

Third Sunday In Advent

From the Pastors Desk



Third Sunday of Advent

I have a dogmatic certainty: God is in every person's life... Even if the life of a person has been a disaster.

God of my certainty and doubt, all too often my life seems to either be impersonal disaster mode or it includes others who are facing the very worst times. Either way I need a better response than throwing up my hands in exasperation. In those moments, Lord, fill me with the certainty of your presence. Especially during Advent, as I prepare for the joy of welcoming your son Jesus, more fully into my heart this Christmas season, give me a nudge in your direction, a gentle reminder that you are near. Whether through the beauty of nature, the smile of a child or the pain of a stranger, let me hear you say "Here I am. I have never left your side".

Read this week Psalm 23:4.

Time Change

Beginning on January 8, 2018 the mass on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm will be moved (incorporated) to Mondays at 12:05 pm followed by the Novena to the Miraculous Medal Novena at 12:30 pm.

There will be NO Novena or Mass on Monday evening beginning on January 8, 2018.

Weekly Collections

First Collection	\$ 10,429.25
(including online giving)	\$ 1,033.00
Project Faith	\$ 1,007.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,735.50
Last Year	\$ 10,148.00

Attendance for the week 676
Thank you for your generosity

Advent Penance Service

Our Advent Penance Service will be celebrated on December 20th at 7:00 pm in Church. There will be a number of guest priest helping with the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Reflections

The reading from Isaiah is generally seen as a reference to Jesus; but, it can also be applied to those who would be Jesus' disciples. The Spirit is upon us and we have been anointed to go forth on a mission. Consider who are the lowly, brokenhearted, captives—those who are ignored or despised in your world. How do you seek to bring the Good News to them? How can you make God's love more real for others? We cannot solve all problems; but is there something we can do to improve things around us? Perhaps we cannot do big things but we can treat others with respect and kindness no matter who they may be.

*- God who is mighty has done great things for me,
holy is His name.*

The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in memory of
Deacon John Kelly
for the month of December 2017

Masses

Saturday, December 16th

8:30 am Special Intentions Matthew Tapia
(1yr old)

5:00 pm Frances Carnevale

Sunday, December 17th

7:00 am Antonio & Laura Brunetto

8:00 am Harold Rozell

Rita Poakley

9:15 am Paul Gerber, Jr.

Robert Decker & The Jackiewicz Family

10:45 am Angela Marie Imbergamo

Petolino & Corcoran Families

Joseph Mato

12:15 pm Peter & Rose Policastro

Bella Ricci

Monday, December 18th

7:00 am Sr. Nazarene Norcia

12:05 pm Mary Comforti

Venancio Lascano

7:30 pm Pauline Ferraioli

Tuesday, December 19th

7:00 am Special Intentions - Matthew Tapia
(1 yr old)

12:05 pm John Zimmer

Walter Giuffre

Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 am Ann & Michael Bevilacqua

Frank & Margaret Potenza

12:05 pm Raymunda Ruguian

Lawrence McLean

Thursday, December 21st

7:00 am Special Intentions - Matthew Tapia
(1 yr old)

12:05 pm Ann Price

Friday, December 22nd

7:00 am Nancy Rafanello

12:05 pm Robert Gordon

Saturday, December 23rd

8:30 am Ann R. Paterno

Rita & Mickey D'Ambrosia

Charles Ehrenfeld

James Fenske

Sunday, December 24th

7:00 am Cathy Saffian

8:00 am Theresa Neilson

9:15 am Robert Haynes

Robert Hartmann

10:45 am Ann Price

12:15 pm Walter Pasuco

Ann O'Dea

5:00 pm Chester Kudlac

George Bain III

Delores & Denise Sesta

Meghan Nugent

8:00 pm Deceased Members of the Picinich &
Zemo Families

12:00 am Manny Uy



*Please remember in your prayers
all the departed family and
friends of St. Christopher's.*

Religious Education

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

Baptism

*Our next Baptism preparation meeting will
be on January 8th @ 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
Alexis Mae Seminaris, who received the
sacrament of Baptism.*

*The Advent candle for 2017 will be in
memory of the deceased members of the
prayer group:*

*Kitty Marvin, Pauline Moran, Arlene Hak,
Mary Lucibello, Mary Quinn, Ada Cezsak,
Mary Elen Clemente, Tessie Gajdek,
Esther Treuting, Jeanne Chmura,
Nancy DeLue, Betty Rydyfski, Phyllis
Burns, Agnes Hogan, Tania Monteith,
Ruth Vasta.*

Parish Activities...

