senior Citizen **\$16.00**/Child **\$9.00** (*Children may choose Mozzarella Sticks, Chicken Fingers, or Fish, all served with fries.*)

Come join us for a delicious dinner of fish and chips in the All Purpose Room, or, if you prefer, you can place an order for "take out". Either way, you will receive a generous portion of fresh fish, french fries, and cole slaw.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of dinners (please specify below):

\$18.00 (Adult) Fish _____

\$16.00 (Senior) Fish _____

\$9.00 (Child) Fish _____ Chicken _____ Mozz Stix _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Eat In: _____ Take Out (pick-up time): _____

Checks can be made payable to: Saint Christopher Church

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



**** Please place order with payment in advance (payments no later than 12 noon on March 8th). Drop in Sunday Collection or mail to the rectory. Walk-ins are not guaranteed & will be at a higher price.****

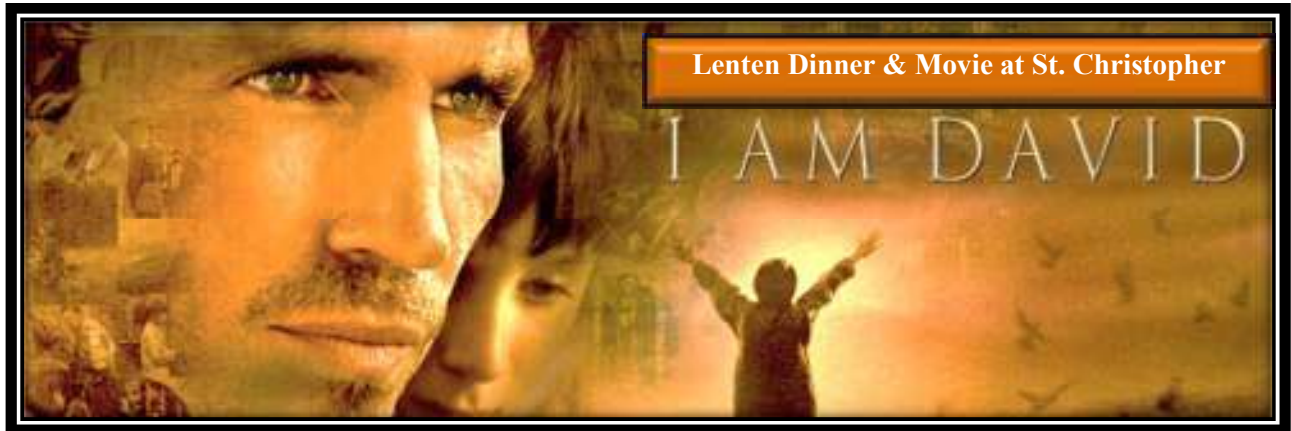
Lenten Dinner and Movie at St. Christopher

When: Thursday, Friday 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:



David's entire twelve-year life has been spent in a grisly prison camp in Eastern Europe. He knows nothing of the outside world. But when he is given the chance to escape, he seizes it. With his vengeful enemies hot on his heels, David struggles to cope in this strange new world, where his only resources are a compass, a few crusts of bread, his two aching feet, and some vague advice to seek refuge in Denmark. Is that enough to survive?

David's extraordinary odyssey is dramatically chronicled in Anne Holm's classic about the meaning of freedom and the power of hope.



Come join us for the annual
Family Easter Egg Hunt at
St. Christopher
on Saturday, March 30th,
at 9:00 am in the
All-Purpose Room.

- 3 to 8 year old children
- Meet and take pictures with the Easter Bunny
 - Enjoy a short Easter film
 - There will be refreshments and snacks

St. Christopher's Family Theatre Sunday

Our annual theatre outing this year will take us to the Mayo performing Arts Center, where we will to see:



We have secured a number of seats for this delightful performance, which is based on the Emmy award winning PBS Kids Show Peg & Cat. This totally awesome musical features wild comedy, countless favorite songs from the show, and Peg's super coolest pal Ramone.

Date: April 7, 2019

Time: 4:30 pm (Please be at theatre by 4:00 pm)

Place: Mayo Performing Arts Center

100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

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.





LIVING IN PRAYER AND JOY LENTEN RETREAT

Presenter: Sister Patricia Dotzauer, SC

Come let us journey together seeking the One who loves us unconditionally and invites us into ever deepening joy. Opening ourselves to God's grace in every moment of life is living in prayer and joy. This grace leads us to take delight in the presence of God and people in all the events of our lives.

This presence is the fruit of contemplative prayer.

Saturday, March 30, 2019

8 a.m. Mass in Holy Family Chapel (Optional)
Coffee at 8:45 a.m. – Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity
Retreat begins at 9:15 a.m. – Ends at 2:30 p.m.
Free will offering.

RSVP to mtracey@scnj.org by March 25, 2019