

From the Pastor's Desk

Life is short

Perhaps you might remember this commercial. It ran some months ago showing a baby being born and then in 30 seconds the commercial races forward through the child's entire life until he is old and gray and bent over. Finally, he lets out a painful gasp and crashes headlong into a grave - dead. Then words flash across the screen: "Life is short, play more XBOX".

Life is short, so how do you want to tell it? We are called to be holy. St. Matthew tells us how to put that into practice, by our love and care for the least fortunate! Life is not about accumulating or having a life of ease or comfort. As Christ's followers we are called to serve, to live unselfishly.

There are many opportunities to help others. May I think of putting others first. May I help even in little seemingly insignificant ways. When I do that, I am doing it to your Son, Jesus.

Weekend Collection

<i>First Collection</i>	\$ 9,085.25
<i>Online Giving</i>	\$ 1,366.00
<i>Scholarship Fund</i>	\$ 1,166.00

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

The prophet Habakkuk cries out despairingly to God because of the state Jerusalem has fallen into. He asks why God does nothing to stop the violence and misery. God assures him that a time will come when only the just and faithful will live.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Paul writes to Timothy from prison and urges him to continue to spread the gospel without fear or shame. He also tells Timothy to draw upon the strength of the Holy Spirit to help him face the hardships he will encounter while preaching.

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

The disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus replies that "faith the size of a mustard seed could transplant a sycamore", indicating that a person either has faith, strong and complete, or none at all. Jesus also explains that a servant will not receive gratitude for simply following his master's orders. In the same way, we are all God's servants doing no more than our duty when we obey God's commands.

Sunday Hb 1:2-3, 2:2-4; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10, **Monday** Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; Lk 10:25-37, **Tuesday** Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10: 38-42, **Wednesday** Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4, **Thursday** Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13, **Friday** Jl 1:13-15, 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26, **Saturday** Jl 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28,

Saturday, October 5th

8:30 am Millie Cook
 5:00 pm Gloria Bauer
 Nora Ramirez DeAristizabal

Sunday, October 6th

7:00 am Deceased Deacons of the Parish
 8:00 am Pat Russoniello
 9:15 am Robert Haynes
 10:45 am Lisa Calabrese
 12:15 pm Grace McGee

Monday, October 7th

7:00 am Mafalda Tursi
 12:05 pm Frank Calabria
 Sam & Connie Calabria

Tuesday, October 8th

7:00 am Eva Rodriguez
 12:05 pm Frances Marinaccio

Wednesday, October 9th

7:00 am Emil Thalmann
 12:05 pm Arlene Campagna

Thursday, October 10th

7:00 am Stephen Bolger
 12:05 pm Connie Walsh

Friday, October 11th

7:00 am William Yanotta
 12:05 pm Nicholas & Diana Lisi

Saturday, October 12th

8:30 am Christina Azares
 5:00 pm Collin Perrone

Sunday, October 13th

7:00 am Robert J. Carroll
 8:00 am Eugene Caulfield
 9:15 am Genevieve Hayes
 10:45 am Dolores Pinkos
 Lucy Naseef, Lucille & Aurora Calabrese
 12:15 pm Maxima Beltrau-Santos



*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary Light will in memory of:
Santos & Raymunda Ruguian
 for the month of October, 2019.*

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

October 12th & 13th

Altar Servers

5:00 pm A. DeNino, T. & J. Carifi
7:00 am Lalo Family
8:00 am A. & D. Guzzardo
9:15 am C. Berardo, M. & M. Rankel
10:45 am J. Vadakkedam, L. Taylor, J. Tran
12:15 pm T. Wyka, G. Harris, M. Villanueva

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm L. Asea, L. Bain, M. Downing, M. Gelosa
7:00 am B. Carroll
8:00 am J. Mucerino, P. Luther, K. Nolan
9:15 am K. & P. Berardo, C. Callahan, M. Cupo
10:45 am R. Vento, M. Vitale
Visit the sick: C. Dillon, C. Uy
12:15 pm J. Alfonso, S. Capozzi, B. & J. East

Lectors

5:00 pm E. Shabet
7:00 am M. Dumapit
8:00 am M. Appio
9:15 am
10:45 am J. Cannaveno
12:15 pm M. Reyes

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.

CCD Classes will begin on September 15th.

Baptism preparation meeting: The next meeting will be on **October 14th**, 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: **Evan Jomy**, 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 Martí, 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.



RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



Have you thought about becoming Catholic? Those who have never been baptized are welcome into the "catechumenate" to prepare for the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

If you are a Baptized Christian who has never received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, the RCIA process is a journey of faith through the initial stages of asking and seeking through study and discussion about Catholic teachings and way of life.

Our program will begin on Sunday, October 6th at 10:15 am in the Church.

If you are a parishioner and know someone who has been thinking about becoming Catholic, please let them know about our RCIA program.
To register or for more information, call Mary Ann at our Religious Education Office, 973-539-6208.

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

For I was hungry...

One of the benefits of giving to our Bishop's Annual Appeal is the knowledge that the funds stay in our own Diocese and only support important needs in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties. This local connection means that you may be helping your next door neighbor, a former pastor now living in our priests' retirement residence, the store owner you see each day as you shop in town, perhaps even a family member. Please help your neighbor in need and make a pledge to the Annual Appeal today! For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2019appeal.org.

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: Pope Leo XIII.