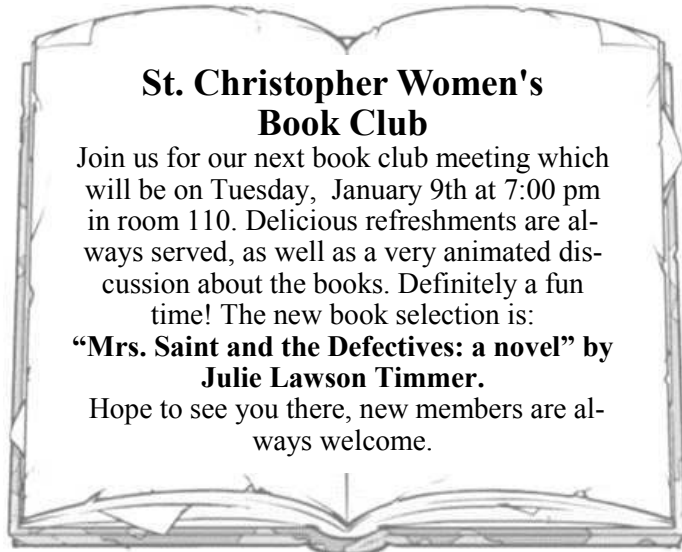
Men's Group - Issac Jogues Society - Meets on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, in room 101 in the school. Our Mission Statement is: "Life as a Catholic Man – A Truly Catholic and Spiritual Way of Life".

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Monday morning adult education at 10:30 room 110.
New Topic: Pope Pius XII

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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 be every Tuesday, at 10:30 am and every Thursday, 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.



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.

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 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. 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 15th.**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **January 8th.** 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.

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.

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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".

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.

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.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...

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

**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 Prosperi, who is the yoga instructor at pprosperi51@gmail.com.

20 Week Club

To date, we have 200 participants with \$20,00.00 collected. 1st drawing will be on January 5th and will end May 20th. Thank you to all members who have already joined this very important fund raiser.

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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 a Carol Service at 11:30 p.m. 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.

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St. Christopher Needs You!!

By registering in our Parish, you are declaring your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community. Your registration affects us in many ways. Census numbers may determine how many priests are assigned to our Parish, what benefits and obligations the Parish has to the diocese, and how many Masses and programs are planned and scheduled. Registration enables Fr. Michael and I to get to know you better, and helps us to be able to communicate with you by sending you mailings. Once you are registered, please notify us of any changes in address or phone numbers. You will also receive a packet of envelopes to place your regular contributions. This is important if you want to receive a year end statement from the Parish for income tax purposes. Registered members can expect pastoral care from our Parish, including baptisms, anointing of the sick, funerals and weddings.

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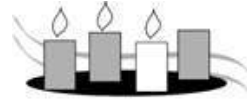
ALL SAINTS ACADEMY CORNER

Third Week of Advent Candle Lighting

To honor the third week of Advent, this week, our students will light the pink candle of our Advent wreath. This candle represents joy -- the joy that Jesus is almost here. When parents get ready to bring a new baby home, they typically prepare the baby's room and furnishings with great anticipation. They do this out of joy for to baby's arrival. In the same way, the priest wears pink, and we light a pink candle to represent the joy we feel to welcome Jesus in Christmas. Each day, following morning prayers, our students share their joy as they sing a religious Christmas song, preparing for the Christ child's arrival in their hearts and minds. We are so very blessed, each day, to be able to celebrate the true meaning of the beautiful Advent Season. We are grateful to our Parsippany parishes for their spiritual guidance, presence and leadership in the life of our school. Please contact our school office at 973-334-4704 for more information about your child's faith-based education at All Saints Academy.

**2017 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
IN GIVING, WE RECEIVE**

As we plan to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season by giving gifts to our friends and loved ones, there is one gift that we can give to tens of thousands of people. It does not require ten thousand name tags or ten thousand bows. All that's needed is a completed pledge card to the Bishop's Annual Appeal or an online line gift at www.2017appeal.org. Say "Merry Christmas" to so many of your brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Paterson who need some hope and joy in their lives by participating in the Bishop's Annual Appeal today. May God bless you for your generosity!



Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

Sunday

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday

Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45

Friday

1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Dec. 23rd & 24th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	A. & A. DeNino A. Jerez	L. Bain M. Downing L. Asea S. Hilgendorf	C. Haney
7:00 am	The Rozanitis Family	P. Allocca	B. Carroll
8:00 am	The Imperati Family	P. Luther C. Metcalf C. Callahan	L. Pascale
9:15 am	C. & C. Berardo M. Morales	P. & K. Berardo B. Chmielewski E. Shabet	K. Hardy
10:45 am	C. Rizzo E. & B. Hollinghurst	R. Arcilla Visit: M. & M. D'Ambrosa A. Malsbury	A. Bilotti
12:15 pm	M. & A. Memoli C. Dumapit	J. & B. East W. Koeller M. Pasuco	M. Reyes

