

St. Christopher Church

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastors' Desk

What Christian Freedom Means (Part I)

We think freedom as being able to decide the what, when, who and why questions of our lives. However, in Christian understanding, freedom does not equal individual autonomy or individual liberty, or the power to choose. So what does Christian freedom mean?

God freely created human beings, and because we were freely created in the image and likeness of God, we have a share in God's freedom. For us, freedom is both a gift and a virtue.

The New Testament writers understood freedom as not being free to do whatever one chooses but to be free from sin and death for the Gospel, for grace and life (Gal 5:1).

It is the community of faith that provides the environment and support in which we can be free from sin and selfishness. Freedom is the power to choose to do what is good.

Weekly Collections

Week Ending 8/2/15	\$10,068.21
Week Ending 8/4/15	\$11,044.00
Missionary Coop	\$ 3,345.00
Last week	\$ 9,426.00
(Online Giving \$795.00 included)	
Assumption	\$ 1,294.00
Scholarship Fund	\$ 1,094.00
Last year	\$ 9,202.00

Thank you for your generosity!
Attendance for last week – 820

Sunday

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32; Jn 6:60-69

Monday

Rv 21:9b-14; Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday

1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday

1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday

1 Thes 3:7-13; Mt 24:42-51

Friday

1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday

1 Thes 4:9-11; Mk 6:17-29

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel and told them if it did not please them to serve God, then they must decide who they would serve. The people claimed that God had brought them out of slavery and protected them on their journey. Therefore, they would serve, the Lord their God, and no one else.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32

Husbands and wives should love one another as Christ loved the church. They should nourish and care for each other as Christ cared for the church. Through the union between the two, they become one.

Gospel: John 6:60-69

Many of Jesus' followers were still disturbed by his teaching of the living bread, which they could not yet fully understand. Jesus explained that the Spirit gives life, and flesh is unimportant. Some of the disciples decided to leave. Jesus asked if the Twelve also wanted to leave. Although they do not completely understand yet, they have enough faith in Jesus to stay because they believe He is God's holy one.

Prayer of the Day

The Divine Shepherd Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths For His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; For you are with me; Your rod and Your staff - they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, You anoint my head with oil; My cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord My whole life long. [Psalm 23:1-6; NRSV]

Masses

Saturday, August 22nd

8:30 am Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli
5:00 pm Margaret Antonelli
Mary Anne Kolinsky

Sunday, August 23rd

7:00 am Walter Rudolph
8:00 am Ursula Lanza
9:15 am Barbara Jean Tordella
10:45 am Charles Mittermaier
Denis Kilian
12:15 pm Joe O'Hara
Adolf Passerini
Yvonne Passerini

Monday, August 24th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Frank Sayford
7:30 pm Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli

Tuesday, August 25th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Arthur Vita

Wednesday, August 26th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Gioachim Cipolla
Martha Savarese
Pamela LeDonne
Mary Maciag
Molly Connor

Thursday, August 27th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Col. Paul A. Kelly

Friday, August 28th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Jean Herr
Josephine & Frank Vignola
Madeline Loftus

Saturday, August 29th

8:30 am Anne M. Leonard
5:00 pm Joseph Bodner

Sunday, August 30th

7:00 am Sophie Szucs
8:00 am Clarence, Minnie & Craig Hall
9:15 am Paul Gerber, Jr.
10:45 am Richard Moore
12:15 pm Angela Parrillo

*Defer to one another
out of reverence for Christ.
-Ephesians 5:21*

*The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
In Memory of
Clarence, Mini & Craig Hall
for the month of
August, 2015*

*Please remember in your prayers all the
departed family and friends of
St. Christopher's Parish, especially:
Carol Ann Parks, Ruben Dumapit
& Jordan "George" Visich*



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

Meditations

*Following Jesus is not easy. He did not give us a list
of "Do's and Don'ts" that we can check off and know
we have done all the "right" things. He simply told
us to love God and one another, to refrain from judg-
ing each other, and to forgive again and again as
God has forgiven us. We can easily think we love
God; but loving others is another matter. Isn't it un-
reasonable to expect us to forgive those who hurt us
especially when they hurt us repeatedly? Aren't we
"right" to pass judgement on those who do things we
believe are wrong? Reflect on your attitudes about
loving, judging, and forgiving. How well are you fol-
lowing Jesus? Pray for the grace you need to become
a better disciple.*



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".