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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 **November 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, 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 advised.**

Bus trip to the Wind Creek Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:00 am. Date: **October 14th.** 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

Next book club meeting will be on Tuesday, **November 5th.**

New book selection:

Lady in the Lake by Laura Lippman. Hope to see you all there, new members 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 pprospero51@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.



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, October 10th, at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30PM in room 101. Program: The NEW me and how are you different since your child's death (pictures are always welcome). For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

ALL SAINTS ACADEMY CORNER

Open House & Shadow Day Visits

Great things are happening at All Saints Academy! We'd like to share all the good news with you in person. Perhaps you have recently moved into Morris County? Maybe you are considering a change in the school setting for your child? It may be the perfect time to consider enrollment at All Saints Academy. Visit ASA on Wednesday, October 9th for our Open House. On these days, students may also visit for a "Shadow Day" to experience life as an All Saints Academy student. Please contact us at 973-334-4704 to schedule your child's visit in grades PreK-7 and to learn more about our Open House days.

All Saints Academy is a nationally recognized STEM school of the Diocese of Paterson. Our school offers a comprehensive, multi-curricular, rigorous academic program, centered on values-based education. A spirit of faith, respect and joy are evident in our school. In addition to religious instruction, students model Christian ideals through cooperative activities, spiritual and liturgical celebrations, participation in Sacraments, and service outreach. An active parent organization lends partnership and support to the school community. The Early Childhood Center offers classes for three and four year old children. Contact our school principal, Mrs. Judy Berg, at 973-334-4704, for more information.

Parsippany Columbiettes Eighth Annual Tea and Tricky Tray

October 19th from 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm at St. Ann's Parish Hall located on 781 Smith Road, Parsippany, NJ. Advance Sales only! Tickets are \$25.00 per person, Doors open at 11:30 am. For more information contact Connie Kelly at 973-886-4654. Please bring your favorite tea cup.

Woman's Society will be meeting at St. Christopher Church on Monday, October 7th at 7:00 pm in room 101. All are welcome.

OLM Healing Mass

The Health Ministry of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Whippany invites you to a **Healing Mass** on Saturday, October 19th at 11 AM at the Parish Center (handicap accessible). The liturgy addresses physical, spiritual and emotional healing. If desired, participants will receive an individual blessing. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP before October 16th to OLM rectory (973) 887-0050 or email to olmchwhip@aol.com or to Kathy at (973)428-4996.

OAK KNOLL SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD OPEN HOUSE: Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child, a Catholic Independent school, all girls, grades 7-12, invites you to attend an Open House. This includes a presentation, tour and faculty showcase. Dates are Saturday, October 19th and November 16th, 9:30-11:15 am. For more information and to register online visit our website www.oakknoll.org or call Admissions at 908-522-8109. Pre-registration is recommended but not required in order to attend.

"I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give you a spirit of cowardice, but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake, but bear your share of the hardship for the gospel, with the strength that comes from God. Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus."

His word Today By Rev. William J. Reilly

The Parsippany Health Department is offering a Flu & Pneumonia clinic for seniors to be held on Friday, October 11th from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. They are also offering free hearing test during this clinic. For more information please call the Health Department at 973-263-7160.

SILVER AND GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1969 or 1994? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held:

Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. **The deadline to register is Friday, October 11th, 2019.** You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. *Congratulacions on this joyous occasion!*

THIS FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO YOUR PARISH SECRETARY NO LATER THEN OCTOBER 11th, 2019.

Personalized commemorative certificates will be presented to each couple. This form should be filled out by the couple and returned to the parish secretary.

TYPE or PRINT.

(circle one)

(SILVER ANNIVERSARY) or (GOLD ANNIVERSARY) or (60+ years)

First Names (Husband) (Wife) Last Name

Street Address _____

City/Town _____ New Jersey _____ (Zip Code)

Email _____ (His) _____ (Hers)

Phone # _____ (His) _____ (Hers)

Date of Marriage _____

Current Parish _____ Parish Town _____

Approximately how many guests will be attending? _____

If 60+ years of marriage, please write the exact number of years: _____

* * * * *

I am a lector/reader in my parish and would like to be considered as a possible reader for this Mass. Name _____

We need special seating arrangements (i.e., wheelchair, disability, etc.). Please give specifics: _____

All Souls Day - Memorial Candles

November is the Month of Remembrance for all our departed loved ones. This commemoration begins with the Memorial of All Souls on November 2nd. We are offering special Memorial Candles that will burn next to the altar during Sunday Masses throughout the month of November.

A label will be placed on the front of the candle with the name of your loved one. Candles have space for only 1 name.

**The requested donation for these candles
is \$25.00 each.**

Please fill out the form below & place it in an envelope with the required donation and mark the envelope “*Memorial Candles*”.

The envelope can be placed in the regular collection basket or dropped off at the Parish Office.

All Souls Day Memorial Candle

\$25.00/candle (Please Print)

1 Name per Candle

Name of Person Ordering Candle _____

Phone Number _____

Name on Candle _____

Please drop off in the Parish Office or
Collection Basket in an envelope marked “Memorial
Candle” Any Questions, please call Parish Office
973-539-7050

****All requests must be in no later than October 25th ****

Family Magic Night at St. Christopher



on October 18, 2019
In the All Purpose Room

Featuring:

Benjamin's Comedy Cascade Extreme Variety Show



Refreshments will go on sale at 6:30pm with the
show starting promptly at 7:00 pm.

All are welcome!