

## ***Increased Offertory Appeal***

*Dear Parishioners,*

*It has been almost 10 years since the Lord called me to serve at St. Christopher Parish. Everyday I am grateful for His call. As your pastor, I am privileged to witness your faith, goodness and generosity as together we strive to grow in holiness and witness to God's love to those around us.*

*As a parish family, we need to undertake a concerted effort to raise our Sunday Offertory Collection to support our many important, ongoing ministries and diocesan responsibilities with a deficit. Economic difficulties have affected many households, and the household of the Parish is no different. I realize that some families or individuals are experiencing difficult financial times, but I am counting on those of you who are able to increase your weekly offering.*

*An increase in our offertory income will allow us to continue to maintain our facility and meet our diocesan assessments. Both the weekly offertory collection and the second collection are essential to our operating budget. A change like this would make an incredible impact on St. Christopher. I am grateful for your support to our Parish.*

*Thank you,  
Fr. Joe*

## *From the Pastors Desk - Second Sunday of Lent*

### **A time for change**

Transfigured on Mount Tabor, Jesus wanted to show his disciples his glory, not for them to circumvent the cross, but to show where the cross leads. Those who die with Jesus, shall rise again with Jesus. The cross is the door to resurrection. Whoever struggles alongside him will triumph with him. This is the message of hope contained in Jesus' cross, urging us to be strong in our existence. The Christian cross is not the furnishings of a house or adornments to wear but rather a call to the love with which Jesus sacrificed himself to save humanity, from evil and sin. In this Lenten season, we contemplate with devotion the image of the crucifix, Jesus on the cross: this is the symbol of Christian faith, the emblem of Jesus, who died and rose for us. Let us ensure that the cross marks the stages of our Lenten journey in order to understand even better the seriousness of sin and the value of the sacrifice by which the savior has saved us all.

How does Jesus' example in suffering help me deal with my suffering?

Read: Matthew 17:2.

\*\*\*\*

**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.

**10th winners: # 118 Dave & Peggy Hoyt  
& # 202 Thomas and Arfilia Copeland.**

Congratulations and thank you all who participated.

\*\*\*\*

### *Weekly Collections*

First Collection	\$ 9,500.75
Online giving	\$ 1,158.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 3,216.00
Project Faith	\$ 1,383.00
Last Year	\$ 8,826.00
Last Year online giving	\$ 958.00

*Attendance 641\* Thank you for your generosity !*

\*\*\*\*

*Please join us on March 31, 2019 at the 10:45 am Mass our  
main celebrant will be  
Bishop Arthur Serratelli.*



**Saturday, March 16th**

8:30 am Frances Uy  
 Maria Clara Magparangalan  
 5:00 pm Charles Ehrenfeld  
 Santiago Iglesias  
 Dapper McCarthy

**Sunday, March 17th**

7:00 am Deceased Members of Parish  
 8:00 am Bill Taylor  
 9:15 am Dorothy McCarthy  
 10:45 am Louise Kelly  
 12:15 pm Melvyn Patrick Lopez  
 Renato & Pedro Manuel Magcase

**Monday, March 18th**

7:00 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 12:05 pm Frank Skladany  
 Kathleen Zoppi

**Tuesday, March 19th**

7:00 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 12:05 pm Anita & Anthony Natoli  
 Helene Caldara

**Wednesday, March 20th**

7:00 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 12:05 pm Gloria O'Brien

**Thursday, March 21st**

7:00 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 12:05 pm Edith Hogarty

**Friday, March 22nd**

7:00 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 12:05 pm Noreen Taylor

**Saturday, March 23rd**

8:30 am Harold Donald, Jr.  
 5:00 pm Esta Poje

**Sunday, March 24th**

7:00 am Geraldine & Nicholas Cappuccino  
 8:00 am Lorraine Hathaway  
 9:15 am Connie Walsh  
 10:45 am Edithann Powers  
 12:15 pm Julie Kowalczyk  
 Margaret Morgan



*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary Light will be in memory of: Col. Paul A. Kelly For the month of March, 2019.*

*Please remember in your prayers those who recently entered into their new and eternal life in Christ, especially: Thomas C. Fulco & Connie Walsh.*

**First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18**

*God told Abram that he would give him the land of Egypt and his descendants would become a great people. Abram then made sacrifices to God, cutting them in half. A torch passed between the pieces, as a visible sign to Abram of God's promise.*

**Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1**

*Paul urges the Philippians to avoid becoming too interested in material possessions. He reminds them that their most important wealth is their faith in Jesus, which will lead them to eternal life.*

**Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36**

*Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.*

**Sunday** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36, **Monday** Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38, **Tuesday** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a, **Wednesday** Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28, **Thursday** Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31, **Friday** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46, **Saturday** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32.

