

# *Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 17th & 18th*

## **Saturday, March 17th**

8:30 am Helen Bergen  
 5:00 pm Charles Ehrenfeld  
 Deacon Ed Lally  
 Theresa McGinty  
 Dapper McCarthy

## **Sunday, March 18th**

7:00 am Helen Bergen  
 8:00 am Lorraine Hathaway  
 Clarence, Minie, Craig Hall & Salvatore Neglia  
 9:15 am Deceased Members of Parish  
 10:45 am Robert Colangelo  
 12:15 pm Melvyn Patrick Lopez  
 Renato Santos Magcase

## **Monday, March 19th**

7:00 am Nicholas J. Cappuccino  
 12:05 pm Helene Caldara  
 Anita & Anthony Natoli

## **Tuesday, March 20th**

7:00 am Ann Price  
 12:05 pm Helen Bergen

## **Wednesday, March 21st**

7:00 am Deacon Ed Lally  
 12:05 pm Deceased Members of the Connor Family

## **Thursday, March 22nd**

7:00 am Dominick Cecere  
 12:05 pm Walter Pasuco

## **Friday, March 23rd**

7:00 am Sr. Lorraine  
 12:05 pm Esta Poje

## **Saturday, March 24th**

8:30 am Mike Cruz  
 5:00 pm Edithanne Powers  
 Deacon Ed Lally  
 Andrew Cicala

## **Sunday, March 25th Palm Sunday**

7:00 am Deacon Henry Rohrmann  
 8:00 am Gertrude Hurteau  
 9:15 am Frank Calabria, Sam & Connie Calabria,  
 Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo, Rita &  
 Mickey D'Ambrosia  
 10:45 am Deacon Ed Lally  
 12:15 pm Melvyn Patrick Lopez  
 Renato Santos Magcase

*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary  
 Light will be for the  
 special intentions of:*

***The Purcaro Family***

*for the month of March, 2018*

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



*March 24th & 25th*

*Altar Servers*

5:00 pm D. Lipuma, B. & B. Davies  
 7:00 am The Lalo Family  
 8:00 am The Przyhocki Family  
 9:15 am C. & C. Berardo, J. Tran  
 10:45 am M. & A. Memoli, C.J. Hilgendorf  
 12:15 pm The Marsh Family

*Eucharistic Ministers*

5:00 pm M. & J. Davies, J. Lipuma, M. Gelosa  
 7:00 am B. Carroll  
 8:00 am P. Luther, J. Mucerino, L. Scangarella  
 9:15 am K. & P. Berardo, A. Calabria, M. Cupo  
 10:45 am The Azares Family **Visit: L. Copeland,  
 C. Mosiello, C. Uy**  
 12:15 pm W. Koeller, C. Callahan, S. Marsh,  
 K. Nolan

*Lectors*

5:00 pm J. Cesaro, E. Shabet  
 7:00 am B. Carroll, C. Ramoncionis  
 8:00 am M. Dumapit, J. Valle  
 9:15 am J. & M. Rankel  
 10:45 am M. Montefusco, A. Licor  
 12:15 pm B. & J. East

## From the Pastors Desk -

### God's Grace at Work

*Jesus' act of raising Lazarus shows the extent to which the power of God's grace can go, and thus the extent of our conversion, our transformation. There is no limit to the divine mercy offered to everyone!*

*We believe that the life of whoever believes in Jesus and follows his commandment will be transformed after death into new life, full and immortal. As Jesus is resurrected with his own body and does not return to an earthly life, so too will we be raised with our bodies which will have been transfigured into glorified bodies. He expects us to be with the Father, and by the power the Holy Spirit, who raised him, he will also raise those who are united to him. No one can strip use of the dignity bestowed upon us by his boundless and unfailing love. He makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire us more than His life which impels us onwards.*

*How have I most experienced God's gift of new life this Lent?*

### **Parishioners of St. Christopher, once again we need your help.**

Due to extensive destruction caused by the number of fallen trees and severe snow storms we have had, we will be taking a collection on Saturday & Sunday, April 7th & 8th, to help defray the cost of repairing this extensive damage. Please label your envelope Storm Damage. We will be very grateful for whatever help you can give us.

#### *Weekly Collection*

First Collection	\$ 9,784.00
(including online giving \$ 958.00)	
Project Faith	\$ 1,502.00
Last Year	\$10,922.75

*Attendance: 720*

*Thank you for your generosity*

#### **20 Week Club**

Our tenth lucky winners are:

**#44 John Rochacewicz &**

**#258 Joan Hoffman.**

Congratulations!! Thank you all for contributing to such a very important fundraiser.

