

St. Christopher Church

First Sunday of Advent

Pastors' Desk

The Kingdom of God is near

What if you made this Advent season radically different? This is a very busy time of the year. There is shopping, baking, decorating, special events to attend but, as Jesus reminds us in the Gospel, the Son of Man is coming, and there is no date set in stone and no google calendar reminder to announce the Second Coming. We have to live like we're ready, all of the time. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly".

Running from commitment to obligation doesn't leave much room for joy and praise, peace and prayer. So this Advent, start your planning with a blank slate. Will Christmas still come even if you don't exchange presents with your siblings? What are your Advent essentials?

Write down only those activities and traditions that are most precious, the things that make your heart feel full of love for God and your neighbor. During Advent, live as if you were going to meet Jesus each and every day.

Weekly Collections

To be posted in next weeks bulletin

Sunday

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28; 34-36

Monday

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

First Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The Lord tells of fulfilling the promise he had made to Israel. He will send a replacement for David, someone who "shall do what is right and just in the land," believed by most to mean Jesus.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be ready for the coming of the Lord. He explains that although they are conducting themselves in a way that would please God, they should always strive to do even better.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus warns his followers to be prepared for the end of the world. He reminds them not to be preoccupied with unimportant events, or they will be caught unaware rather than being on watch as they should.



Masses

Saturday, November 28th

8:30 am Madison Torres
5:00 pm Christine Bassyouni

Sunday, November 29th

7:00 am Special Intentions
8:00 am Mickey Karlak
9:15 am Linda Bongiovanni
Mary Bonczak
10:45 am Ramon Ibanga Sr.
Glyn Brace
12:15 pm Mary Lou Lopez-Tantay
Gloria DeMaio

Monday, November 30th

7:00 am Special Intentions
12:05 pm Robert O' Mara
7:30 pm Deceased Members of the Parish

Tuesday, December 1st

7:00 am Felipe Martinez
12:05 pm Martin Hunt

Wednesday, December 2nd

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Doris Tylus
Robert Ramsaier

Thursday, December 3rd

7:00 am Deceased members of the Parish
12:05 pm Anita, Anthony & Joseph Natoli

Friday, December 4th

7:00 am Norman Todero
12:05 pm Edward Tobe

Saturday, December 5th

8:30 am Deceased Members of Parish
5:00 pm Marie Dandreau

Sunday, December 6th

7:00 am Clarence, Mini & Craig Hall
8:00 am Jack Kowalewski
9:15 am Harold Hertig
Alfred Smith
10:45 am Gene O' Halloran
Susan Riedinger
12:15 pm Sheila Ward
Andy Devine

*The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in Memory of
Mathilde & Joseph Nackley
for the month of
November*



*Please remember in your
prayers all the departed
family and friends of
St. Christopher's Parish, especially
Arthur C. & Jean C. Knobloch*

Religious Education

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

Let us welcome into our family of faith Jacob M. Pettersen & Noah J. Santos, who received the sacrament of Baptism.

Baptism

Our next Baptism preparation meeting will be on December 14th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.

Meditations

Paul's reminder to the Thessalonians also applies to us. No matter how great our progress, there is always more to learn. Our life long task is to learn how to love others as God loves us, without limits or conditions. This Advent as we prepare once again to celebrate God's gift of love in Jesus, pray for the grace to be open and to learn what the Spirit will teach you.

*Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths.*

-Psalm 25:4



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: Protestant Reformation & The Council of Trent.

***Thursday mornings at 10:30 am** in room 110 in the school, New topic: The Book of Revelation.

St. Christopher Women's Book Club

First book club meeting of the season was great as always, welcome to our new members and welcome back to all our other members. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:15 pm in room 110. Our new book selections are:

Next book selection: All the Light That We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr.

We hope to see you there.. New members are always welcome!

Check our website for a brief synopsis of our book club selections .. www.stchristopherparsippany.org



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 every **Wednesday at 11:30 am in the St. Christopher All Purpose Room.**



St. Christopher's Pre-Cana Program For more information please call the rectory at 973-539-7050.

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St. Christopher's Prayer Group

Tuesday, December 1st at 10:30 am

Wednesday, December 2nd at 7:00 pm

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.



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 for more information.

St. Christopher's Senior Social Club is a club to have fun and socialize. They will meet at the Community Center, at 1130 Knoll Road, Lake Hiawatha, NJ. December meeting dates to be announced.

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. (Date to be announced). Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 AM. For information call John Mola at 973-335-8947.

