

St. Christopher Church

Second Sunday of Advent

Pastors Desk

God wants to heal us

Jesus does not want to act alone, he came to bring the love of God into the world and he wants to spread it in the style of communion and brotherhood. That is why he immediately forms a community. He trains them right away for the mission to go forth. Their purpose is not to socialize and spend time together but to proclaim God's kingdom, and this is urgent! It is still urgent today! There is no time to be lost, no need to wait for anyone's consensus but to go out and proclaim. To all people you bring the peace of Christ, and if they do not welcome it, you go ahead just the same. Do not live for yourselves, but live to go forth and do good! Everyone MUST be a missionary, everyone can hear that call of Jesus and go forth and proclaim the Kingdom!



First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

In this beautiful passage, a messianic prophecy, Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Paul reveals to us the necessity of living in peace and harmony. His words "Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the Glory of God" are as needed today as they were in Paul's own time.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus. Clothed in a garment of camel's hair, he baptizes the people in the Jordan River, but warns the Pharisees in ringing tones that they must give evidence that they mean to reform.

Sunday

Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Weekly Collections

First collection	\$ 9,150.00
(including online giving \$ 817.00)	
Thanksgiving	\$ 2,438.00
Project Faith	\$ 1,828.00
First Collection 11/20/16	\$ 8,975.00
Last years collection	\$ 10,885.00

Attendance for last week 844
Thank you for your generosity!

Masses

Saturday, December 3rd

8:30 am Anita, Anthony & Joseph Natoli
5:00 pm Sarah Giaimo
Maria Neubert

Sunday, December 4th

7:00 am Louise Farkas
8:00 am Jack Kowalewski
Michael Tilton
9:15 am Deceased Members of the Connor
Family
10:45 am Frank Savino
Edward Corcoran
Special Intentions for Healing -
Joseph Calabrese
12:15 pm Michele Spadone
Jeanmarie & Jerry Patrino

Monday, December 5th

7:00 am All Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Carmela DeVincenzo
7:30 pm Emily D'Meo

Tuesday, December 6th

7:00 am All Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Marie T. Dandreau

Wednesday, December 7th

7:00 am Special Intentions for Newton
12:05 pm William Walhart

Thursday, December 8th - The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 am All Deceased Members of the Parish
9:00 am Nancy Lopez
12:05 pm Concetta Rosamilia
7:00 pm Joan Hurley

Friday, December 9th

7:00 am Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli
12:05 pm Special Intentions - Charles Corcoran

Saturday, December 10th

8:30 am Joseph Burns
5:00 pm Sarah Giaimo
Linda Sole

Sunday, December 11th

7:00 am Julia & Matilde Ubiera
8:00 am Clarence, Minnie & Craig Hall
9:15 am Paul Gerber, Jr.
10:45 am Edward Corcoran
Linda Sole
12:15 pm Concetta Azzizzo
Bella Ricci
Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli

Please remember in your prayers all
the departed family and friends of St.
Christopher's Parish, especially
Joseph C. Pellegrino, Jr.



The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in memory of
Ray Guimond
for the month of December, 2016



Religious Education

If you have any questions concerning our CCD program, please call Mary Ann Jacisin in the CCD office at (973) 539-6208.

Baptism

Our next **Baptism preparation meeting** will be on December 12th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.

Let us welcome into our family of faith, **Kaitlin M. Lucibello**, who received the sacrament of Baptism.

Reflections

There are so many people in our lives, from those who are close to us to the strangers we pass on the street. We have our beliefs and ideas of what is good and acceptable and it is easy to judge others by our standards - after all we are God fearing people and we know what is right. Do you ever consider that each person you meet is a gift? They all have something to teach you - from your child to the bum on the street. If we can stop judging others for a moment, perhaps we can discover the gift they can bring to our hearts.

Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God.
- Romans 15:7

Parish Activities...

