

St. Christopher Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastors' Desk

“My Soul Magnifies the Lord”

When Mary visits Elizabeth, she exclaims, “Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord”. Blessed was Mary for her hope and her faith. Blessed are we, to have this same hope and faith in the fulfillment of God’s promise to his followers!

The way that Mary’s faith was fulfilled was amazing. It wasn’t quite the royal birth that one would expect for the King of Kings. Instead, it was quite radically the opposite. It makes you think, doesn’t it? Perhaps your faith is shaken when things don’t seem to be going, according to plan. The situation of the Lord’s birth certainly wouldn’t match most parents hopes. But God has a plan, and he never fails. What joy this brings! Even in the dark of winter or the dark of a spiritual winter, we can find joy in the fulfillment of our hope and faith. Our souls can magnify the Lord - He is coming!

Weekly Collections

Last week	\$14,049.00
(including Online Giving \$ 760.00)	
Last year	\$16,042.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Attendance for last week – 853*

Sunday

Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Friday

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

Micah speaks of the ruler who will come from Bethlehem. He discusses how the people of Israel will be saved from corruption and live in peace.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Paul describes to the Hebrews how Jesus came into the world and offered to do God's will. We were saved through his sacrifice, the only offering sufficient for the sins of the world.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Mary paid a visit to Elizabeth, whose baby stirred in her womb upon hearing Mary's greeting. Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth was deeply overjoyed that the words God had spoken to Mary had now been fulfilled.

*He shall
bring peace*



Masses

Saturday, December 19th

8:30 am Deceased Members of the Parish
5:00 pm Charles Ehrenfeld

Sunday, December 20th

7:00 am Eugene S. Capozzi
Martha Reily
8:00 am Laura & Antonio Brunetto
9:15 am Robert Haynes
10:45 am Deceased Members of the Petolino &
Corcoran Families
12:15 pm Peter & Rose Policastro
Andy DeVine

Monday, December 21st

7:00 am David Lisi
12:05 pm Joseph Nackley
7:30 pm Sheila McGhee Kowolsky

Tuesday, December 22nd

7:00 am David Lisi
12:05 pm Joseph McInerney

Wednesday, December 23rd

7:00 am Ann Paterno
12:05 pm Rita & Mickey D' Ambrosa
Jim Fenske - 10th Anniversary

Thursday, December 24th Christmas Eve

5:00 am George Bain III
Paul Bangiola, Sr.
8:00 pm Deceased Members of the
Picinich Family
William H. Kelly
12:00 pm Manny Uy

Friday, December 25th Christmas Day

7:00 am Ann Paterno
Richard Davis
8:00 am Clarence, Minnie & Craig Hall
Elizabeth Chorny
9:15 am Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo, Sam &
Connie Calabria, Rita & Mickey
D' Ambrosa
10:45 am Manny Uy
12:15 pm Savarese & Nackley Families
Marcial Bontuyan
Robert Renaudette

Saturday, December 26th

8:30 am Pamela LeDonne
5:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish

Sunday, December 27th

7:00 am Raymond Guimond
8:00 am Donald Miller
9:15 am James Moss
Michael Barone
10:45 am Gene O'Halloran
Andrew Devine

*The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in Memory of
Mathilde & Joseph Nackley
for the month of
December 2015*



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

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
January 11th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call
the rectory to enroll and for any other information
you may require.*

Meditations

What gift can we bring the Lord? Christmas is a season of gift giving to those we care for; but, stores cannot provide a gift for the Lord. It may seem that we could promise some good deed or say specific prayers as our gift. Today's reading from Hebrew's reminds us that it is not sacrifices and offerings that the Lord asks from us; but hearts open to do his will. What is God's will? Jesus has told us that we are to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. So how do we do that? Talk is not enough. Our Love must be revealed in our actions. Pray for the grace to know and do God's will.

*Take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand
has planted.*

-Psalm 80:116

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.*

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.

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. will not be held in December, January dates to follow shortly. 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 Women's Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 5th at 7:15 pm in room 110. **Next book selection:** Broken Grace by E.C. Diskin.

We hope to see you at our next meeting, even if you just want to stop by and see what we are all about, no obligations just drop by :)

New members are always welcome!

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

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 2nd 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.*



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.**

There will be no Bingo on December 23rd and December 30th

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 #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.



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 22nd at 10:30 am
Wednesday, December 23rd 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.

20 Week Club - To date, we have 227 participants and raised \$22,700.00. Please contribute to our biggest fund raiser and thank you to the people who have already donated.

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St. Paul Inside the Walls...

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

Upcoming Events:

Being Single, Being Faithful (35+)

Whether single by choice or by circumstance, we must live every "single" day to the fullest. We can find fulfillment in Christ and his Church by embracing the opportunities in the Church for spiritual growth, meaningful service and a sense of community.