If you wish to learn more about the St. Christopher's Senior Social Club, please call either John Mola at 973-335-8947, or Anne Purcaro at 973-887-5186.

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, December 5th 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 10:00 am and 6:00 pm.

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

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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.

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 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 #3 - 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.

20 Week Club - We have started our 20 Week Club for the calendar year of 2016. To date, we have 147 participants and raised \$14,700.00. Please contribute to our biggest fund raiser and thank you to the people who have already donated.

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**2015 Confirmation Candidates
Congratulations to you all!**

- Nicholas Michael Antonio Allocca
- Shane Reilly B. Arcilla
- Christopher John Baldassari
- Alex Bednarczyk
- Brittany Anne Bonin
- Christopher Michael Brisson
- Zachary Francis Clark
- James Michael Cooper, Jr.
- Thomas James Copeland
- Kristen Nicole Lucy Datri
- Patrick Joseph DiBenedette
- Danielle Debra DeChristopher
- Christina Marie DeLaEspriella
- Daniel Jeffrey DeLaEspriella
- Hannah Grace DeNino
- Marco Apolo Diaz
- Arielle Blanche Mary Cecelia Fortes
- Kyle Richard Gaydo
- Matthew Vincent Carmine Grasso
- Aiden Rudolph Timothy Hoeman
- Jadon Sullivan David Hoyt
- Ryan Keith Jandora
- Brooke Elizabeth Jasiacki
- Anne Marielle Jerez
- Jay Wladyscow John Kilpack
- Kent Charles Kuduk
- Edward Joseph Anthony Lally
- Christopher James Lipuma
- Ray Francis Lozano
- Ross Santos Magparangalan
- Matthew Ryan Peter Marino
- Joseph Michael Francis McNeila
- Raymond Matthew Meigs
- Nicole Marie Naunton
- Brianne Veronica Partington
- Nicole Lucia Pereira
- Marianne Jane Rose Poccia
- Emma Darcy Anne Przyhocki
- Juan Gabriel Quiroz
- Miguel Angel Quiroz
- Nicole Saric
- Nayan Tara Joan Srinivasan
- John Joseph Gerard Stampone
- Hannah Rose Cecilia Steinel
- Rebecca Christina Faith Steinel
- Sarah Ann Rose Sturges
- Olivia Marie Helena Valatkavage
- Nicole Leigh Wilson

Dec. 5th & 6th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	The Lally Family	C. Hendricks A. Calabrese M. Gelosa E. Lally	R. Gelosa
7:00 am	Rozanitis Family	B. Carroll	C. Ramoncionis
8:00 am	B. Anastasi C. Ocker A. Zecena	C. Ocker E. Shabet R. Vento	K. Lucibello
9:15 am	The Marsh Family	B. & M. Pactwa M. Cupo R. DiMaggio	R. Magparangalan
10:45 am	M. & P. DeBenedette L. Taylor	C. Uy Visit: A. Malsbury J. Mendez C. Metcalf	M. Montefusco
12:15 pm	A. Alfonso D. & T. Metcalf	S. Marsh J. Alfonso S. Capozzi M. Pasuco	M. Floro

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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**St. Christopher's Advent Anointing
Mass December 19th at 11:00 am**

For healing, whether it be physical, emotional, spiritual, relational, financial. Encouraged for those seriously ill, dealing with rigors of aging or preparing for surgery to have anointing of the sick.

**Advent Penance Service - December 16th
at 7:00 pm**

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Retirement for the Religious

Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful. "Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH 20-WEEK CLUB MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND 2016

Raffle License #
ID #375-1-914

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 11 (\$500/each) two winners on week 18 (\$400/each) and five winners on week 20 (\$1000/each).

January 2016		February 2016		March 2016		April 2016		May 2016	
1/2	\$150	2/6	\$200	3/5	\$300	4/2	\$350	5/7	\$400
1/9	\$150	2/13	\$200	3/12	\$500, \$500	4/9	\$350	5/14	\$1000
									\$1000
1/16	\$175	2/20	\$250	3/19	\$300	4/16	\$375		\$1000
									\$1000
1/23	\$175	2/27	\$250	3/26	\$300	4/23	\$375		\$1000
1/30	\$200					4/30	\$400, \$400		

- 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 2, 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 2, 2016.

20-week club# _____
Raffle License #
ID #375-1-914

Saint Christopher Church
Calendar Raffle – 20-week club
January, February, March, April, May 2016

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

_____ \$100 payment in full

_____ \$20 partial payment

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



At St. Christopher's

On Saturday, December 12th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Santa will be arriving at 10:00 am.

