

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Pastors Desk



Celebrate Freedom

After being kidnapped, held hostage for thirteen days and released, New Zealand news cameraman Olaf Wiig, with a broad smile on his face, announced, "I feel more alive now than I have in my entire life".

For reasons difficult to understand, being freed is more exhilarating than being free. For those who enjoy freedom every day, Olaf's joy was a good reminder of how easily we forget how blessed we are. This is also true spiritually. Those of us who have been Christians for a long time often forget what its like to be held hostage by sin. We can become complacent and even ungrateful. But then God sends a reminder in the form of a new believer who gives an exuberant testimony of what God has done in his or her life and once again, we see the joy that is ours when we are "free from the law of sin and death".

If freedom has become boring to you, or if you tend to focus on what you can't do, consider this: not only are you no longer a slave to sin, but you are free to be holy and to enjoy eternal life with Christ Jesus!

Celebrate your freedom in Christ by taking the time to thank God for the things you are able and free to do as His servant.

Weekly Collections

First Collection \$10,154.25
(including online giving \$ 1,162.00)

Last Year \$ 9,758.00

Attendance for the week 697

Thank you for your generosity

First Reading: Malachi 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10

This passage from Malachi denounces the laxity and unfaithfulness of the people and especially of the priests, who failed in their duties to God and their neighbors.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13

Paul reminisces about his extremely happy and successful visit with the Thessalonians. He praises them once again for their immediate and open acceptance of his message as truly the word of God.

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

In a strongly worded message, Jesus again rebukes the Pharisees for the hypocritical ostentation and love of honor and position. He reminds the people and the disciples that the truly greatest one is the one who serves others. He ends with the words, "Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled, but whoever humbles himself shall be exalted."

Sunday

Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10; 1 Thes 2:7b-9,13; Mt 23:1-12

Monday

Rom 11:29-36; Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday

Rom 12:5-16b; Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday

Rom 13:8-10; Lk 14:25-33

Thursday

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Friday

Rom 15:14-21; Lk 16:1-8

Saturday

Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Lk 16:9-15

The Living Flame for the
Sanctuary Light will be
in memory of
Anthony G. Bilotti
for the month of October, 2017

Masses

Saturday, November 4th

8:30 am Anthony Maciag
5:00 pm Edith & Henry Lehto
Margaret O'Malley
Carmen Antonelli

Sunday, November 5th

7:00 am Phyllis Fordham
8:00 am Rose Ackert
9:15 am Edward & Catherine Alt
10:45 am Dorothy LaColla
Moises Cohen
12:15 pm Larry McLean
Anthony & Jennie Scannella

Monday, November 6th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Deacon Henry Rohrmann
7:30 pm Joseph Kurdyla

Tuesday, November 7th

7:00 am Deceased Members of the Parish
12:05 pm Mario Marrano

Wednesday, November 8th

7:00 am Michael Perrini
12:05 pm Mario Marrano
7:00 am Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli

Thursday, November 9th

7:00 am Joseph Kurdyla
12:05 pm In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony & St. Jude
Paul Bangiola, Jr.

Friday, November 10th

7:00 am Lawrence McLean
12:05 pm Walter Pasuco

Saturday, November 11th

8:30 am Marge Natoli
5:00 pm Ida Vita

Sunday, November 12th

7:00 am Eileen Powers
8:00 am Lyn Marra
9:15 am Anthony Giordano
10:45 am Raymond G. Leonard
Dorothy LaColla
12:15 pm Joseph & Frances Casolaro
Walter T. Pasuco



*Please remember in your prayers
all the departed family and
friends of St. Christopher's Parish,
especially **Nicholas P. Cerbo &
Anna M. Harris***

Religious Education

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

Baptism

*Our next **Baptism preparation meeting** will
be on November 13th @ 7:00 pm in room
101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for
any other information you may require.*

*Let us welcome into our family of faith **Alana
S. Bellomo & Adelaide G. Vesper** who re-
ceived the sacrament of Baptism.*



Parish Activities...

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 morning adult education at 10:30 room 110.
New Topic: Pope Pius XII

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St. Christopher's has a Pre-Cana Program, for more information please call the rectory at 973-539-7050.