Coffee and Class- Morning & Evening Adult Education

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 mornings** in room 110 in the school, from 10:30 am to 11:45 am followed by the 12:05 pm Mass. **New Topic: The Roman Catholic Church and the Civil War.**

***Thursday mornings at 10:30 am** in room 110 in the school. **New Topic: The Book of Revelations.**

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St. Christopher's Pre-Cana Program

For more information please call the rectory at 973-539-7050.

St. Christopher is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month. Please join us on Saturday, January 7, 2017 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.

Bring a Snack! For details call Josie Mendez (973) 887-7835 or Jeanette East (973) 334-8766.

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: December 16th.

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Dates: January 9, 2017. 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.

St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Our book club meeting will be on December 6th at 7:15 pm in room 110. The December book selection:

"The Language of Flowers" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

We hope to see you at our meeting. New members are always welcome!

* **New book list to be announced at meeting.**

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.*



St. Christopher's Prayer Group

Tuesday, December 6th at 10:30 am

Thursday, December 8th after 12:05 pm Mass

Remember, Pray the Rosary every

Monday – Friday after the 12:05 pm Mass. Novena & Rosary @ 7:00 pm followed by Mass at 7:30 pm every Monday at St. Christopher.

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.

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.

The Pope Francis Society

Our new program to help 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".

List #1 Peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, canned corn, baking mixes, mustard, ketchup, dishwashing liquid. Laundry detergent, toothpaste, deodorant.

For more information contact the rectory and speak to Fr. Joe.

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.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...

For programs and events and to register visit
www.insidethewalls.org or call
(973) 437-9741

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20 Week Club

We have 159 participants, with a total of \$15,900.00 collected. A big thank you to the contributors of the 20 Week Club.

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A reminder to the members of the Women's Society; Tuesday, December 6th at 6:00pm. will be the Christmas Dinner at Verde Restaurant located on Rt. 53 in Parsippany. The cost is \$32.00 per person which includes dinner and tip. Bring your appetite so you can enjoy Verde's delicious food. Looking forward to seeing you there.

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The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30PM in room 101. Program: 20th Annual Candle Lighting (Please Bring a Picture of Your Child). For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

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All Saints Academy, Parsippany, is seeking a part time, interim, Music Teacher for grades K - 8 for the 2016/2017 school year. The ideal candidate will be able to teach vocal and instrumental music and play piano. Music classes are held two full days per week, Tuesdays and Fridays. The position is available as of January 1st. Candidates must have appropriate credentials. For further information, please call the school at 973.334.4704

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Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others - educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

ALL SAINTS ACADEMY CORNER

ASA – An Extension of Our Parish Community

Like our parish, All Saints Academy is a diverse community that celebrates the benchmarks of faith and practice traditionally found in the legacy of Catholic education. As a school in the Diocese of Paterson, All Saints Academy's *AdvancEd* Accreditation and STEM Certification provide a standards-based educational framework, setting a path for continuous improvement in instruction, 21st century learning and student performance. The very important presence of faith education truly makes All Saints Academy an extension of the mission of our Catholic parish. All parish families are welcome in our school. Pope Benedict XVI said, "No child should be denied his or her right to an education in faith, which in turn nurtures the soul of a nation." This is the time to consider All Saints Academy for your child's faith-based education - an experience that will foster a lifetime. Contact our principal, Mrs. Judith Berg, at 973-334-4704, for more information regarding admission and scholarship opportunities at All Saints Academy.

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Please join us on Sunday, December 11th at 7:00 pm Mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, STD, SSL, DD, our Bishop will preside at this Holy Mass. After Mass, we will process with the Guadalupe Statue, A Mariachis band will play music and some delicious ethnic food will be served in the gym. Please join us before the 7:00 pm for a multi-lingual Rosary at 5:30 pm.

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Carol Service

Please join the Contemporary Choir in celebrating the Birthday of the King! The celebration begins on December 24th with Carol Service at 11:30 pm and is immediately followed by Midnight Mass. The Carol Service prepares us to celebrate the Lord's birth through reading and carols depicting the birth of Jesus.