Dec. 25th Christmas Day	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
7:00 am	The Lalo Family	B. Carroll P. Allocca	C. Ramon-cionis
8:00 am	P. Whalen J. Lance R. Bilboa-Lavieja	L. Scangarella J. Mucirino G. & L. Azares	C. Johnson
9:15 am	The Imperati Family	B. Chmielewski C. Callahan S. DeMaio R. D'Maggio	M. Morales
10:45 am	A. & A. DeNino M. Villanueva	A. Malsbury E. Shabet J. Sole L. Copeland	K. Longo
12:15 pm	M. & A. Memoli L. Taylor	M. & M. D'Ambrosa A. Calabria K. Lucibello	J. Lucibello

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	A. & D. Guzzardo G. Harris	L. Bain M. Downing L. Asea M. & J. Davies J. Lipuma P. & K. Berardo K. Hollinghurst C. Mosiello C. Hendricks L. & M. Sostak S. Hilgendorf	Pageant Mass
8:00 pm	A. Zecena S. & T. Lally	N. Gordon R. Vento T. Racioppi	M. Appio
12:00 Midnight	J. Jacob J. Vaddakedam C. Dumapit	C. Uy S. & S. Richards J. Alfonso	C. Haney

Prayer for Third Sunday of Advent

“With our whole heart, our whole soul, our whole mind, with our whole strength and fortitude, with our whole understanding, with all our powers, with every effort, every affection, every feeling, every desire and wish, let us love the Lord God. Who has given and gives to each one of us our whole body, our whole soul and our whole life, Who has created, redeemed and will save us by His mercy alone, Who did and does everything good for us.”

~ from Advent and Christmas Wisdom from St. Francis of Assisi



**St. Christopher 's
Christmas
Schedule**



2017

Penance Service

Wednesday, December 20th
7:00 pm

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*Fourth Sunday of Advent, **December 24th** –
will be the regular Sunday schedule *

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Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24th
5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 12:00 am (Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25th
7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am,
12:15 pm

Sunday, December 31st

New Year's Eve Mass - Vigil
5:00 pm

Mary the Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 2018
10:00 am



SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH 20-WEEK CLUB MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND 2018

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 2018		February 2018		March 2018		April 2018		May 2018	
1/6	\$150	2/3	\$200	3/3	\$250	4/7	\$350	5/5	\$375
1/13	\$150	2/10	\$200	3/10	\$500, \$500	4/14	\$350	5/12	\$400
1/20	\$175	2/17	\$200	3/17	\$300	4/21	\$375	5/20	\$1000
									\$1000
1/27	\$175	2/24	\$250	3/24	\$300	4/28	\$400, \$400		\$1000
									\$1000
				3/31	\$300				\$1000

- C. A person can win more than once. Your name is put back in so you can win again.
- D. We are planning on having our first drawing on January 6, 2018. 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 5, 2018

20-week club# _____

Saint Christopher Church

Raffle License #

Calendar Raffle – 20-week club

ID #375-1-914

January, February, March, April, May 2018

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

_____ \$100 payment in full

_____ \$20 partial payment

**Get ready for Family Movie night
at St. Christopher
on Friday, January 12th at 6:30 pm
with the movie**



Refreshments will be served
Remember to bring chairs

Children's Motorized Truck Raffle

R.C. Ride on car
Perfect for children ages 3 to 6 years old

\$5.00 per raffle ticket Drawing will be on
December 17th



All proceeds from this raffle will be used to help
defray the cost of running our Family Fun
Activities.



Simbang Gabi

*A Filipino tradition of a
nine-day novena of Masses during Advent
(December 15 - 23, 2017) 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 Parish

1050 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054


Thursday, December 21, 2017

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**

**Refreshment immediately follows Mass
For more information please contact
Jeanette East (973) 334-8766**





Knights Of Columbus

PARSIPPANY COUNCIL, No 3680

P.O. Box 5572

Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
Grand Knight Frank Palmieri

Meetings
St. Christophers Church
1050 Littleton rd.
Second & Fourth
Monday at 8:00 PM

David Szmek
5 Caldwell Rd.
Parsippany N.J. 07054
Phone 973-887-6120

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

This year's Free Throw contest will be held on January 13, 2018 at 9 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. Championship 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 wins.

POSTER CONTEST

Substance Abuse Awareness 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 and Abuse. Each poster must include a slogan reflecting either of the topics and an original visual image. Posters may only be entered under one topic. The Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest is open to all young people between the ages of 8 and 14. Posters will be judged following the 9 am free throw contest on JAN 13, 2018 at St. Christopher's All Purpose room.

Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person. Posters must be 11" x 17" in size. 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 poster must be submitted with a Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest entry form. The name and age of the person entering the poster should be included on the back of the poster. All Entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. Posters will not be returned.

ANY QUESTION CALL MR ALBERT V. CLARK
(973) 887-8588