

From the Pastor's Desk - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 28, 2019

To love as Jesus loves

God is love (1John 4:8)

Offering forgiveness is one of the most important and difficult things we could ever do. We have all been wronged. Each of us in small ways or big ways, have been treated unfairly, taken advantage of or harmed by some injustice. What we do with that will perhaps, more than anything else, determine the kind of person we become, the kind of lives we will have.

Scripture calls forgiveness the heart of the Gospel, the clearest summary of the message of Jesus. We see Jesus forgive again and again and we hear his call that we do the same. Why is forgiveness so important to Jesus? It's simple: Jesus loves us so much, he wants us to be free. He knows that un-forgiveness is a false light, a black hole that sucks the very life from our souls. If we want a joy filled life, Jesus knows that we have to forgive. He invites us to forgive that we might find the joy and beauty that comes in no other way.

Merciful God, it is so hard to forgive, yet you want me to be free. Help me, God of all goodness, help me.

The 7:00 am daily Mass will resume on September 9, 2019.

Prayer of the Day

Prayer for Parents

Grant us, O Lord Jesus, to imitate faithfully the example of your Holy Family and to make our home another Nazareth. May peace, love and happiness prevail. Grant us the grace to be the parents we should be for our children. Grant that our child may find solid support for their human dignity and for their growth in truth and love within the embrace of our home. When the time comes for each of us to go to the everlasting home you have prepared for us, may your glorious Mother and St. Joseph take us to you, after the final grace of a happy death.

Amen.

Weekly Collection

<i>First Collection</i>	<i>\$ 7,725.50</i>
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$ 1,111.00</i>
<i>Beacon</i>	<i>\$ 671.00</i>

Attendance: 667

Thank you for your generosity!

10th Annual Mega 50/50 Raffle

We are off to a great start with 340 participants already. We have collected \$10,200. The 3 winning numbers will be picked on Sunday, September 15th. Thank you for all who have joined this very important fundraiser.



Saturday, July 27th

8:30 am Col. Paul A. Kelly
 5:00 pm Dorothy LaColla
 Dale Rapp

Sunday, July 28th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
 8:00 am Kathy Schlitt
 9:15 am Deceased Deacon of the Parish
 10:45 am Yvette Deschaine
 George Naseef, Sr., George Naseef, Jr.
 Joseph, Christie, Vinnie & Ralph Calabrese
 12:15 pm John Mola

Monday, July 29th

12:05 pm Frank Skladany

Tuesday, July 30th

12:05 pm Deborah Daly

Wednesday, July 31st

12:05 pm Ceil O'Hara

Thursday, August 1st

12:05 pm Ceil O'Hara

Friday, August 2nd

12:05 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish

Saturday, August 3rd

8:30 am Mary Ellen Gallagher
 5:00 pm Lisa Calabrese

Sunday, August 4th

7:00 am Joseph Garant
 8:00 am Brian Osterhaut
 Maurice & Frances Callahan
 9:15 am Juan Rojas
 10:45 am Henry Bansemmer
 12:15 pm Juan Sotomayor



*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary Light will in memory of:
 Nicholas & Diana Lisi
 for the month of July, 2019.*

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

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham pleads with the Lord, who planned to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of the evil and sin in those cities. Abraham asks him if he would spare the city if fifty, forty, thirty, twenty or even only ten innocent people were found there. God says that he would spare the cities even for the sake of only ten.

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Paul explains to the Colossians that through baptism, they are raised to life with Christ because they believed in the power of the God who raised him from the dead. Even though they once lived in sin, their sins have been pardoned through Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus' disciples asked him how they should pray. He gave them some phrases similar to those now used in the Lord's prayer. Jesus also reminds the disciples how even men with sins are able to give good things to their children, and explains how much more the heavenly Father wants to give to us.



Sunday Gn 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13, **Monday** Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42, **Tuesday** Ex 33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43, **Wednesday** Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46, **Thursday** Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53, **First Friday** Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58, **First Saturday** Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12.