St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Join us for our next book club meeting which will be on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 pm in room 110. Delicious refreshments are always served, as well as a very animated discussion about the books. Definitely a fun time!

The new book selection is:

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson.



Hope to see you there, new members are always welcome.

St. Christopher's Prayer Group
Will be every Tuesday, at 10:30 am and every Thursday, after 12:05 pm Mass

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.



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.

Wednesdays at 11:30 am in the St. Christopher All Purpose Room.

St. Christopher is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month. Please join us on November 7, 2017 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 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. For details call Josie Mendez (973) 887-7835 or Jeanette East (973) 334-8766.

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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. Dates: **November 17th.**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **November 13th.** If you wish to learn more about the St. Christopher's Senior Social Club, please call 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.

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The Pope Francis Society

Our program helps 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 2: 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.

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. Paul Inside the Walls...

For programs and events and to register visit www.insidethewalls.org or call (973) 377-1004

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Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled, but whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.

~Matthew 23:12

Soft yoga for hard times at St. Christopher

Every Thursday from 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm in room 110. Come and experience for yourself the wonderful range of healthy benefits that yoga and meditation can offer you. For more information including price, contact Penny Prosperi, who is the yoga instructor at pprosperi51@gmail.com.

Reflections

Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for placing heavy burdens on others. We may think that this does not apply to us because we are not "leaders" but it does. We all are leaders, even if we do not have a special title. Whether as a parent or supervisor at our job, we do lead. The question we should be asking ourselves is whether we expect more of others than we do of ourselves. Do we lead by example or just demand obedience to our words?

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This has been a busy year for the Diocese and I thank each one of you who so patiently supported all our endeavors. Our 80th year has been one of celebration in many ways. Our diocese was established by Pope Pius XI on December 9, 1937. To celebrate this historic event, Bishop Serratelli will preside at a **9:30 a.m. Solemn Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on December 9, 2017 followed by a Communion Breakfast at The Brownstone, Paterson, beginning at 11:00 a.m.** This is not a fundraiser; it is a chance for all of us to come together and celebrate our Diocese. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available on line at: www.rcdop.org/breakfast. This is a day of celebration for all of us in the Diocese of Paterson!

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Craft and Vendor Fair St. Cecilia Church Hall, 70 Church Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866 on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

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The Compassionate Friends, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, November 9th at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30 pm in room 101. **Program: Speaker: Dr. Michael Giuliano, Psychiatrist-"How to Handle the Holidays"**. For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

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The Women's Society of St. Christopher Church will hold their meeting Monday, November 6, 2017 at 1:00 PM, after attending the 12:05 pm Mass in Church, in the All Purpose Room. Please note the change in time. Please come prepared to make your payment for the Christmas dinner if you have not already done so as well as your dues payment. Refreshments will be served. Those on special diets please feel free to "bring your own" lunch, refreshments, etc. All are invited and welcome to join us.

Christmas Hymns from the Cathedral

A quartet of musicians from the Cathedral of John the Baptist in Paterson, N.J. created a Christmas Carol CD with the proceeds going to the Cathedral for the purpose of serving the poor, homeless and other unfortunate situations. The CD contains eight Christmas hymns for the fee of \$12.50 payable by calling Tom Kiernan at 973-214-6473 or email pastoral140@earthlink.net. This commemorative CD seems ideal for gift giving for family and friends during the Christmas season. It is tax deductible.

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20 Week Club

We are off to a good start with the 20 Week Club. To date, we have 85 participants with \$8,500.00 collected. 1st drawing will be on January 5th and will end May 20th. Thank you to all members who have already who have already joined this very important fund raiser.

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2017 Bishops Annual Appeal

In Giving We Receive

It is important that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports four causes: our Catholic Charities agencies, seminarian education, our inner city elementary schools and our priests' retirement residence. In addition, 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal is returned to the parish directly for its own needs. Please know that Appeals funds are used for no other purpose and serve only those who live in Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties. Please make a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal today. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2017appeal.org. Thank you!

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The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick cordially invite you to a special mass of remembrance and celebration honoring all souls, especially members who have passed out of this life and are with our blessed Lord.
Date: Thursday, November 9th
Place: The Assumption Church, 91 Maple Ave. Morristown, NJ.