## **Religious Education**

*If you have any questions concerning religious education please contact Mary Ann Jacisin at 973-539-6208, Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.*

**Baptism preparation meeting:** *The meeting will be on April 8th, 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 welcome into our family of faith, **William J. Smith III, Gabriella McGee, Syrus F. Rivera, & Madelynn R. Wax**, who received the sacrament of baptism.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*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.*

## ***March 23rd & 24th***

<b><u>Altar Servers</u></b>	<b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>
<b>5:00 pm</b> D. Lipuma, B. & B. Davies	<b>5:00 pm</b> E. Lally, J. Lipuma, M. & J. Davies	<b>5:00 pm</b> M. Montefusco
<b>7:00 am</b> A. Anastasi, A. Rozanitis	<b>7:00 am</b> B. Carroll	<b>7:00 am</b> M. Dumapit
<b>8:00 am</b> A. Zecena, J. Lance, J. Tran	<b>8:00 am</b> L. & M. Sostak, C. Metcalf	<b>8:00 am</b> J. Valle
<b>9:15 am</b> A. To, G. Harris, C. Hilgendorff	<b>9:15 am</b> S. Hilgendorff, D. & S. Kaschalk, C. To	<b>9:15 am</b> L. Przyhocki
<b>10:45 am</b> M. & M. Rankel, L. Taylor	<b>10:45 am</b> J. & L. Schneidmuller, <b>Visit the sick:</b> M. & M. D'Ambrosa	<b>10:45 am</b> J. Cannaveno
<b>12:15 pm</b> The Imperati Family	<b>12:15 pm</b> C. Ocker, M. Pasuco, L. & R. Polanski	<b>12:15 pm</b> K. Longo

## ***Reflections***

*It is easy to talk about Christian values but the real challenge is to live them. Lent provides us with a good time to take stock of our lives. What is your heart set upon? How important are your possessions? Are you willing to go into debt to get that new what-not? Are you focused on acquiring more and better things? How does that square with your faith? How often do you look at what you have to give or share with others? This week try to observe what you focus on and care about and how it reflects your faith.*

*Your presence , O Lord I seek. Hide not your face from me.  
-Psalm 27:8-9*

## 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 am room 110. Topic: The Acts of the Apostle.**

\*

**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 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.**

\*

**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 6th**, 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.

\*

**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.**



**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, 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: **to be announced.**

**Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa.** Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:00 am. Date: **to be announced.** 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 973-887-5645.

### St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Our next meeting will be April 2, 2019 at 7:00 pm in room 110. Refreshments will be served, and they are delicious!!

**April Book** – "Tuning In" by Richard Roberts

**May Book** – "The Dry" by Jane Harper.

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 Proseri, who is the yoga instructor at pproseri51@gmail.com.

\*\*\*\*\*

**St. Christopher prayer shawl ministry** welcomes current and would be knit and crochet artists to join us. We meet every other Monday at 1:00 pm in the old principal's office of the school at St. Christopher. Supplies are provided. Work at home or with our group. Prayer shawls and lap robes are now available to be given to someone going through a difficult time. For more information call Karen Longo 973-267-3321 for more information.



**St. Paul Inside the Walls...**  
**For programs and events and to register, visit [www.insidethewalls.org](http://www.insidethewalls.org) or call (973) 377-1004.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Encounter Annet**

In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Women's Day of reflection– April 6th @ 8:00 am**

St. Peter the Apostle is sponsoring this event which will be free for all women sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society. For schedule, times, reservations and any other information call Liz Dennis at 973-335-4091.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saint Francis Residential Community**, a senior living community located at 122 Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ. Will be having an open House on Tuesday, March 26th from 1:30pm - 3:30pm. For more information call 973-627-5000.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Contemplative Prayer Retreat** at the Marionist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point, NJ, from April 26th to 28th. For more information call 609-884-3829 or go to [www.capemaymarianist.org](http://www.capemaymarianist.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Consider joining a peaceful prayer vigil for one hour a week or so during **40 days for life campaign** which runs up to April 13th. For more information go to <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/morristown> or contact Francis Spilman at [44lifeus@gmail.com](mailto:44lifeus@gmail.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

On April 6th the Religious Teachers Filippini, located in Morristown N.J., will host their Oasis Day of Prayer for Women, from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. For more information call Sr. Elaine Bebyn, MPF at 973-538-2886 x 143.