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 next meeting will be on **August 12th**, 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: **Eleanor McAteer**, who received the sacrament of Baptism.*

God of all goodness, look with love on those who wait for the safe return of their loved ones who serve in the armed forces of their country. In faith and hope, we turn to you for comfort. Grant that we may trust in your mercy and send an angel to sustain us as we await their safe return. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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

1LT. Sean Arcilla, SPEC. 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.



August 3rd & 4th

Altar Servers

5:00 pm CJ. Hilgendorff, J. Tran
7:00 am
8:00 am
9:15 am C. Berardo, A. & T. Pactwa
10:45 am B. & E. Hollinghurst
12:15 pm A. Justus, E. & R. Marsh

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm L. Bain, S. & I. Richards, J. Sole
7:00 am B. Carroll
8:00 am P. Luther, L. & M. Sostak
9:15 am K. & p. Berardo, C. Callahan, E. Haynes
10:45 am J. & L. Sneidermuller
Visit the sick: C. Uy, L. Copeland
12:15 pm J. & B. East, M. Vitale, S. Capozzi

Lectors

5:00 pm C. Haney
7:00 am C. Ramoncionis
8:00 am K. Longo
9:15 am L. Pascale
10:45 am A. Bilotti
12:15 pm M. Reyes

Reflections

The Our Father is a prayer we say often that we seldom stop to think about what we are saying. Take some time to say this prayers slowly out loud and reflect on each phrase. You may want to focus on one phrase at a time and take several days to go through prayer. Notice what is asked for in the prayer: what is needed for today, forgiveness as we forgive others, and avoiding temptation. Reflect on what you need for the day. Consider how you have forgiven someone who has offended you - is this how you want to be forgiven? What are the temptations in your life? Do you take any active steps to avoid them?

***The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; thy steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
-Psalm 138***

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.

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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 **August 3rd**, 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 –CWW 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: **August 2nd.**

Bus trip to the Wind Creek Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:00 am. Date: **August 12th.** 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

Book Club is out for summer, enjoy the warm weather and happy reading :)

Summer reading list:

Summer book list: (read as many as you like)

Beach book selection – "Summer at Firefly Beach" by Jenny Hale.

Mystery book selection – "Once Gone" (A Riley Paige mystery) by Blake Pierce.

Nonfiction book selection – "Say Nothing: a true story of murder and memory in Northern Ireland" by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Fiction book selection – "My dear Hamilton : a novel of Eliza Hamilton" by Stephanie Dray.

We will resume in September! See you then!

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 Properi, who is the yoga instructor at

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.

Online Giving

Sign up for Online Giving and stop using offering envelopes!

It is convenient, secure and eco-friendly. You will also be saving the parish the cost of printing and mailing your envelopes. You will not have to remember to write checks or stop by the ATM on Sunday. To start, log into www.osvonlinegiving.com to create your online account. Call the rectory and they can answer any questions you may have, they can even sign up for you. Thanking all the parishioners who are participating with online giving at this time.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...

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

The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, August 8th, at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30PM in room 101. Program: "Sharing good deeds and good memories". For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

“Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples.’ He said to them, ‘When you pray, say, Father, hallowed be your name...”

Jesus directed His prayer to the Father. Paul tells us we can pray only through the inspiration of the Spirit. The Trinity is found in every prayer, ‘How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?’

We, like the disciple, ask the Lord to help us to pray and to pray better. We pray in response to the Spirit’s urging. We pray in many ways, with words, in silent meditation and reflection, we pray with our hands in serving others. Jesus is ever present to lead us, strengthening our prayer life.

Let’s use an example. In teaching people how to swim we can tell them to close their mouths, kick their feet, move their arms and hold their breath. That’s teaching technique, but is not swimming. One must enter the water and try. Prayer is no different. We learn to pray better by praying. Like swimming we are refreshed and renewed by our experience.

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Saint of the Day

St. Innocent I

Innocent was born at Albano, Italy. He became Pope, succeeding Pope St. Anastasius I, on December 22, 401.