Madison, Saturday, January 9th from 10:00 a.m.-noon

Young Adult Mass (Ages 23-39) with Bishop Serratelli

All young adults between the ages of 23-39 are invited to pray together at the annual diocesan-wide Young Adult Mass with Bishop Serratelli. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Serratelli at 5:30 p.m. followed by a young adult social with drinks and light food until 8:30 p.m. hosted by the Diocese of Paterson Office of Evangelization with hospitality provided by the St. Paul Young Adults. This is a great opportunity for all young adults in the Diocese to come together in faith and fellowship to pray together and kick off the new year.

Madison, Saturday, January 9th from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

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DECEMBER – ALERT. Ending slavery is everyone’s work. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking (USCSAHT) is a collaborative, faith-based network that offers educational resources, information about access to survivors’ services, and engages in advocacy in an effort to eradicate modern-day slavery. Visit the web site: sistersagainsttrafficking.org

JANUARY – ALERT. January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness month. Women, men and children in the U.S. and around the world are subjected to forced labor, domestic servitude and the sex trade at the hands of human traffickers. U.S. Catholic Sisters are working together to end this crime. Learn more about it at sistersagainsttrafficking.org. Ending Slavery is everyone’s work.

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Christmas Schedule 2015

Christmas Eve Masses

Thursday, December 24th

5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 12:00 am (Midnight Mass)

Lessons & Carols at 11:30 pm

Christmas Day Masses

Friday, December 25th

7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, 12:15 pm

New Years Eve Thursday, December 31st

New Year’s Eve Mass - Vigil

5:00 pm

Mary the Mother of God

New Years Day

Friday, January 1, 2016

10:00 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.

Dec. 26th & 27th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	The Mecalf Family	M. Downing C. Metcalf C. Uy J. Sole	C. Mosiello
7:00 am	The Rozanitis Family	B. Carroll	B. Carroll
8:00 am	The Valle Family	K. Anderson J. Mucerino K. Nolan	L. Pascale
9:15 am	A. & A. To P. Whalen	C. Calahan C. To P. Gatti B. Pactwa	I. Imperati
10:45 am	S. Arcilla A. Apro C. Chambers	A. Calabria Visit: C. Uy B. & F. Zemo	B. Bonin
12:15 pm	A. Alfonso C. Dumapit K. Gaydo	J. & B. East L. & R. Polanski	M. Dumapit

Lectors

December 24th Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Pageant Mass
8:00 pm J. Colleran
Midnight C. Haney

December 25th Christmas Day

7:00 am C. Ramoncionis
8:00 am E. Shabet
9:15 am Z. Saric
10:45 pm J. Lucibello
12:15 pm J. Cannavento

Eucharistic Ministers

December 24th Christmas Eve

5:00 pm L. Bain, A. Calabrese, M. & J. Davies, J. Alfonso, R. Vento, C. Hendricks, J. Lipima, L. Asea, P. & K. Berardo, B. & M. Pactwa
8:00 pm M. Downing, J. Hoffman
Midnight C. Uy, M. Cupo, L. & R. Roman

December 25th Christmas Day

7:00 am B. Carroll, P. Allocca
8:00 am J. Mucerino, P. Luther, K. Hollinghurst
9:15 am A. Calabria, M. & M. D’Ambrosia, E. Haynes
10:45 pm A. Malsbury,
Visit: C. Brown, K. Lucibello, W. & A. Price
12:15pm B. & J. East, W. Koeller, R. Lang

Altar Servers

December 24th Christmas Eve

5:00 pm A. Alfonso, T. & A. Pactwa
8:00 pm L. Taylor, N. & A. Courtney
Midnight J. & J. Jacob, K. Gaydo

December 25th Christmas Day

7:00 am R.Meigs
8:00 am B. & E. Hollinghurst
9:15 am J. Vadakkedam, K. & N. Hardy
10:45 pm The DeNino Family
12:15 pm A. & M. Memoli, A. Jerez

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

All Saints Academy's 7th Annual Tricky Tray!

Friday, January 29th, 2016 – Doors open at 5:30 PM

ADMISSION is \$35.00 per person, & includes
two sheets of Regular Prize tickets, coffee & dessert

ADVANCE TICKET PACKAGES include 2 sheets of Regular tickets, 4 Grand Prize tickets, and 2 Super Grand Prize Tickets for \$35.00...a savings of \$5.00!

Tickets prices will be as follows on the night of the auction:

Regular	1 Sheet of 25 tickets	\$10.00
Grand	1 ticket	\$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00
Super Grand	1 ticket	\$5.00 each or 4 for \$15.00

Assigned seating only - tables of 8 are available.