**Soft yoga for hard times at
St. Christopher**

Every Thursday from 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm in room 102. 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 Prosperi, who is the yoga instructor at pprosperi51@gmail.com.

Dec. 10th & 11th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	D. Lipuma B. & B. Davies	M. & M. D'Ambrosia K. Hollinghurst J. Lipuma	C. Lipuma
7:00 am	The Rozanitis Family	B. Carroll	E. Shabet
8:00 am	C. Ocker K. Gaydo A. Mogan	D. & S. Kaschalk C. Ocker	M. Montefusco
9:15 am	B. & T. Wyka N. Shieffele	C. Callahan R. DiMaggio L. Eckel N. Gordon	A. To
10:45 am	B. & E. Hollinghurst	C. Brown Visit: K. Lucibello A. Malsbury J. Mendez	A. Bilotti
12:15 pm	I. Perez A. & D. Guzzardo	W. Koeller R. Lang M. Pasuco R. Vento	M. Reyes

St. Paul's Abbey, on Route 206 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose and cut 7 days a week until December 23rd, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Abbey gift shop is also open with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including books, statues, jewelry and more.

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Union Catholic High School Christmas Blood Drive
Thursday, December 15th from 7:45 am to 1:45 pm. Located at 1600 Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ. Contact Ed Thornton for more information or to make an appointment: ethornton@unioncatholic.org. Walk ins are also welcome.

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Villa Walsh Academy Annual Christmas Concert "Light to the World", will be on Sunday, December 11th at 3:00 pm. Place: Villa Walsh Academy, Mother Ninetta Auditorium located at 455 Western Ave., Morristown, NJ. Tickets are \$10.00. For more information call 973-538-3680.

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Friends of the world, Inc., invites you to visit their site: www.friendsoftheworld.org. This site features the homilies and reflections by Father Louis Scurti, interviews with various leaders of the Catholic Faith as well as special events of Catholic Interest. This is a non profit educational and charitable site. For more information contact:

FrLouScurti@hotmail.com.



Free Throw Championship

This year's Free Throw contest will be held on January 14, 2017 at 9:00 am at St. Christopher's All Purpose room. Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is open to boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14. High School age athletes should be advised to check with their school athletic directors or their state's high school athletic association regarding possible eligibility conflicts. Each youngster may compete in only one council competition. Local champions may not represent more than one council. Championships entrants compete against youngsters of the same age and gender in five age divisions: 10,11,12,13 and 14. At the council level, each competitor gets 15 free throws, and the one who makes the most shots win.

Poster Contest

Entries in the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest must fall under one of these topics: Alcohol Awareness and Abuse & Drug Awareness Abuse. Each poster must include a slogan reflecting either of the topics and be an original work with original visual image (including concept, layout, and slogan) and be the original work of only one person. Posters may only be entered under one topic, must be 11" x 17" in size and if pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. Posters may be in color or black and white, each must be submitted with a contest entry form. The contest is open to all young people between the ages of 8 and 14 and will be judged following the 9:00 am free throw contest on January 14, 2017 at St. Christopher's All Purpose Room. All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. Posters will not be returned.

**GET READY FOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
AT ST. CHRISTOPHER
ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 13TH AT 6:30 PM
WITH THE WONDERFUL MOVIE**



THIS WONDERFUL MOVIE IS AN IMAGINATIVE TALE FILLED WITH MAGIC, WONDER AND UNEXPECTED FRIENDSHIP. A YOUNG GIRL IS LAUNCHED ON AN ENORMOUS "PHIZZ-WHIZZING" ADVENTURE WHEN SHE CROSSES PATHS WITH A MYSTERIOUS BEING CALLED THE BIG FRIENDLY GIANT WHO, DESPITE HIS INTIMIDATING APPEARANCE, TURNS OUT TO BE A KIND-HEARTED SOUL WHO IS CONSIDERED AN OUTCAST BY THE OTHER GIANTS.