During Innocent's pontificate, he emphasized papal supremacy, commending the bishops of Africa for referring the decrees of their councils at Carthage and Millevis in 416, condemning Pelagianism, to the Pope for confirmation. It was his confirmation of these decrees that caused Augustine to make a remark that was to echo through the centuries: "Roma locuta, causa finitas" (Rome has spoken, the matter is ended). Earlier Innocent had stressed to Bishop St. Victrius and the Spanish bishops that matters of great importance were to be referred to Rome for settlement. Innocent strongly favored clerical celibacy and fought the unjust removal of St. John Chrysostom. He

vainly sought help from Emperor Honorius at Ravenna when the Goths under Alaric captured and sacked Rome. Innocent died in Rome on March 12th. His feast day is July 28th.



GOD GAVE US
NEW LIFE
IN COMPANY
WITH JESUS



SAINT CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

10TH ANNUAL MEGA 50/50 RAFFLE

\$30.00 PER SHARE

CASH DISTRIBUTED LAST YEAR \$7325.00

THREE (3) WINNERS

1ST WINNER – 25% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

2ND WINNER – 20% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

3RD WINNER – 5% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

Please join us for the drawing on September 15th @ 2:00 pm in the all-purpose room.
Refreshments will be served. Winners do not need to be present.

The entire profit from the 50/50 mega raffle will be used for a complete reconstruction
of the church stairs.

“NO SUBSTITUTION OF THE OFFERED PRIZES MAY BE MADE”

PLEASE PRINT WHEN FILLING OUT FORM

MEGA 50/50 TICKET # _____
(to be filled out by office)

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH
number of shares _____

NJ LGCCC IDENTIFICATION #375-01-0914

MUNICIPAL #RL1546

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Private/Personal Information Sheet Kept in a Private File Cabinet

ST. CHRISTOPHER PARISH
 1050 Littleton Road
 Parsippany, NJ 07054

C.C.D. PROGRAM
 Registration Form
 2019-2020

Father's Name _____
 (First) (Last)

Father's Address _____
 (Street) (Town) (Zip) (Home/Cellphone)

Mother's Name _____
 (First) (Last)

Mother's Address _____
 (If different) (Street) (Town) (Zip) (Home/Cellphone)

Child/Children Address _____
 (Street) (Town) (Zip)

Home Phone _____ School _____

The Sacraments of Communion and Confirmation require a two-year immediate preparation.

CHILD'S NAME	Date of Birth	CCD Grade in Sept. 2019	

K ----- 11

1 child \$75

2 children \$100

3 or more children \$120

****If possible, include the fee with your registration form. If this is not possible, please call the CCD Office and speak to Mrs. Jacisin or Fr. Joe.***

*****Parents: If the family is not registered at St. Christopher Church please add \$15.00 per child to the registration fee.***

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH/CCD**

AMOUNT PAID _____ CHECK NUMBER _____ DATE ____/____/____



God Made the Universe

St. Christopher Church Vacation Bible School 2019

August 12th thru 16th
from 9:00 am to 11:30 am
CCD Office: 973-539-6208



God Promises a Savior

All children Pre-K 4 to 5th grade as of September 2019 are eligible to attend.

It is a week well spent learning about Jesus in a fun environment. It includes the life of Jesus for children, music, story time, arts and crafts, playtime and snacks.

Registration: One child \$50.00, two children \$65.00, three or more children \$75.00



Jesus the Savior is born

Please return registration forms by July 20, 2019 to:

**St. Christopher Parish
Vacation Bible School**
1050 Littleton Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054



Jesus the Savior is risen

Child's Name _____

Grade in September _____ Home Phone Number _____

Address _____

City & Zip-code _____



Jesus the Savior reigns

Emergency Contact Person & Number :

Allergies (Please list all including food allergies)

Parent Signature _____

I would like to volunteer to help out at VBS:

Adult _____ Student Gr. 7-12 _____



Jesus Saves the World