~0~

Monday mornings in room 110 in the school, from 10:30 am to 11:45 am followed by the 12:05 pm Mass and **Thursday evenings** in room 110 in the school, from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. New topic for September: Protestant Reformation & The Council of Trent.

St. Christopher Women's Book Club

-We meet the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:15 pm in room 110 in the school. The book club meetings will resume in September with yet more exciting books to read, but until then, here is our summer reading list:

What Alice Forgot by Liane Moriarty, Still Life (Chief Inspector Armand Gamache Mysteries No.1), Where'd You Go Bernadette? By Maria Simple and as an optional choice The Book of Love (Magdalene Line) by Kathleen McGowen.

We hope to see many new faces in September, have a great summer!

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



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 Prayer Group

Tuesday, August 25th at 10:30 am & Wednesday, August 26th 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.

~0~

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 is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month. Please join us on Saturday, September 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.

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. on September 4th & 18th .

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. on September 7th, only this first Monday in September. Will return to the second Monday of the month in October. (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.

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.*

~0~

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.

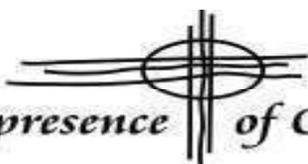
~0~

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.**

Live  of God
in the presence

Opening of Religious Education

Religious Education will begin on September 20th with our Opening Liturgy at 9:15 am. All students and their families are invited to attend. Classes will begin immediately after Mass.

St. Paul Inside the Walls...

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

Mega 50/50 Raffle

To date, we have 414 shares sold. The amount is up to \$10,350.00. Lets exceed last years' shares of 518. Thanks to all who have participated so far!

Compassionate Friends - a self help group for bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, September 10th at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, NJ at 7:30 pm in room 101. Program: Dealing with guilt, anger, regret. For more information please call Kathy Farrell at 973-335-9389.

~0~

Shred it Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. Ann's Church located at 781 Smith Road, Parsippany, NJ. \$10 per box, Shred your paperwork safely and securely.

~0~

Knights of Columbus Council 514 is holding a Tricky Tray on Friday, September 11th at St. Clements Church, 154 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Rockaway, NJ. Doors open at 6:00 pm. For more information and reservation call Russ Hardy at (973) 769-9389.

~0~

The Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) is honoring two Filipino Saints - San Lorenzo Ruiz and San Pedro Calungsod, on September 19, 2015, Saturday at Our Lady of the Valley Church located at 630 Valley Road, Wayne, NJ 07470. This year's theme is "Pamilyang Pilipino Nagkakaisa kay Kristo" (Filipino Family United In Christ).

Please come at 12:30pm in the afternoon for the Rosary, Novena and Holy Mass. Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson Diocese, will be the principal celebrant at the Mass. Fellowship and a brief program will immediately follow at the parish hall.

Come and celebrate with us!

August 29th & 30th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	A. Castro L. Taylor G.Harris	M. Downing P. Allocca M. Gelosa J. Hoffman	J. Cannaveno
7:00 am	A. Secena P. Whalen	B. Carroll	M. Dumapit
8:00 am	T. & B. Wyka M. Morales	C. Uy B. Wyka K. Anderson	L. Pascale
9:15 am	C. & C. Berardo C. Chambers	K. & P. Berardo M. Cupo R. DiMaggio	M. Reyes
10:45 am	B. & E. Hollinghurst J. Vaddakdam	C. Brown W. & A. Price Visit: A. Calabria L. Eckel K. Lucibello	M. Floro
12:15 pm	D. DelaEsprilla N. Rigolosi J. Ratcliffe	J. & B. East M. Pasuco K. Blunt	R. Parkes

Nurses Corner

Preventing Children from Falls

Play safely. Falls on the playground are a common cause of injury. Check to make sure that the surfaces under playground equipment are safe, soft, and well-maintained (such as wood chips or sand, not dirt or grass).

