

St. Christopher Church

First Sunday of Lent

Pastors' Desk

Do you want to change?

The spiritual life is not lived outside, before, after, or beyond our everyday existence. No, the spiritual life can be real only as it is lived in the midst of the pains and joys of the here and now. Therefore, we need to begin with a careful look at the way we think, speak, feel and act from hour to hour, day to day, week to week, and year to year, in order to become more fully aware of our hunger for the Spirit. As long as we have only a vague inner feeling of discontent with our present way of living, and only an indefinite desire for "things spiritual", our lives will continue to stagnate in a generalized melancholy. We often say, "I am not very happy. I am not content with the way my life is going. I am not really joyful or peaceful. But I don't know how things can be different, and I guess I have to be realistic and accept my life as it is". It is this mood of resignation that prevents us from actively naming our reality, articulating our experience and moving more deeply into the life of the Spirit.

Sunday

Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12

Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

Weekly Collections

First collection	\$ 11,592.00
(including online giving \$ 920.00)	
Church in Central & Eastern Europe	\$ 1,908.00
Last years collection	\$ 11,336.00

Attendance for last week 835

Thank you for your generosity!

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses discusses the power God has displayed in freeing his people from oppression and leading them to a rich land. He tells the people that they should make offerings to God to show their gratitude, then celebrate over the great things he has given them.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Paul tells us that if we proclaim, "Jesus is Lord" and truly believe that God raised him from the dead, we will be saved. For God shows his mercy toward everyone who calls upon his name.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus fasted in the desert for forty days, then Satan appeared to him and tempted him to turn stone into bread. After Jesus refused, Satan promised him great powers if Jesus would worship him. Jesus replied that he would worship God and no one else. Then Satan tried to persuade Jesus to put God to the test, but again Jesus resisted his temptation.

Masses

Saturday, February 13th

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

Sunday, February 14th

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

Monday, February 15th

7:00 am Matilde Ubiera
12:05 pm Special Intentions for Kaneesha
7:30 pm Maria Madera Checo

Tuesday, February 16th

7:00 am Rodolfo R. Herrera
12:05 pm Eva & Lorenzo Rodriguez
David H. Sutton

Wednesday, February 17th

7:00 am Laura & Edmondo Clemente
12:05 pm Sam & Connie Calabria
Frank Calabria
Lillian Corcoran

Thursday, February 18th

7:00 am Mass for Healing for Larry Eckel
12:05 pm Terri Callahan

Friday, February 19th

7:00 am Greg Pellingier
12:05 pm Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli

Saturday, February 20th

8:30 am Deceased Members of the Parish
5:00 pm Joseph Bodner

Sunday, February 21st

7:00 am Robert Renaudette
Ann & Gus Raimo
8:00 am Betty Rozell
9:15 am Emil Thalmann
10:45 am Anthony Bilotti
Fran DiCianni

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.*

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 March 14th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.*

Meditations

Jesus repeatedly said the poor, the hungry, and the outcasts were blest. No one wants to be poor. But the more we have, the less time we have for God. When we feel self-sufficient, where is there a need for God? Hunger gnaws at us until we are fed. Our bodies require food to function. Our souls also need to be fed - not just now and then but daily. Through prayer and the Eucharist we can nourish our hungry souls. Following God's will, doing what is right is not always popular and it may even make us outcasts at times. It is really more important to agree with others or to follow your own conscience? Reflect on the concerns that fill your days. Where is God in your life?

*Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
Whose hope is in the Lord..
-Jeremiah 17:7*



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: 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 Purcuro 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, March 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.*



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.**

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 16th at 10:30 am

Wednesday, February 17th 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.

Join our parish community and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's rice bowl from here at St. Christopher's today, and don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app! Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives.

First Week of Lent

Our journey with CRS Rice Bowl begins in Columbia, where coffee beans are changing lives! What actions can we take this Lent to change lives - at home and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

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20 Week Club -

The winner of this week's 20 week club drawing (6th Winner):

**#233 John Fesier
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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Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your gift is an expression of solidarity with the suffering people of this region. Through joining in the work of this collection, you are helping to restore the Church and build the future. Please visit www.usccb.org/ccee.

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LIVING STATIONS will be performed at Saint Christopher's on Good Friday, March 25, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Anyone wishing to participate as an actor, reader, musician, or to help with lights, costumes, or props should come to the organizational meeting on Thursday, February 25th from 7:00 to 7:30 pm in the Church. If you wish to participate but cannot attend this meeting, please leave your name and phone number with the Religious Education Office (973-539-6208) or come to the next meeting on March 3rd from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

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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.

Feb. 20th & 21st	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	D. Lipuma B. & B. Davies	P. Alloca A. & J. Rochacewicz J. Sole	C. Lipuma
7:00 am	I. & S. Lalo	B. Carroll	B. Bonin
8:00 am	B. & E. Hollinghurst C. Ocker	J. Hoffman P. Luther C. Ocker	M. Dumapit
9:15 am	G. Harris B. & T. Wyka	E. Montefusco C. Rogers C. To B. Wyka	J. To
10:45 am	A. Apro T. & D. Metcalf	L. Eckel Visit: C. Metcalf B. & F. Zemo	E. Shabet
12:15 pm	A. Alfonso A. Zecena D. Perez	J. Alfonso R. Lang C. Walsh M. Pasuco	M. Reyes

Sacred Heart School- Rockaway presents Seussical Jr. the Musical. Performances scheduled for: Fri., March 4th at 7 pm, Sat, March 5th at 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm. Reserved tickets are \$10.00 each, \$12.00 at the door. Performance location: St. Mary's School located at 371 So. Main St Wharton, NJ. To reserve tickets, contact Johanna Bizub at 973-714-3408 or via email at jcbizub@verizon.net

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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 Redemptories 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.



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.

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



*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**

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 10:00 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



Parsippany Knights of Columbus

Council 3680

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage,
Donuts, Coffee, Tea, Orange Juice

March 6, 2016

8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Location: All Saints Academy

189 Baldwin Road, Parsippany, NJ

\$7.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Senior Citizens

\$3.00 Children 4 - 10 years old

Children under 4 Free

Parsippany Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 5572, Parsippany, NJ 07054