Please provide names of guests, phone numbers, and the number of ticket packages:

TABLE CAPTAIN: _____
PHONE: _____

	<u>Guest's Name(s)</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u># of Advance Ticket Packages</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____

ADMISSION & ADVANCE TICKET PACKAGE payment:

Please make checks payable to ALL SAINTS ACADEMY
with "Tricky Tray" noted on the memo line.

of Guests _____ @ \$35 each = \$ _____

of Advance
Ticket Packages _____ @ \$35 each = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

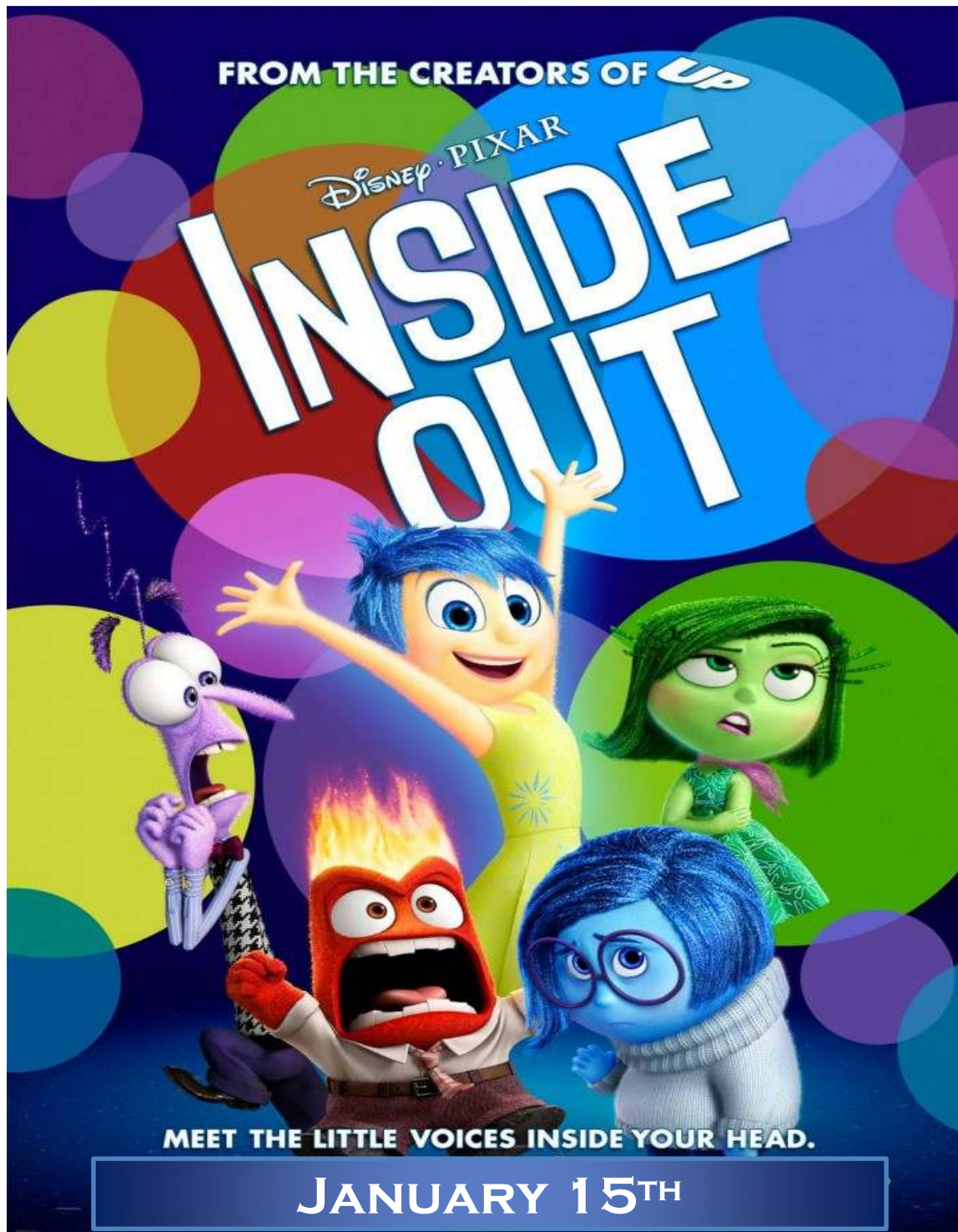
ADVANCE TICKET PACKAGE PRICES DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016.

For additional info or questions, please call Debbie Dembek at 973-334-4704.
Visit www.allsaintspar.org for additional forms.

*Due to any unforeseen circumstances, January 30, 2016 has been scheduled for a snow date.
All tickets will be honored. No refunds.*

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IS HERE AGAIN!!!**

WE ARE HAPPY TO PRESENT:



**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT 6:30 PM
WITH MOVIE STARTING AT 7:00 PM
REMEMBER TO BRING CHAIRS**