

St. Christopher Church

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastors' Desk

The Secret of Salt

Though I am not known for my cooking skills, the other day I thought I'd try my hand. After gathering the ingredients, I set to work. First, I took a slice of bread. Then I took the main ingredient, a new container of salt, and poured the entire content onto the slice of bread. Then it was ready to eat.

You might be thinking that I am crazy. You'd be right of course, no one eats a salt sandwich. No. We use a little bit of salt to bring out the flavor in that which we are eating. Notice that the salt typically disappears in the process. It was never all about the salt anyway. Salt is used to bring out the best in food, but the salt itself disappears.

Jesus says, of you and me, "You are the Salt of the Earth". It is our job to bring out the best in others. It is never meant to be all about us anyway. When we serve rightly, like salt, people don't really notice us so much. We disappear a bit.

This day, can you love a little more like that? Can you work to bring out the best in others, but do more in the background? Can you be "salt of the earth"?

Merciful God, you made me to make a difference in the lives of others. Please use me to bring out the best in those I meet.

Sunday

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11; Lk 5:1-11

Monday

1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday

Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

Weekly Collections

First collection \$ 14,265.00.00
(including online giving \$ 765.00)

Last years collection \$ 10,599.00

Attendance for last week 926

Thank you for your generosity!

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

Isaiah recounts the awe he felt the first time he saw the Lord, who was surrounded by angels. He began to feel despair because he was a man of unclean lips, until an angel touched an ember to his lips and pronounced them clean. The Lord asked who he should send forth, to which Isaiah replied, "Here I am, send me!"

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul reminds the Corinthians that Christ died for us to free us from our sins. He encourages them to remember the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection. He admits that he initially failed to believe, and therefore was very grateful to be called an apostle and preach in the name of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Luke tells of Jesus preaching to a crowd, then joining Peter who was about to end a fruitless day of fishing. He told Peter to lower his net back in, and a great number of fish were caught. Upon seeing this, Peter and his companions, James and John, immediately abandoned their nets to follow Jesus.

Masses

Saturday, February 6th

8:30 am Joseph Goffredo
5:00 pm Catherine Cutrone
Mike Cruz

Sunday, February 7th

7:00 am Robert Renaudette
Special Intentions - Teresa Bangiola
8:00 am Clarence, Minnie & Craig Hall
9:15 am All Deceased Members of the Parish
10:45 am Eleanor & Eugene Garzone
George Naseef
12:15 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish
George Sutton
Blas Banua

Monday, February 8th

7:00 am Deceased Members of Parish
12:05 pm Special Intentions for Baby Sasha
7:30 pm Special Intentions for Giomar
HazimVilorio

Tuesday, February 9th

7:00 am Special Intentions for Giomar Hazim
Vilorio
12:05 pm Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo
George Bain

Wednesday, February 10th Ash Wednesday

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
9:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Deceased Members of the Parish
3:30 pm Deceased Members of the Parish
7:00 pm Deceased Members of the Parish

Thursday, February 11th

7:00 am Jared Michael Miller
12:05 pm Special Intentions for Master Ryan

Friday, February 12th

7:00 am Carmen Trinidad
12:05 pm Edith Ann Powers
Madeline Loftus

Saturday, February 13th

8:30 am Maria Madera Checo
5:00 pm Fran DiCianni
Billy McGinty

Sunday, February 14th

7:00 am Robert Renaudette
Francis Walka
8:00 am Anthony DiFalco & Michael Lanza
9:15 am Anita, Anthony & Joseph Natoli
10:45 am Marie & John Marchisa
George Naseef
12:15 pm Joseph Walsh
Philomina Ricci

**Ash Wednesday Schedule - February 10th,
Masses will be at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 12:05 pm,
7:00 pm. There will be a service at 3:30 pm.**

****There will be NO Bingo February 10th in ob-
servance of Ash Wednesday.****

The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in Memory of
Anthony Bilotti
for the month of February 2016



*Please remember in your prayers all the departed
family and friends of St. Christopher's Parish,
especially: **Mauro P. DeLaurentis***

Religious Education

*If you have any questions concerning our CCD pro-
gram, please call Mary Ann Jacisin in the CCD of-
fice at (973) 539-6208.*

Baptism

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

*Please welcome into our family of faith
Claire Poplawski & Liam W. Hurley, who
received the holy sacrament of Baptism.*

Meditations

*In the privacy of our own hearts, we are very aware of our
own faults and shortcomings. It is easy to wonder how we
could ever be worthy of becoming God's instrument for
good in this world. However both Isaiah and Paul remind
us that in spite of our sinfulness, God's grace is there for
us. His grace heals and strengthens us. It prepares us to
be a power for good. All that is required is that we accept
God's grace and be willing to do God's will. How open
are you to the grace of God? How willing are you to do
God's will instead of your own?*

*When I called, you answered me;
You built up strength within me.
-Psalm 138:3*



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 or Karen Blunt at 973-887-1989 for more information.

