

## **From the Pastors Desk - 2nd Sunday of Advent**

### **When do I meet Jesus?**

*Life is a journey. It is a path, a journey to meet Jesus. It is for the Christian to continually encounter Jesus, to watch Him, let himself be watched over by Jesus, because Jesus watches us with love. He loves us so much and he is always watching over us. To encounter Jesus also means allowing oneself to be gazed upon by Him. And then the most beautiful gift is to meet Jesus. We meet Jesus every day. How? Our whole life is an encounter with Jesus: in prayer, when we go to Mass, when we receive Communion, when we do good works, when we visit the sick, when we help the poor, when we think of others, when we are not selfish, when we are loving - in these things we always meet Jesus.*

*I am such a sinner, I have committed many sins. How can I encounter Jesus? But remember that the people whom Jesus most sought out were the greatest sinners. And those who believed themselves righteous criticized Him for this saying this is no true prophet, look what kind of company He keeps! And Jesus said: I came for those in need of salvation, in need of healing. And along the way Jesus comes, heals us and forgives us - for we are all sinners.*

*"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)*

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### **20 Week Club**

*Our 20 Week Club has been going great! We presently have 195 participants with a total of \$ 19,500.00 collected. Thank you for participating.*

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### **Carol Service**

*Please join the **Contemporary Choir** in celebrating the Birthday of the King! The celebration begins on December 24th with a carol service at 11:30 p.m. and is immediately followed by Midnight Mass. The carol service prepares us to celebrate the Lord's birth through reading and carols depicting the birth of Jesus.*

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### ***Weekly Collections***

First Collection	\$11,375.00
(including online giving \$ 1,208.00)	
Last Year	\$12,355.00

***Attendance for the week 681 - Thank you for your generosity***

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

### **Saturday, December 8th Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30 am Mass of the Immaculate Conception  
5:00 pm Santiago Iglesias, Millie Cook &  
John Mola  
Concetta Rosamilia

*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary  
Light will be in memory of:  
**Jean Marie & Jerry Petrino**  
for the month of December, 2018*

### **Sunday, December 9th**

7:00 am Winifred Scanlon  
8:00 am Clarence, Minnie & Craig Hall  
Salvatore Neglia  
9:15 am Santiago Iglesias  
10:45 am Santiago Iglesias  
12:15 pm Jean Marie & Jerry Petrino  
Peter Marotte  
Jeanette Verdi

### **Monday, December 10th**

7:00 am Scott Pollard  
12:05 pm Santiago Iglesias

### **Tuesday, December 11th**

7:00 am Deceased Priest of the Diocese  
12:05 pm Joseph Walsh  
Msgr. Frank B. Ferraioli  
John Zimmer

### **Wednesday, December 12th**

7:00 am Rich Ferrera  
12:05 pm Emilie Moreno

### **Thursday, December 13th**

7:00 am Deceased Deacons of the Parish  
12:05 pm Ann Williams

### **Friday, December 14th**

7:00 am Deceased Nuns of St. Christopher  
12:05 pm Teresa Bangiola  
Millie Cook

### **Saturday, December 15th**

8:30 am Sr. Brigid Kelly  
5:00 pm Sean Maughan  
James Bunk  
Patricia Werra

### **Sunday, December 16th**

7:00 am Anne Price  
8:00 am Rose Moore  
9:15 am Santiago Iglesias  
John S. Chmielewski, Jr.  
10:45 am Angela Maria Imbergamo  
Laurino & Antonio Brunetto  
12:15 pm Millie Cook

### *Rest in Peace*

*Please remember in your prayers those  
who entered into their new and eternal  
life in Christ recently, especially:  
**Frank J. Skladany***



### ***The Advent Candles for 2018 will be in Memory for the Deceased Members of the Madonna Prayer Group:***

*Kitty Marvin, Pauline Moran, Arlene  
Hak, Mary Lucibello, Mary Quinn,  
Ada Cezak, Mary Ellen Clemente,  
Tessie Gajdek, Esther Treuting,  
Jeanne Chmura, Nancy DeLue, Betty  
Rydyfski, Phyllis Burns, Agnes Ho-  
gan, Tania Monteith, Ruth Vasta*



### **Religious Education**

If you have any questions concerning religious education please contact Mary Ann Jacisin at 973-539-6208, Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

**Baptism preparation meeting:** The meeting will be on December 10th at 7:00 pm in room 101 of the school. Please call the rectory to enroll or if you have any other questions.