## Religious Education

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

### Baptism

*Our next **Baptism preparation meeting** will be on April 9th @ 7:00 pm in room 101. Please call the rectory to enroll and for any other information you may require.*



#### **First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The Lord comforted his people, who were exiled to Babylon, by telling them of the new covenant he planned to make with them. The Lord declared he would write his law upon their hearts, and that he would forgive their evil and forget the sins they had committed in the past.*

#### **Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9**

*Though God could have heeded his Son's prayers and spared him suffering, Jesus accepted his Father's will. Through his suffering, he learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all people.*

#### **Gospel: John 12:20-33**

*Jesus was afraid of the suffering he knew he must face. Yet he explained just as a grain of wheat must die to be harvested, he had to face his hour of suffering to glorify his Father's name. Jesus explained that once he was lifted from earth, he could draw all people to himself, lifting them to eternal life.*

**Sunday** Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33, **Monday** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a **Tuesday** Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30 **Wednesday** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42 **Thursday** Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59 **Friday** Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday** Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56.



*"Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip who was from Bethsaida in Galilee and asked him 'Sir we would like to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew, then Philip and Andrew went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them 'the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit.'"*

**-HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly



**LIVING STATIONS** will be performed at Saint Christopher's on Good Friday, March 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Dress rehearsals for living stations will be held on Tuesday, March 27th from 6:15 pm to 9:00 pm.

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#### **- Encounter Alefa**

*We encounter Alefa in Malawi, where seeds are helping her family survive an uncertain climate. How can you care for God's creation this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsrice-bowl.org](http://crsrice-bowl.org) for more.*

# 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 am 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.**

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## St. Christopher's Prayer Group

Will be every Tuesday, at 10:30 am and every Thursday, after 12:05 pm Mass

**Pray the Rosary** every Monday – Friday after the 12:05 pm Mass.

**Miraculous Medal Novena & Rosary** will be at 12:30 pm every Monday at St. Christopher.

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*St. Christopher is hosting the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion, to our Blessed Virgin Mary, every First Saturday of every month.* Please join us on April 7, 2018 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.

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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.

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

**There will be no Bingo March 28th due to Holy Week.**

## St. Paul Inside the Walls...

For programs and events and to register visit

[www.insidethewalls.org](http://www.insidethewalls.org) or call

(973) 377-1004

## 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".**

**Food List:** Peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, juice, canned corn, baking mixes, mustard, ketchup, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, toothpaste, deodorant, cold cereal, granola bars, cookies, crackers, tuna, Chef Boyardee, canned chicken meat, canned fruit, shelf stable milk, bath tissue, facial tissue, paper towels.

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.**

**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: **To be announced.**

**Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa.** Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **To be announced.** 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.

**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.

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## St. Christopher Women's Book Club

Join us for our next book club meeting which will be on Tuesday, April 3rd 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 **The book that matters most by Ann Hood.**

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

## 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 Proserpi, who is the yoga instructor at [pprosperi51@gmail.com](mailto:pprosperi51@gmail.com).

## Parish Activities

**The Compassionate Friends**, a self-help group for bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents will be meeting on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at St. Christopher's Church, 1050 Littleton Road (Rt. 202), Parsippany, at 7:30PM in room 101. **Program: Signs, Dreams and Coping!** For more information please call Lily Capriglione at: 973-568-4164.

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Human trafficking is one of the great human challenges of this century.. Millions of men, women and children are enslaved and treated as commodities - bought, sold, shared, abused and discarded. Ending slavery is everyone's work. U.S. **Catholic sisters against trafficking.** [Sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://Sistersagainstrafficking.org).

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**Sunday, April 8, 2018** at 3:00 p.m. - "Our Religious Sisters in Concert" at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Paterson (free parking in the garage across the street). Several religious communities will be represented as they sing hymns and songs.

**Sunday, April 15, 2018** - As part of the Diocese of Paterson's 80th Anniversary and in celebration of the re-opening of St. John's Cathedral, an Organ Dedication Recital will be given by Mr. Stephen Tharp. Mr. Tharp is an internationally renowned organist, having served as the official organist for the 2008 New York visit of Pope Benedict XVI. It will be held at the Cathedral at 4:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 19, 2018** at 10:00 a.m. - World Day for Consecrated Life and Religious Jubilee Mass at Saint Mary Parish, Passaic.

Vocations Discernment for young men 15-25. **"Quo Vadis - Where are you going?"** Where is the Spirit acting in your life? Where is the Lord encouraging you to go? Quo Vadis Days is a time of recreation, fellowship, and prayer to help you explore the Lord's call in your life. Activities will include prayer, Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Liturgy of the Hours, Rosary, games, sports, talks, great food, and discussions. It is a time to share our faith and meet other young men seeking God's will. Quo Vadis Days will be held **June 27- 29, 2018** at the Saint Mary's Abbey Retreat Center in Morristown, New Jersey. There is no cost. For more information and/or registration, contact the coordinators Fr. Edgar Rivera and David Monteleone in the Vocations Office at (973) 777-8818, ext. #711, by email: [revedgar@patersondiocese.org](mailto:revedgar@patersondiocese.org).

