

From the Pastors Desk - Epiphany of the Lord **The Magi**

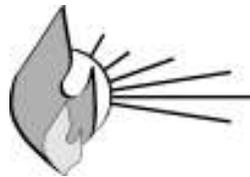
On the feast of the Epiphany, we remember those mysterious figures from the East who visited the Holy Family. They have long been the subject of stories and legends. Early on, they were looked upon as royal figures. This may have been suggested by Psalm 72: "The Kings of Arabia and Sheba shall bring tribute: all kings shall pay him homage".

There is no indication that the Magi were kings, but we do believe that they came from afar, from distant pagan land. And they came to praise the Lord.

Today's first reading emphasizes that Jesus didn't just come for his immediate community, but he came for everyone. That means we can look at anyone and say: "Jesus came for this person, and he would have come if this were the only person in the world. Jesus loves this person." This person is you.

20 Week Club

We are now at the end of the 20 Week Club. The winners will be picked for the next 20 weeks every Saturday. We ended with a total of 261 participants, totaling \$26,100.00. Thank you to all who participated in this very important fundraiser.



Weekly Collections

First Collection (12-30-18)	\$11,195.75	
(including online giving \$ 1,098.00)		
Christmas Flowers	\$ 2,894.00	
Beacon	\$ 782.00	
Christmas	\$ 31,421.50	
Project Faith	\$ 1,319.00	
New Years Day	\$ 2,622.25	
Last Year - Christmas		\$41,701.00
Last Year - New Years		\$ 4,134.00

Thank you for your generosity

Saturday, January 5th

8:30 am Special Intentions - Jerimiah
5:00 pm James Bunk

Sunday, January 6th The Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 am John Mola
8:00 am Winifred Scanlon
9:15 am Dominic Cecere
10:45 am Gerard Arcieri
12:15 pm Pauline Six

Monday, January 7th

7:00 am In thanksgiving to St. Jude
12:05 pm Sanitago Iglesias
Frank Skladany

Tuesday, January 8th

7:00 am Special Intentions - James Distasio
12:05 pm Millie Cook
Frank Skladany

Wednesday, January 9th

7:00 am Special Intentions - Bill Taylor
12:05 pm Millie Cook

Thursday, January 10th

7:00 am Special Intentions - James DiStasio
12:05 pm Millie Cook

Friday, January 11th

7:00 am Special Intentions - Bill Taylor
12:05 pm Millie Cook

Saturday, January 12th

8:30 am Josephine Zimmermann
5:00 pm Rose & Nicholas DiVincenzo
John Schultz

Sunday, January 13th The Baptism of the Lord

7:00 am Anne Paterno
8:00 am Santiago Iglesias
9:15 am Theresa Fortuna Lande
10:45 am Manny Uy
Thomas Farrell
12:15 pm Santiago Iglesias



*The Living Flame for the Sanctuary Light will be in memory of:
Anne Paterno
for the month of January, 2019*

Rest in Peace

*Please remember in your prayers those who entered into their new and eternal life in Christ recently,
especially: **Saverio Lozito***

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Isaiah tells of the Lord's Servant, who will be inconspicuous, but will not rest until justice is established. The Lord then tells his servant that he was formed to be "a light for the nations."

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Peter speaks to a group of pagans for the first time. He explains to them that any person who follows God's will is acceptable to God, regardless of nationality.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

John the Baptist had claimed one would come far more powerful than himself, one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit rather than water. When Jesus came to John and was baptized, the Spirit descended on him and a voice said, "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests."

Sunday Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22, **Monday** Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20, **Tuesday** Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28, **Wednesday** Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39, **Thursday** Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45, **Friday** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12, **Saturday** Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17.

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 **January 14th** at 7:00 pm in room 101 of the school. Please call the rectory to enroll or if you have any other questions.



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.

January 12th & 13th

<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
5:00 pm D. Lipuma, T. & A. Pactwa	5:00 pm J. Sole, J. Lipuma, B. & M. Pactwa	5:00 pm C. Haney
7:00 am The Lalo Family	7:00 am B. Carroll	7:00 am M. Dumapit
8:00 am A. Anastasi, A. & D. Guzzardo	8:00 am S. & S. Richards E. Shabet	8:00 am J. Valle
9:15 am G. Harris, A. To, T. Wyka	9:15 am C. To, B. Wyka P. Gatti, E. Haynes	9:15 am K. Hardy
10:45 am J. Summa, A. Mogan, J. Vaddakkedam	10:45 am A. Malsbury, C. Uy Visit: V. & R. Arcilla	10:45 am J, Cannaveno
12:15 pm A. Zecena, K. & N. Hardy	12:15 pm C. Walsh, W. Koeller, L. & R. Polanski	12:15 pm

“The grace of God has appeared, saving all, and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly and devoutly in this age, and to await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and of our savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people of his own, eager to do what is good.”

How fortunate for Titus to receive an encouraging letter from Saint Paul. As we bring the Christmas season to a close as Jesus' baptism takes place, we too are encouraged to make the instruction our own. Yes, Jesus has come and still lives among us. We are challenged each day to abandon godless ways and focus on keeping our eyes on Jesus.

If life was difficult for Paul's friends, how much more challenging it is for us, surrounded by the internet, porn, material and consumer attractions, drawing us in a different direction. How clear are Paul's words asking us to live temperately, when so many have nothing, to live justly, in a society which wishes to get ahead and put others down, and devoutly, when many look down on people with religious devotion, customs and traditions. Paul knew his society and we are so aware of ours. Why not take the virtues Paul recommends and meditate on one each day. May this help us to become eager to do what is good.

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

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 **February 2nd**, on 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.

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: **January 18th.**

Bus trip to the Sands Casino, in Bethlehem, Pa. Bus leaves St. Christopher's parking lot at 9:15 am. Date: **January 14th.** 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.

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	\$500, \$500	4/13	\$350	5/11	\$400
1/19	\$175	2/16	\$200	3/16	\$300	4/20	\$375	5/18	\$1000
1/26	\$175	2/23	\$250	3/23	\$300	4/27	\$400, \$400		\$1000
				3/30	\$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 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

**Get ready for Family Movie night
at St. Christopher
on Friday, January 18th at 6:30 pm**



Refreshments will be served
Remember to bring chairs