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### **First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9**

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

### **Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

### **Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.

**Sunday** Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6, **Monday** Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26, **Tuesday** Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14, **Wednesday** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, **Thursday** Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15, **Friday** Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19, **Saturday** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Let us pray for the safety of the following members of St. Christopher Parish who are actively serving in the military:*



**2LT. Sean Arcilla, PVT. Shane Arcilla, LCPL. Cormac Bradley, CPT. Liam Connor, LTJG Megan Costello, PFC. Patrick DeBenedette, Airman Danny De La Esperia, LCPL. Michael Del Russo, J. Fortes, OP. SPEC. S. Gross II, PVT. Ryan Jandora SGT. Lauren L. Ferrel, Capt. Luis Marti, Capt. Michael A. Piccini, Michael Simoni, SPEC. Cory Therriault.**

*If you know of any St. Christopher's parishioner who is currently serving in the military and would like them added to this list please contact the rectory (973) 539-7050.*

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### **Advent Services**

December 15th at 11:00 am      Advent Anointing Mass  
December 20th at 7:00 pm      Simbang Gabi  
December 19th at 7:00 pm      Advent Penance Service

### **Upcoming dates to remember:**

#### **2019**

January 18th      Family Movie Night @ 6:30 pm  
February 8th      Family Sports Night @ 6:30 pm  
March 30th      Breakfast w/ Easter Bunny @ 9:00 am  
April 7th      Mayo Theatre, Play @ 4:30 pm  
May 24th      Mega Game Night @ 6:30 pm  
June 14th      Movie & Ice Cream @ 6:30 pm



# 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. **Topic: The Acts of the Apostle.**

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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 meet every Tuesday, 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 **January 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 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. For details call Josie Mendez (973) 887-7835 or Jeanette East (973) 334-8766.

\*

**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.

\*

**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.*

**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: **December 7th & 21st.**

**Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa.** Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **January 14, 2019.** If you wish to learn more about the St. Christopher's Senior Social Club, please call Anne Purcaro at 973-887-5186 or Lorene Poje at 973-887-5645.

**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 Women's Book Club

Our next meeting will be January 8, 2019 at 7:00 pm in room 110. Refreshments will be served, and they are delicious!!

**January book selection: Glory over Everything by Kathleen Grissom.**

**February book selection: The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger**

Hope to see you there, give it a try, I am sure you will want to join, 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 pproserpi51@gmail.com.

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.**

**The compassionate friends**, a self help group for bereaved parents, sibling, and grand parents , will be meeting on Thursday, December 13th at St. Christopher Church, 1050 Littleton Road, Parsippany, NJ at 7:30 pm in room 101. Program: Annual candle lighting ceremony. For more information please call Lilly Capriglione at 973-568-4164.

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*Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.*

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**St. Paul Inside the Walls...**

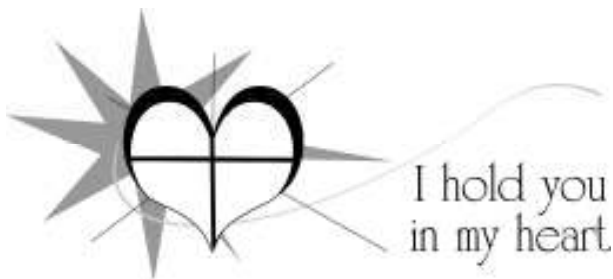
**For programs and events and to register visit [www.insidethewalls.org](http://www.insidethewalls.org) or call (973) 377-1004.**

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## *December 15th & 16th*

### ***Altar Servers***

5:00 pm T. & J. Carifi, A. Zecena  
7:00 am The Lalo Family  
8:00 am S. & A. Valle, A. Anastasi  
9:15 am J. Summa, A. Mogan, C. Rizzo  
10:45 am The Imperati Family  
12:15 pm The Marsh Family

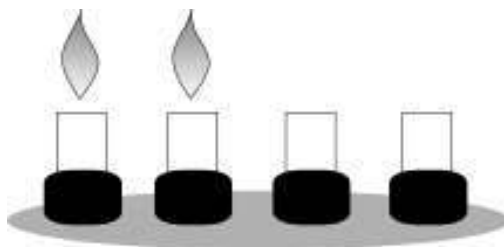


### ***Eucharistic Ministers***

5:00 pm L. Asea, J. & M. Davies, N. Gordon  
7:00 am B. Carroll  
8:00 am J. Mucerino, L. Scangarella, L. Valle  
9:15 am D. Giradelli, E. Haynes, S. & S. Richards  
10:45 am G. & L. Azares,  
**Visit the Sick:** M. & M. D'Ambrosia  
12:15 pm S. Marsh, J. Alfonso, J. & B. East

### ***Lectors***

5:00 pm K. Lucibello  
7:00 am M. Dumapit  
8:00 am J. Valle  
9:15 am J. Rabadi  
10:45 am C. Johnson  
12:15 pm M. Montefusco



**SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH      20-WEEK CLUB      MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND 2019**

Raffle License #RL1464  
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).