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## St. Christopher's Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop

*Thank you to all our loyal patrons and looking forward to meeting new ones.*

### 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 the Church*

**Due to the extensive amount of inventory we have, we will not be accepting any merchandise until further notice.**

**For more information call 973-713-4939**

# **Journey Through Lent 2018 - If They Could Speak**

1. Stations of the Cross – Every Friday night during Lent - 7:00 pm

2. Monday Evening Lent Series – 7:00 pm Mass and Meditation

a. March 19<sup>th</sup>      Mary, The Mother

3. Welcome Home Sacrament of Reconciliation – Monday evenings during Lent at 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm

4. Lenten Penance Service - March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm

5. Lenten Anointing Mass – March 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am



# **Holy Week 2018**

## ***Lenten Penance Service***

*Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 7:00 p.m.*

## ***Palm Sunday Masses***

*Vigil, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 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**

**Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**

*7:00 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.*

## **Holy Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

*7:00 p.m. Mass of the Last Supper*

## **Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**

*3:00 p.m. – (Service) Passion of the Lord*

*7:00 p.m. – Living Stations*

## **Holy Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

*11:30 a.m. – Blessing of the Food*

*7:00 p.m. – The Easter Vigil*

**(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)**

## **Easter Sunday – April 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Masses: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m.,*

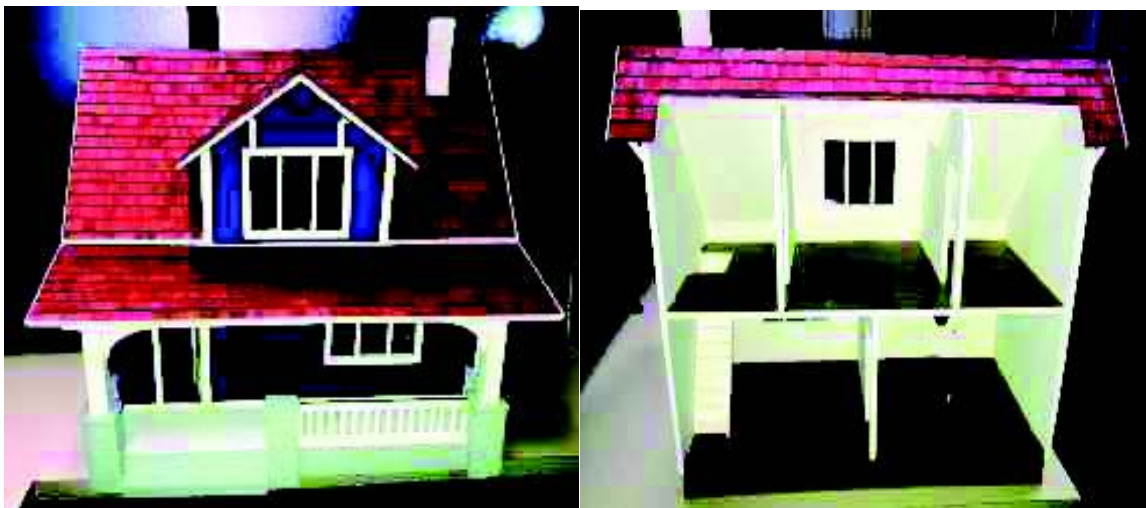
*9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 12:15 pm*

# DOLL HOUSE RAFFLE

This beautiful handmade doll house could be yours, all you have to do is purchase a raffle ticket for \$5.00.

Tickets are on sale now, you can purchase them after the Masses. The winning ticket will be picked on Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at the 9:15 am Mass.

The doll house will be on display in the lobby of the Church, feel free to stop by and see it.



All proceeds from this raffle will be used to help defray the costs of running our Parish's Family Fun and Youth Activities.



# St. Christopher' Family Theatre Sunday

For our *second annual* theatre outing, we have been able to secure a number of seats for a wonderful stage performance. Be prepared to be amazed at the wild musical adventure of:



**Date:** April 29, 2018

**Time:** 4:00 pm

**Place:** The Growing Stage Théâtre

7 Ledgewood Ave., Netcong, NJ 07857

**Price:** \$15.00 per person

To purchase tickets and for more information call Eva at the rectory 973-539-7050 (Do not leave a message, speak to someone directly please).

We have 50 seats reserved, so please make sure you purchase your tickets early.