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. on February 19th at 11:00 am.

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. On February 8th. 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, March 1st at 7:15 pm in room 110. **Next book selection: The Devil in the White City by Eric Larson.**

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, February 6th 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
Ash Wednesday, February 10th

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. 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, February 9th at 10:30 am
Wednesday, February 10th 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.

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.

20 Week Club -

The winner of this week's 20 week club drawing (5th Winner):

**#83 John Mola
Congratulations!**

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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

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The collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe illuminates the way for the people of the region by helping Catholic organizations provide affordable shelter and training to seminarians, in addition to providing pastoral care and catechesis. Your donation today helps restore the Church and build the future in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Please be generous to the Collection for the Church in Central and Easter Europe. Visit www.usccb.org/ccee.

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The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, February 11th, at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30 pm in room 101. **Program:** "Valentines Day With A Broken Heart". Come and let us help each other learn how to begin again. For more information please call Lily Capriglione at 973-568-4164.

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Snow Removal at St. Christopher

Since the beginning of winter we have spent \$11,735.00 on snow removal & salt.

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Save the date: Monday, May 16th

Spend a day at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club in Bedminster, NJ to benefit the Villa Walsh Academy Athletic Program. Join a foursome for the annual golf tournament on the River and Meadow courses. Not a golfer.. Relax at the club as a "member-of-the-day" and enjoy a variety of other activities, including tennis, fitness classes, pool, and massage. A gourmet dinner reception and prize auctions complete the day. For more information, contact Maria and Mike Manley at 973-626-1425.

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Morris County Rite to Life. 40 DAYS FOR LIFE is Prayer and Fasting, Peaceful Vigil, and Community Outreach. Take part with Morris County Right To Life at Planned Parenthood, 196 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, seven days a week from Ash Wednesday February 10th through Palm Sunday March 20th. We invite pro-lifers as individuals or groups to participate. Bring signs to hold (except graphic type) or will supply as needed. Please register at <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/morristown/>. Alternatively you may email: info@morriscountyrighttolife.org or call 973-933-2800.

Ash Wed. 2/10/16	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
7:00 am		B. Carroll	B. Carroll
9:00 am		K. Lucibello A. Price	C. Haney
12:05 pm		E. Haynes L. Bain C.. Brown	E. Montefusco
7:00 pm	B. & B. Davies D. Lipuma	D. & S. Kaschalk P. & K Berardo	C. Lipuma

Feb. 13th & 14th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	Lally Family	L. Asea M. Downing E. Lally L. Bain	R. Gelosa
7:00 am	Rosanitis Family	B. Carroll	J. Lucibello
8:00 am	Valle Family	L. Valle J. & L. Reinke	J. Valle
9:15 am	J. Summa N. Schieffele J. Lance	E. Montefusco C. Rogers C. To B. Wyka	S. Marsh
10:45 am	S. Arcilla L. Taylor J. Ratcliffe	L. Eckel Visit: C. Metcalf B. & F. Zemo	J. Colleran
12:15 pm	Przyhocki Family	J. Alfonso R. Lang C. Walsh M. Pasuco	L. Pascale

St. Christopher Women's Retreat Living in the Mercy of God

Would you like to make retreat this year at the San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch? This Redemptorist run Spiritual Center is on eight beautiful acres along the Jersey coast. The weekend begins on Friday with dinner and ends on Sunday after lunch. There are outdoor shrines, a prayer garden, expansive lawns, a beautiful chapel, comfortable individual rooms and the Atlantic Ocean. This year's retreat theme is "Living in the Mercy of God". Please join us for the upcoming weekend of April 15th-16th-17th. The cost is \$210 with a deposit of \$50 due by March 1st. For reservations or information on any questions you might have, please call Sue Stevens 973-586-0303 or Josie Mendez 973-887-7835.

FISH AND CHIPS DINNER

CATERED BY THE FAMOUS ARGYLE'S RESTAURANT, Kearny, NJ

WHEN: Friday, February 12, 2016

WHERE: Saint Christopher's All Purpose Room

TIME: 5:30pm-7:30pm **EAT-IN ONLY** (No Seating till 5:30)

5:00pm-7:00pm **TAKE-OUT ONLY**

PRICE: **\$15.00** per person/Senior Citizens **\$13.00** per person

*Children's meal will be available at a cost of **\$8.00 per child.***

Children may choose Mozzarella Sticks, Chicken Fingers, or Fish (all served with fries).