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Retirement for the Religious - will be on Sunday, December 3rd here are St. Christopher, the guest speaker for this National Campaign Appeal will be Sr. Peter.

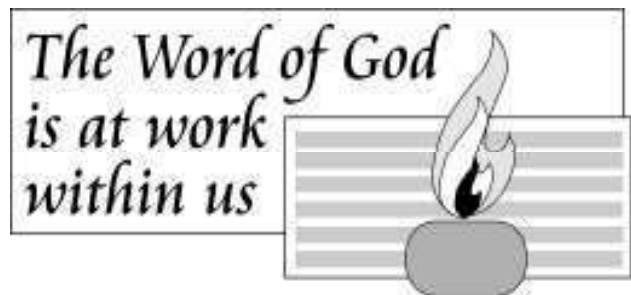
The generous support you have given through the years is very much appreciated by the women and men Religious who depend on this fund to help support their elderly and retired members. Many of these men and women have served the People of God in the Diocese of Paterson and well beyond its borders.

Nov. 11th & 12th	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm	S. & T. Lally A. Baumann	P. Allocca J. & A. Rochacewicz J. Sole	E. Montefusco
7:00 am	The Rozanitis Family	B. Carroll	M. Dumapit
8:00 am	A. Anastasi E. & B. Hollinghurst	N. Gordon S. Marsh E. Shabet	M. Appio
9:15 am	C. & C. Berardo J. Lance	P. & K. Berardo B. Chmielewski M. Cupo	J. Renkel
10:45 am	The Rankel Family	R. Vento Visit: L. Eckel J. & L. Reinke	C. Haney
12:15 pm	K. & N. Hardy J. Vadakkedam	R. Lang L. & R. Polanski C. Callahan	M. Reyes

To all Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers: always refer to the schedule given to you, in case there is a change or any mistakes on the schedule listed. If you have any questions please contact Mary Ann at the Religious Education office.

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Sr. Pat Blostic, SMIC now lives with other Missionary Sisters at McAuley Health Care Facility, 1633 Hwy. 22 West, Room 201, Watchung, NJ 07069. Her direct phone line is 908-412-8139.



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
11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Located in the OLD Nursery School across from Church

**Come in and checkout all our great merchandise at
amazingly low prices**

For more information call 973-713-4939



SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH 20-WEEK CLUB MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND 2018

Raffle License #
ID #375-01-0914

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 10 (\$500/each) two winners on week 17 (\$400/each) and five winners on week 20 (\$1000/each).

January 2018		February 2018		March 2018		April 2018		May 2018	
1/6	\$150	2/3	\$200	3/3	\$250	4/7	\$350	5/5	\$375
1/13	\$150	2/10	\$200	3/10	\$500, \$500	4/14	\$350	5/12	\$400
1/20	\$175	2/17	\$200	3/17	\$300	4/21	\$375	5/20	\$1000
									\$1000
1/27	\$175	2/24	\$250	3/24	\$300	4/28	\$400, \$400		\$1000
									\$1000
				3/31	\$300				\$1000

- C. A person can win more than once. Your name is put back in so you can win again.
- D. We are planning on having our first drawing on January 6, 2018. 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 5, 2018

20-week club# _____

Saint Christopher Church

Raffle License #

Calendar Raffle – 20-week club

ID #375-1-914

January, February, March, April, May 2018

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

_____ \$100 payment in full

_____ \$20 partial payment

Family Roller Skating Party

Sponsored by: Saint Christopher Church

Where: Florham Park Roller Rink
192 Ridgedale Ave.
Florham Park, NJ
973-377-0465

When: Sunday, November 19, 2017

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Cost: \$3.50 for skate rental, if you do not have
your own

Who can come: Anyone associated with Saint
Christopher's Parish Family is welcome

*****Remember, all children must be accompanied by
an ADULT FAMILY MEMBER *****

Snack Bar Available at your own cost

No R.S.V.P. needed, just show up!!!
We have reserved the entire roller rink for our
families.