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you know your state laws to combat human trafficking? Are local law enforcement personnel knowledgeable about human trafficking so that they can be effective resources? U.S. Catholic Sisters against human trafficking, [www.sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://www.sistersagainstrafficking.org).

**Journey through Lent 2019 - "Together in His footsteps"**  
**Stations of the Cross**

Every Friday night during Lent – 7:00 pm

**Monday Evening Lent Series – 7:00 pm**

**-The Seven Last Words of Christ**

b. March 18<sup>th</sup> – 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 25<sup>th</sup> – I am thirsty (John 19:28)

d. April 1<sup>st</sup> – 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 8<sup>th</sup>– It is finished (John 19:30)

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

**Welcome Home Sacrament of Reconciliation –**

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

Lenten Penance Service – April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Lenten Anointing Mass – April 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am



Come join us for the annual  
Family Easter Egg Hunt at  
St. Christopher  
on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>,  
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 Annual Pasta Night

Join us on Friday, April 12, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. Price per person will be \$18.00 (21 and over only).

Included with this price there will be linguini with clam sauce, tortellini alfredo, eggplant rollatini, penne pasta in marinara sauce, salad, bread, coffee, tea and dessert.

*We will have a representative of "Make Wine with Us" ([www.makewinewithus.com](http://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 permitted).*

*Tables of 8 may be reserved, only when paid in full on one order form (all at one time). Tables will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Those with parties of less than 8 will be seated with other participants.*

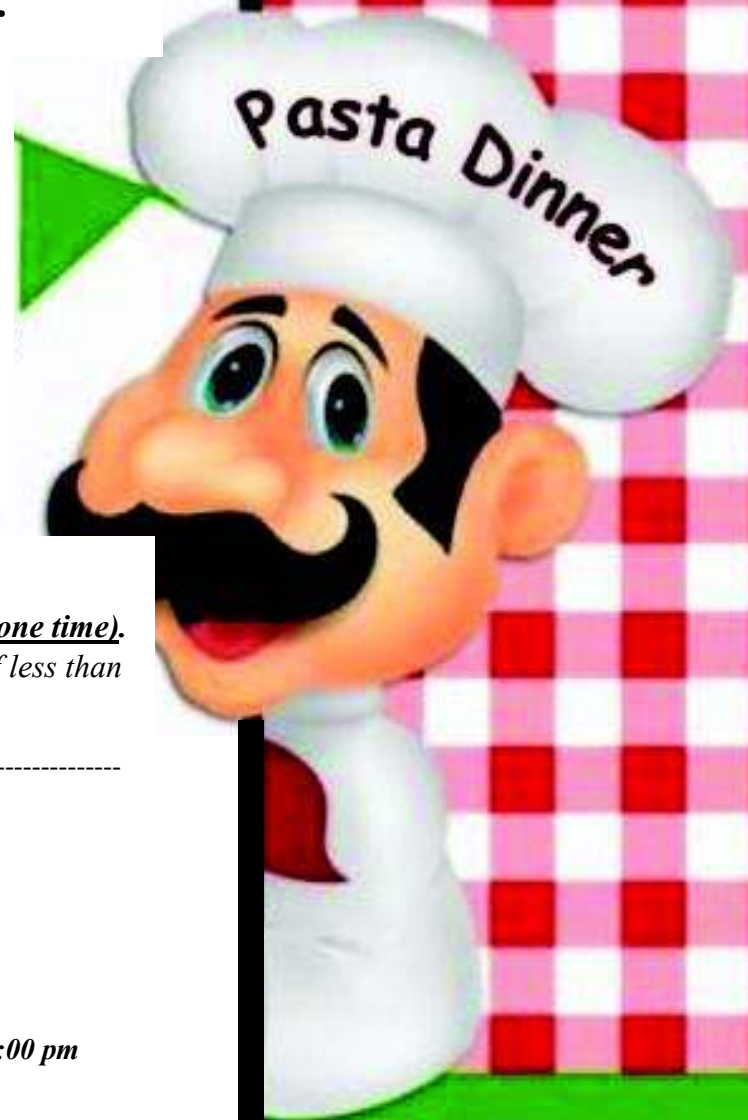
-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks can be made payable to: Saint Christopher Church**

**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](mailto:jekev3@yahoo.com)**



**B.Y.O.B**



# 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:** \$12.00 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.