<u>January 2019</u>		<u>February 2019</u>		<u>March 2019</u>		<u>April 2019</u>		<u>May 2019</u>	
1/5	\$150	2/2	\$200	3/2	\$250	4/6	\$350	5/4	\$375
1/12	\$150	2/9	\$200	3/9	<b>\$500, \$500</b>	4/13	\$350	5/11	\$400
1/19	\$175	2/16	\$200	3/16	\$300	4/20	\$375	5/18	<b>\$1000</b>
1/26	\$175	2/23	\$250	3/23	\$300	4/27	<b>\$400, \$400</b>		<b>\$1000</b>
				3/30	\$300				<b>\$1000</b>

- 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 5, 2019. 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 4, 2019.

20-week club# \_\_\_\_\_  
Raffle License #RL1464  
ID #375-1-914

Saint Christopher Church  
Calendar Raffle – 20-week club  
January, February, March, April, May 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 payment in full

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 partial payment





*St. Christopher's*  
*Giving Tree*

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

*The Giving Tree will go up the weekend of November 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>***

*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 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. 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, wrist 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.*

*Dear Parishioners,*

*We all owe a great debt to our Veterans, whether in the Second World War, Korea, Vietnam, or all the Middle East Conflicts to name a few. They have sacrificed not only their time and talents, but many their health as well, to keep us free. Now they need our help at the East Orange and Lyons Veterans Administration Hospitals to celebrate Christmas. These men and women have earned our honor, respect and gratitude. Our Catholic War Veterans Post 1967 would like to give these veteran-patients a few gifts to lift their spirits and express our sincere THANK YOU.*

*Small size personal care items are especially needed:*

*Chap sticks, body washes, lotions, hair combs, crossword puzzles, African American hair products, shampoos & conditioners, socks, coloring books for adults, non-spiral note books.*

*When considering the items you wish to donate, remember there are both men and women veterans needing some cheer at Christmas time.*

*If there are specific items you are concerned about, please feel free to ask.*

*The boxes will be at the lobby of the Church.*

*Thank you,*

*Fr. Joe*

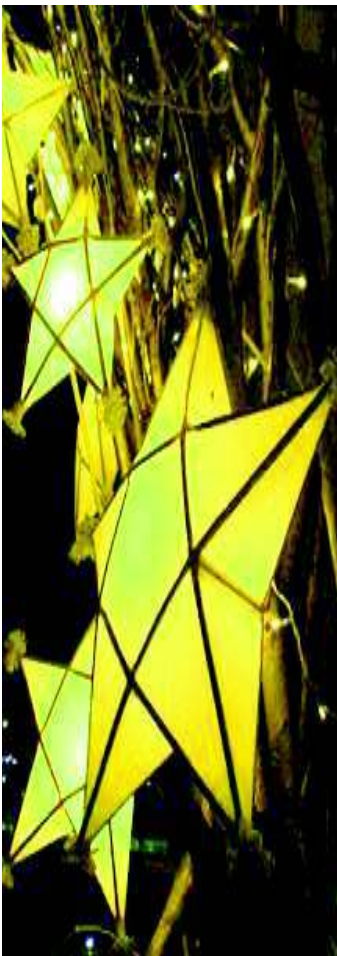






# *Simbang Gabi*

*A Filipino tradition of a  
nine-day novena of Masses during Advent  
(December 15 - 23, 2018) 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 20, 2018**

**Eucharistic Celebration at 7:00PM**

**Rev. Joseph Buffardi, Pastor**

**Main Celebrant**

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

*Note: we will also celebrate the blessings of the statues of 2 Filipino  
Saints: San Lorenzo Ruiz and San Pedro Calungsod*

**Refreshment immediately follows Mass.**

**For more information please contact**

**Jeanette East, 973-334-8766 or**

**eastjeanette1946@gmail.com**