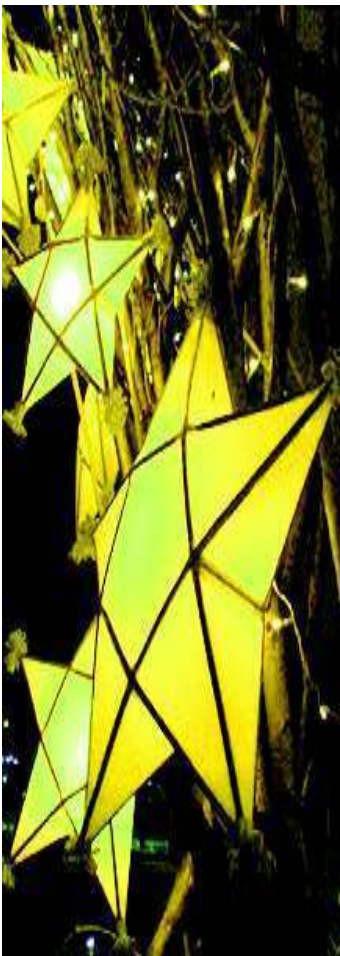
**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
REMEMBER TO BRING CHAIRS**





Simbang Gabi

*A Filipino tradition of a nine-day
novena of Masses during Advent
(December 15 - 23, 2016) in preparation for
the Nativity of our Savior, Jesus.*



**You are cordially invited to join our
Diocesan and parish-sponsored *Simbang
Gabi* (Filipino for “Mass of the Night or
Evening”) celebration:**

**St. Christopher Church
1050 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ**

Friday, December 16, 2016

**Eucharistic Mass at 7:00 p.m.
Main Celebrant: Rev. Joseph Buffardi**

**This nine-day novena is coordinated by the
Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino
Ministries (DCCFM) of the Diocese of
Paterson.**

**Refreshments immediately follow Mass.
For more information or if you wish to help,
please coordinate with Jeanette East at
(973) 334-8766**

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH 20-WEEK CLUB MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND 2017

Raffle License #
ID #375-01-0914

Location: 1050 Littleton Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054
Time: 12:00 noon

- A. Each participant pays \$100 once or \$20 a month for 5 months, starting January and ending in May.
- B. There is a winner selected each week, two winners on week 10 (\$500/each) two winners on week 17 (\$400/each) and five winners on week 20 (\$1000/each).

January 2017		February 2017		March 2017		April 2017		May 2017	
1/7	\$150	2/4	\$200	3/4	\$250	4/1	\$300	5/6	\$375
1/14	\$150	2/11	\$200	3/11	\$500, \$500	4/8	\$350	5/14	\$400
1/21	\$175	2/18	\$200	3/18	\$300	4/15	\$350	5/21	\$1000
									\$1000
1/28	\$175	2/25	\$250	3/25	\$300	4/22	\$375		\$1000
						4/29	\$400, \$400		\$1000

- C. A person can win more than once. Your name is put back in so you can win again.
- D. We are planning to have our first drawing on January 7, 2016. Drawings will be held each SATURDAY. A list of winners will be posted in the vestibule of the Church and in the bulletin.
- E. If a participant fails to pay the monthly dues, he/she will be disqualified for the remainder of the drawing.
- F. If gambling is a problem for you or someone in your family, DIAL 1-800-GAMBLER.
- G. The aggregate value of all prizes **\$11,300**. No substitution of the offered prizes may be made.

PLEASE PRINT – FILL OUT FORM AND RETURN TO: St. Christopher Rectory

All forms must be returned no later than January 6, 2017

20-week club# _____

Saint Christopher Church

Raffle License #

Calendar Raffle – 20-week club

ID #375-1-914

January, February, March, April, May 2017

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

_____ \$100 payment in full

_____ \$20 partial payment

St. Christopher's Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop

Thank you to all our loyal patrons and looking forward to meeting new patrons

~ **OPEN SUNDAYS AFTER 9:15 am MASS** ~

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 Church

Come in and checkout all our great merchandise at amazingly low price!



For more information call 973-713-4939