There will be crafts, and be ready to take pictures with Santa.

Cost per family: \$10.00. For reservations please contact

Cathy Metcalf at 973-263-8741

Please detach the bottom and mail in with payment by: December 7, 2015

St. Christopher's Breakfast with Santa

Family Name: _____

Number of Adults _____ Number of Children _____

Phone Number : _____

St. Christopher Parish - 1050 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ (973) 539-7050
WWW.Stchristopherparsippany.org





ST. CHRISTOPHER PARISH

Saturday, December 12th & 13th

The Giving Tree will go up the weekend of November 21st & 22nd. The gifts will go to local parish families and individual children and adults that have been selected by Hope House, the Catholic Community Day Care, Friends Corner Day Care, Straight and Narrow and inner city Parishes.

Please take a tag and return the tag with the unwrapped gift on the weekend of December 12th & 13th.

If you would like to give the usual gifts listed below, we will be glad to accept those also, they will be distributed by Catholic Charities. Children and Adults are invited to bring a new, unwrapped gift to Mass on Saturday or Sunday, December 12th & 13th. Children are encouraged to earn the money and help in selection of the gift. The gifts may be placed on or around the Christmas tree before the beginning of Mass.

Items needed include: socks, mittens, watches, pajamas, coloring books, crayons, magic markers, puzzles, cd's, portable cd players, games, new toys, adult & child toiletries, scarves, hats, sweaters, sweatshirts, snuggies & winter slippers.

2x and 3x sizes are always needed. Thank you in advance for your generosity, especially in these hard times.

"MERCY ROCKS"

We
want to
live *in the light*
of the word
of the Lord:

"Be merciful, even
as your
Father is merciful"
(Lk 6:36)



Pope Francis

Join us on

12/05/2015 7pm

st. Christopher Parish Parsippany

**Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament with Chaplet
of the Divine Mercy**

Music by:

RockYouthBand

Mrs. Linda G. O'Connell

Mrs. Patrycja Jarosz



Solemn procession of WYD Cross

Veneration of relics of:

St. John Paul II & St.s. Faustina

Followed by light refreshments

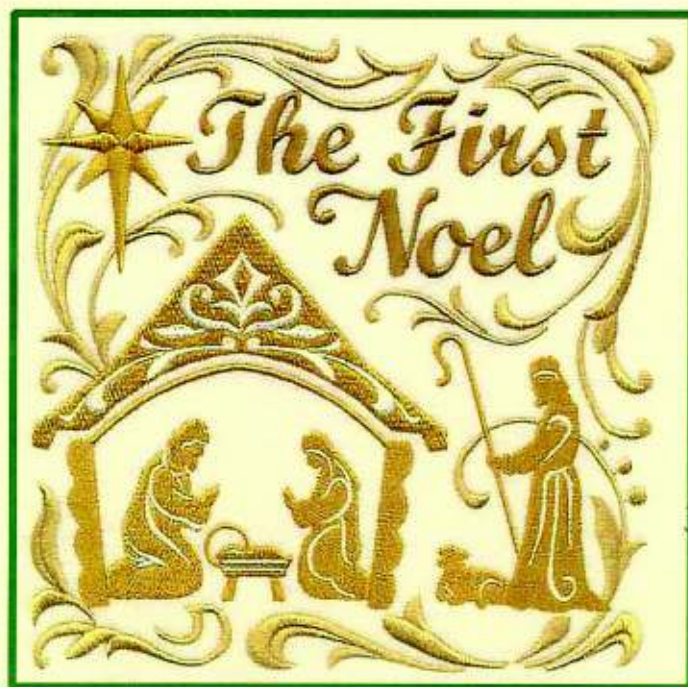
**WORLD
YOUTH DAYS**

IN CRACOW



St. Christophers Catholic Church,

The Diocese of Paterson
invites all to join in



A Christmas Concert

Paterson Diocesan Choir and Diocesan Children's Choir
Preston Dibble, Director

with Vincent Carr, Organist and the Gramercy Brass Quintet

Join Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson
as we celebrate that First Noel through the gift of song.
A variety of music will be presented spanning many centuries and cultures
and will include the Christmas Cantata of Daniel Pinkham.

Sunday, December 6th • 4:00PM
Saint Peter the Apostle Church
179 Baldwin Road
Parsippany, NJ