

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 15, 2019

St. Christopher Church

Fr. David Harris, Pastor
fr.david@stchrisparishnh.org

Rev. Thien Nguyen,
Vietnamese Ministry
62 Manchester St.

Nashua, New Hampshire 03064
(603) 882-0632
parish.office@stchrisparishnh.org
www.stchrisparishnh.org

St. Christopher School

Mrs. Cindy Clarke, Principal
cclarke@stchrisschoolnh.org

Grades PreK - 6
20 Cushing Ave.

Nashua, New Hampshire 03064
(603) 882-7442
www.stchrisschoolnh.org

Worship Schedule

Morning Prayer 7:00 AM Mon-Thurs
Daily Mass 7:15 AM Mon-Thurs
Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Vietnamese Mass 3:00 PM Sunday

Confessions After Daily Mass,
approx. 7:45 AM
3:00-3:30 PM Saturday

Rosary 7:00 PM Tuesday
Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday
7:45-8:45 AM
Rosary at beginning

1st Friday of the Month
1:00-3:00 PM
September - June

Welcome New Parishioners! If you would like to register or you have changed your address, please fill out the form on page 5.

September
15 2019

Twenty-Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

“Rejoice with me
because I have found
the coin that I lost.”

Luke 15:9



Our Parish Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray for all of the people and programs of St. Christopher Parish. Unite us as a community of believers and grant us the wisdom, grace, and strength to do your will. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. AMEN.

Our Mission

We are a Roman Catholic parish whose members live and proclaim the saving message of Jesus Christ.

Mass Intentions

- Saturday, September 14**
4:00 PM Alfons Kleponis
by His Family
- Sunday, September 15**
8:00 AM Stephen J. Miller
by Dan & Sue Tracy
10:00 AM For the people of the parish
3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass
- Monday, September 16**
7:15 AM Deceased Members of the
Matthew Ennis Family
by Caroline & Kathy
- Tuesday, September 17**
7:15 AM Rene Salvas
by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Mercurio
and Family
- Wednesday, September 18**
7:15 AM Rene Salvas
by Her Friends
- Thursday, September 19**
7:15 AM Jeannette Goyette
by Her daughter, Jean
- Friday, September 20**
No Mass on Friday mornings
- Saturday, September 21**
4:00 PM Martin Bernard
by The Bernard Family
- Sunday, September 22**
8:00 AM For the people of the parish
10:00 AM Sheila Neverett
by Joseph & Annette Curro

Martha Melendez
by The Murphy Family

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass
- The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:**
For the people of the parish

Altar Bread and Wine:

The Altar Bread and Wine, which will become the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ at all Masses during September will be offered for Ross W. Jordan by Mary F. Heinle & Ruth G. Gaukstern.

Arrangements can be made to donate the monthly Altar bread and wine in honor of a loved one by contacting the rectory at 882-0632 during business hours. Mass intentions can also be scheduled by calling the rectory.

Thank you for respecting God's Holy Presence by keeping cell phones and other electronic devices outside of this Sacred Space.

FROM THE PASTOR

An Exciting Moment in Our History!

On Tuesday evening we shared a moment of great joy and thankfulness as we blessed our new Fine Arts Center! As you know, this project makes wonderful use of the former campus convent house and we have repurposed the space for visual and musical art space for our school and parish. The lower floor will host space for choral instruction and instrument practice, and the upper floor will be used for drawing, painting, and other visual art. We are most grateful to God to be able to have such a special space that will serve our community for many years to come!

This project came about through the hard work and vision of many individuals, including our former pastor Monsignor Richard Kelly, our principal Cindy Clarke, our advancement team of Marta Nissen and Carol Fiore, Mr. Steve Bonnette, our

School Board, and countless donors and benefactors!

We were especially blessed to work with Kevin Corriveau and his team at Capital Projects and Maintenance for their outstanding craftsmanship, hard work, and dedication to the school in all phases of the building project!

If you would still like to make a contribution towards this special project, please visit <https://www.stchrisschoolnh.org/apps/pages/FineArtsCenter>.

Our Visiting Priest...

Please warmly welcome Father John Mahoney, a priest of the Diocese of Manchester who works with NH Catholic Charities, who is graciously covering the Masses at St. Christopher's this weekend while I am on vacation. Thank you Father John and I look forward to seeing you all again next week!

***In Christ,
Fr. David***



Fr. David and Cindy Clarke cut the ribbon for the new St. Christopher Fine Arts Center on Tuesday, September 10. Joining them are, from left to right, John Levesque, Msgr. Richard Kelley, Superintendent David Thibault, Cindy Clarke, Fr. David, Kevin Corriveau, Dana Keegan, Brendan Keegan, and art teacher Laura Daigle.

Marian Devotions

October is noted as Our Lady's month so that special devotions to Her are especially important during October. Rosaries are special for Our Lady so please pray your Rosary every day. The Rosary described below is another way to honor Our Lady.