Make your home safer. Use home safety devices, such as guards on windows that are above ground level, stair gates, and guard rails. These devices can help keep a busy, active child from taking a dangerous tumble.

Keep sports safe. Make sure your child wears protective gear during sports and recreation. For example, when in-line skating, use wrist guards, knee and elbow pads, and a helmet.

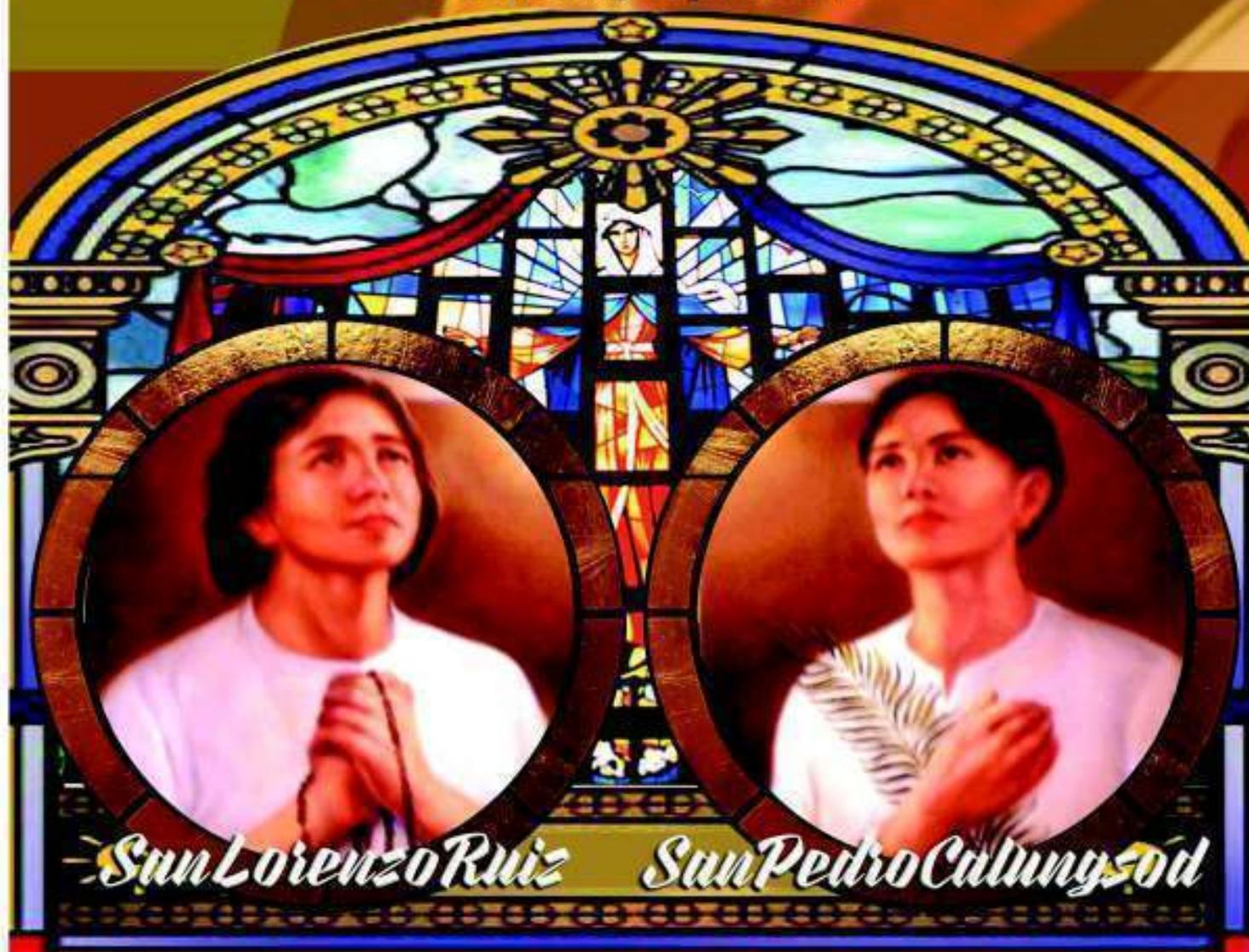
Supervision is key. Supervise young children at all times around fall hazards, such as stairs and playground equipment, whether you're at home or out to play.



Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries

DCCFM

is celebrating Filipino Saints



San Lorenzo Ruiz

San Pedro Calungsod

"Pamilyang Pilipino Nagkakaisa kay Kristo"

(Filipino Family United with Christ)

Our Lady of the Valley Church

630 Valley Rd., Wayne, NJ 07470

September 19, 2015, Saturday

12:30pm Rosary & Novena

1:00pm Holy Mass

Most Rev. Arthur J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S. L., D. D.

Bishop, Diocese of Paterson

Principal Celebrant

FELLOWSHIP follows immediately in the Parish Hall

For more information, please contact Jeanette East @ 973-334-8766

"Filipiniana Attire is encouraged".

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

6th Annual Mega 50/50 Raffle

CASH PRIZES DISTRIBUTED LAST YEAR: \$6,475.00

\$25.00 PER SHARE

THREE (3) WINNERS

1st WINNER - 25% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

2nd WINNER - 20% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

3rd WINNER - 5% OF GROSS PROCEEDS

Please join us for the drawing on September 13th @ 2:00 pm in the all-purpose room; refreshments will be served. Winners do not have to be present.

This year, the entire 50/50 raffle profit will go to the repair of the parking lot.

“No substitution of the prizes may be made”.

Please print when filling out form.

Mega 50/50 ticket # _____
NJ LGCCC identification #375-01-0914

St. Christopher Parish
Municipal #RL1143

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Saint Christopher's Family Picnic

Date: October 3, 2015

Time: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Ending with outside Mass at 5:00 pm



We will supply & cook hamburgers & hotdogs, rolls, paper goods, as well as delicious watermelon for dessert.

We ask that you please bring a side dish to share (ex: macaroni salad, potato salad, green salad, baked beans, corn, etc.). Also bring a lawn chair or blanket for your family to sit.

There will be games for the children

Please fill out and return the bottom portion of this flyer so we can have an accurate headcount. You can drop it in the collection basket, drop it off at the rectory or even mail back to us.

Name _____
(First) (Last)

Address _____

Phone # _____

Number of adults attending _____

Number of children attending _____

Saint Christopher Church

1050 Littleton Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054
973-539-7050 Fax 973-539-3601
Email: stchristopherchurch@yahoo.com

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program of information for adults who wish to more know about their Catholic Faith or who wish to become Catholics.

It takes place on Sunday after the 9:15am Mass. It is also a program for those who have received some of the Sacraments of Initiation but not all of them.

The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

If for any reason you have not received these Sacraments please call the C.C.D. Office and register for this program.

DATE: September 20, 2015 TIME: 10:00 am PLACE: In the School

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children is a program for children of all ages who, for whatever reason, have not received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist or have not attended CCD classes for several years. The basics of the Catholic faith will be taught at the Easter Vigil. The students will receive the Sacraments that they are missing. They will then be enrolled into the CCD Program to begin to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This program will be held on Sunday after the 9:15am Mass. Please call the C.C.D. Office and register for this program.

ST. CHRISTOPHER SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM

Our Special Needs Program is designed to help students who have trouble learning in a regular classroom setting. ADHD, ADD, AUTISM and HYPERACTIVITY are some of the things our children face today. The coordinators of this program have degrees in Special Education. We are currently accepting new students into the program.