Come Join Us

Children's Motorized Truck Raffle

R.C. Ride on car

Perfect for children ages 3 to 6 years old

\$5.00 per raffle ticket (purchase date to be announced shortly)

Drawing will be on December 17th



All proceeds from this raffle will be used to help defray the cost of running our Family Fun Activities.

St. Christopher Parish



*Saturday, November 18th & Sunday, November 19th
at all Masses*

We will be collecting food for the needy, and putting the baskets all together as we do every year for those who request them.

We are in need of turkeys, hams, turkey breasts and chickens. We are requesting general varied groceries, for example: canned fruits, vegetables, meats, juices, rice, etc., this way the families will have groceries for later in December. Food can be dropped off in the vestibule of the Church on November 18th and 19th, along with the turkeys or hams, etc.

If you cannot shop, but still wish to participate, please put monetary contributions in an envelope marked Thanksgiving and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory.

Please, only non-perishable items, no frozen pies or vegetables.

***** All meats will be refrigerated until they are distributed*****

Pick up date: Monday, November 20th

Thank you for your generosity and cooperation!





*St. Christopher's
Giving Tree*

Saturday, December 9th & Sunday, December 10th

The Giving Tree will go up the weekend of November 18th & 19th. 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 9th & 10th

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 9th & 10th. 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, mp3 players (inexpensive), games, new toys, adult & child toiletries, scarves, hats, sweaters, sweatshirts.

2x and 3x sizes are always needed.

Thank you in advance for your generosity, especially in these hard times.



Paterson Federation

Respect Life Mass



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

Rev. Jody Baran—Federation Chaplain
Concelebrant

Saturday, November 18, 2017 — 10:00 A.M. Mass
Saint John the Baptist Cathedral
381 Grand Street
Paterson, NJ 07505

Deacon Anthony O. Fierro, PGK
Respect Life Mass - Chairman

Michael Vaclavicek, PGK, FDD
Paterson Federation Chairman

Lake Parsippany Vol. Fire Co., Dist. #3
Ladies Auxiliary
14th Annual

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, November 26, 2017
7:30am - 12:30pm



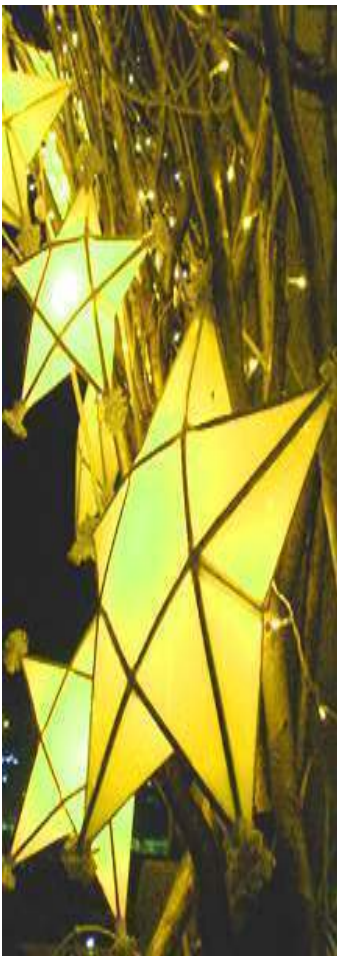
Adults ~ \$6.00
Seniors (60 yrs. & over) ~ \$4.00
Children under 5 yrs. old ~ \$4.00
Children under 2 yrs. old ~ Free

Lake Parsippany Firehouse
255 Halsey Road, Lk. Parsippany



Simbang Gabi

*A Filipino tradition of a
nine-day novena of Masses during Advent
(December 15 - 23, 2017) in preparation for the
Nativity of our Savior, Jesus.*



**You are cordially invited to join our Diocesan
and parish-sponsored *Simbang Gabi* (Filipino
for “Mass of the Night or Evening”) celebration:**

**St. Christopher Parish
1050 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054**

Thursday, December 21, 2017

**Eucharistic Mass at 7:00 p.m.
Main Celebrant: Rev. Joseph Buffardi**

**This nine-day novena is coordinated by the
Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino
Ministries (DCCFM) of the Diocese of Paterson**

**Refreshment immediately follows Mass
For more information please contact
Jeanette East (973) 334-8766**