**All Saints Academy**  
189 Baldwin Road  
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054  
[www.allsaintspar.org](http://www.allsaintspar.org) ~ [jberg@allsaintspar.org](mailto:jberg@allsaintspar.org)

March 13, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

During this Lenten season, it is affirming to see our students focusing on prayer and Lenten practices. On Friday, the students will join together to pray the Stations of the Cross.

*Photos by Elizabeth* will join us for two days next week for spring photography. On Monday, March 18, our grade eight students will be photographed in their graduation caps and gowns. Grade eight parents will receive an online link to directly view and order prints. Spring photos for preschool to grade seven students will take place on Tuesday, March 19. Spring photos for grade eight students are optional. Students may wear their choice of spring outfits for photos. All students will have their photos taken. Kindly complete and submit the photo form included in today's communication to indicate your choice: a photo with your child alone or your children together (if applicable). We must know about your choice of a family photo in advance, and we cannot accommodate family members that are not ASA registered students. Soon after picture day, proofs for students in grades preschool through grade seven will be delivered to school and then sent home to you for your selections.

Our Spring Scholastic Book Fair will take place during the week of March 25 - 29. In today's white envelope, we are including information regarding the theme and special activities planned for this special week that raises our commitment to the importance of reading.

We anticipate that we have seen the last of school closings due to snowy weather. I would like to review the following notes/scenarios and calendar information for the last months of school.

- Friday, March 22: School will be closed for our annual teacher/staff retreat day.
- Thursday, April 18 - Holy Thursday: School will be open for a half-day, with a 12 noon dismissal. All students, preschool through grade 8, will participate in a morning retreat program. After School Care will not be in session. Parsippany bussing services will operate.
- Friday, April 10 - Good Friday: School will be closed.
- Monday, April 15: Time to switch to summer uniforms.
- Monday, April 22 - Friday, April 26: School will be closed for Easter break.

OVER >>>>

*To foster spiritual and academic growth within our students  
in a Christ-centered environment through the highest quality of Catholic education*

- Monday, April 29: School reopens.
- Monday, May 27: School will be closed for Memorial Day.
- Friday, June 7: Final day for Grade 8. This is the day of the Grade 8 Graduation Luncheon and evening Liturgy/Graduation Ceremony.
- Wednesday, June 12: Preschool, PreKindergarten and Kindergarten “moving up” day. Details to follow!
- Friday, June 14: The final day of school for grades 1-7. This will be a half-day with a 12noon dismissal. There will be a school liturgy at 10am. After School Care will not be in session.
- Monday, June 17 through Wednesday, June 19: Our teachers will participate in the NCEA (National Catholic Educators Association) *STREAM 3.0 Conference*. This national event will not only emphasize the importance of a robust STEM program, but will also highlight the intentional integration of the faith and the arts. The conference will be co-hosted by the schools of both the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson, and it will take place at the Sheraton Tara Hotel in Parsippany.

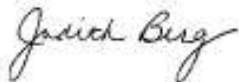
\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: In the event of additional snow/emergency days off, we may need to make adjustments to these dates.

This week, we have welcomed a new staff member to ASA. Mr. Patrick Bagrier will work with us as a morning custodian. The students will call him Mr. “B,” and we are looking forward to his helpful presence. Mr. O’Meara continues to be our ever-faithful facilities manager, working so diligently in our building as if it were his own home!

If you are in the mood for spring cleaning, please keep in mind that the Catholic Charities donation truck will be at ASA on the afternoon of Thursday, April 11. Donations may be dropped off beginning Monday, April 8. The agency accepts donations of used clothing, bedding, toys, household items and books (not textbooks or encyclopedias). Thank you for your support of this activity that supports a fine charity and recycling.

Our re-registrations for the upcoming school year are growing. *Thank you* to those that have submitted your completed paperwork. The number of new inquires and visitors to our school has increased considerably in the past two weeks. We are now accepting new students for the 2019-20 school year.

Sincerely,



Judith Berg  
Principal

*To foster spiritual and academic growth within our students  
in a Christ-centered environment through the highest quality of Catholic education*