Come join us for a delicious dinner of fish and chips in the All Purpose Room, or, if you prefer, you can place an order for "take out". Either way, you will receive a generous portion of fresh fish, French fries, and Cole slaw.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Number of dinners (please specify below):

\$15.00 (Adult) _____

\$13.00 (Senior) _____

\$8.00 (Child) Fish _____ Chicken _____ Mozz Stix _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Eat In: _____ Take Out (pick-up time): _____

Checks can be made payable to: Saint Christopher Church

Questions?? Feel free to contact the rectory at 973-539-7050

between 10am / 4pm daily or email Jean at jekev3@yahoo.com.



*Family Square Dance at
St. Christopher*

**In the All Purpose Room on February 19, 2016
from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm**

Fun for the whole family,
ages 5 to adult.

Knowledge of Square Dance is not necessary
All steps will be taught and demonstrated.

Our caller will be Susan Kassab
** wear comfortable shoes**

The Joy of Mercy - Forgiving and Forgiven

The Season of Lent 2016

I. Stations of the Cross

Every Friday Night during Lent – 7:00 pm

II. Monday Evening Lent Series – 7:30 pm

Our Catholic Symbol, a rich spiritual heritage

- a. February 15th Lent: Symbols of the Holy Spirit
- b. February 22nd Symbols of Faith: contradictory or complimentary
- c. February 29th Symbols of a Church, our home of faith
- d. March 7th Symbolic persons from Scripture
- e. March 14th Symbols of the Easter Vigil: Plunge into the presence of God

III. Welcome Home, Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday evenings during Lent – 7:00 pm, to 8:15 pm

IV. Lenten Anointing Mass

February 27th at 11:00 am

V. Lenten Dinner & Movie (Molokai)

March 3rd Dinner 6:30 pm
 Movie 7:00 pm

VI. Lenten Penance Service

March 16th at 7:00 pm

Holy Week 2016

Lenten Penance Service
Wednesday, March 16th at
7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Masses
Vigil, March 19th at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 20th at 7:00 a.m.,
8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.

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Holy Week Masses

March 21st
7:00 a.m., 12:05p.m., & 7:30 p.m.

March 22nd & March 23rd
7:00 a.m. & 12:05p.m.

Holy Thursday, March 24th
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Last Supper

Good Friday, March 25th
3:00 p.m. – Passion of the Lord
7:00 p.m. – Living Stations

Holy Saturday, March 26th
11:30 a.m. – Blessing of the Food
7:00 p.m. – The Easter Vigil
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Easter Sunday – March 27th
Masses: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m.,
10:45 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.



DIOCESE OF PATERSON

Diocesan Center
777 Valley Road
Clifton, New Jersey 07013

Office of
THE BISHOP

(973) 777-8818 Fax (973) 777-8976

February 7, 2016

Dear Friends in Christ,

Our Catholic community in the United States does something amazing each Lent. Through prayers, fasting and almsgiving, we give families around the world the tools they need to rise above poverty and provide for themselves, and their communities. We might call it the "CRS Rice Bowl effect." And this year, we are at it again.

CRS Rice Bowl provides resources to bring Lenten spirituality to life for families and parish and school communities, while continuing to connect Catholics in our diocese with our brothers and sisters in need around the world.

I encourage all of the parishes and schools in our diocese to use CRS Rice Bowl for Lent 2016. Please be sure to provide a CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar to each family in your community. These materials are available in both English and Spanish and are free of charge. You may also visit crsricebowl.org to find additional resources, including:

- Lenten devotions and prayers
- Reflections for faith-sharing communities and youth ministry groups
- Lesson plans, videos and activity sheets for Catholic school educators and religious educators
- Ideas for community gatherings and simple Lenten meal events
- A new app that delivers prayers and resources directly to your mobile device

You should have received your ORB materials from CRS by now. If you have not received them, please contact our Paterson Diocese CRS Director Joe Duffy at 973-777-8818, ext. 278, or jduffy@patersondiocese.org.

Seventy-five percent of our gifts go to Catholic Relief Services to support vital projects for our neighbors in need around the world. **Twenty-five percent of our gifts remain here in the diocese to support our Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Services programs**

Thank you for inviting families in your parish or school to an enriched Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl. Together, we will make this year's CRS Rice Bowl effect greater than ever.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, STD, SSL, DD
Bishop of Paterson