The Servite Rosary

The Servite Rosary is a devotion to the 7 Sorrows of Our Blessed Lady and is also known as the Our Sorrowful Mother's Ministry and is enfolded in Our Lady's Apostolate of Healing, Reconciliation and Mercy. This devotion originated in the 13th Century and was established by the Order of Friar Servants of Mary. It recalls the lifetime of Sorrows that the Virgin Mother of God endured in compassion for the trials she underwent and the suffering and death of her Divine Son. It consists of seven groups of seven beads each along with an additional 3 beads on the drop (fifty-two in total), seven medals each depicting one of the seven Sorrows and a large Mater Dolorosa medal. Special graces accompany recitation of this Rosary and propagation of this devotion brings the reward of eternal consolation and joy in heaven.

I have fourteen of these rosaries and a small pamphlet to go with each rosary (one per family, please) blessed by Fr. David. They will be available after the 4:00 PM mass on Saturday, October 5, 2019 in a basket in the alcove by the side entrance to the church. If there are any left over, I will make them available after the 4:00 PM mass on October 12, 2019. If I run out (God willing), you may purchase one by going to the Apostolate's website (the shopping part) at www.osmm.org. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at susannemtracy@gmail.com. *O Mary, conceived without sin, Pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

St. Christopher's would like to welcome Michael & Debra Hanlon and their son Michael to the parish and their new spiritual home!

Please welcome them to our St. Christopher family!



Come One, Come All, Come follow the Call!

Our Adult and Youth Choirs will resume rehearsals soon. The Adult Choir begins on September 18th at 7:00 PM and the Youth Choir will start on October 6th following the 10:00 Mass, from 11:15 AM -- 12:00 PM in the choir loft. Music has a unique way of lifting spirits and making us happy. We praise God as a way of expressing our gratitude and love. Music ministers are called to serve the community by fostering prayer. I am extending an invitation to members of our congregation to join either choir. The Adult Choir sings at the 10:00 Mass on Sunday and the Youth Choir sings at the 10:00 Mass on the third or fourth Sunday of the Month.

Come One, Come All, please come and follow the Call! Any questions? Please contact me at music@stchrisparishnh.org or see me following any mass. God Bless and See you in Church!

Blessings,

Carol Ann Skabo
Director of Music



Blue Mass and Breakfast

The Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, Bishop of Manchester, cordially invites members of law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians and their families and communities to a Blue Mass, Sunday 10:30 AM, on September 22, 2019, at St. Joseph Cathedral, Corner of Lowell and Pine Streets, Manchester, NH. A free breakfast will be held immediately following Mass in the Cathedral Church Hall.

The Blue Mass is to pray for and with the members of law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians, that God will bless them in their work and bless their families and loved ones.

Registration is only required if you are planning on attending the breakfast (free): <https://bluemass2019.eventbrite.com> by September 18.

Did You Know..

Catholics comprise 50 percent of all Christians worldwide and 16 percent of the world's total population.

We're Here for YOU at St. Christopher Parish!

Rectory Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00-3:00

Rectory Phone:

882-0632

Rectory Email:

parish.office@stchrisparishnh.org

Fr. David Harris

fr.david@stchrisparishnh.org

Parish Life - Linda Sanborn

lsanborn@stchrisparishnh.org

Bookkeeper - Jean Dickson

bookkeeper@stchrisparishnh.org

Director of Music & Organist -

Carol Ann Skabo

music@stchrisparishnh.org

Religious Educ. - Christine Mercurio

cmurcurio@stchrisparishnh.org

Confirmation - Deacon Jim Daly

deaconjim@stchrisparishnh.org

RCIA - Joe Mercurio

rcia@stchrisparishnh.org

Youth Ministry - Emily Murphy

youthministry@stchrisparishnh.org

Parish Council - Elizabeth Cote

ecote@stchrisparishnh.org

Finance Committee -- Tom Nardone

tnardone.work@gmail.com

Bulletin - Marta Nissen

bulletin@stchrisparishnh.org

Bulletin submissions are due one week before publication.



Like St. Chris Parish
on Facebook!



Join our Parish
Email List!



Staff vacation did not permit the offertory to be prepared in time for the bulletin deadline this week. Please check back here to review offertory totals in upcoming bulletins! Thanks!

Thank you for supporting your Spiritual Home!

Sacrament Preparation Program

Register Now! - Forms for Fall 2019/2020 are available for download on the Parish website. Visit stchrisparishnh.org, print your registration and return with required certificates/fee to the parish office. For questions, email cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org (Reconciliation/first Eucharist) or deaconjim@stchrisparishnh.org. (Confirmation)

All students registering for a sacrament class must also be enrolled in ongoing faith formation classes (catholic parish or a parochial school).

Fall 2019 Classes: Starts September 29th

PLEASE NOTE: New Times for Sacrament Program

- **Reconciliation (Grade 2 and up) -- Sunday afternoon from 4:00 - 5:00 PM.** Students entering grade 2 and up who have been baptized but not yet received the sacrament of first confession may register for this class. Email cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org for more information.
- **Confirmation- (Grade 3) -- Sunday evening from 5:30 - 6:30 PM.** Students who attended Reconciliation in the Fall of 2018 should register for this class and the First Eucharist class. Email deaconjim@stchrisparishnh.org for more information.

Spring 2020 Classes

- **First Eucharist- (grade 3 and up)** Students who received Reconciliation in the Fall of 2018 should register for this class and the Fall 2019 Confirmation class. The class will run from January through May 2020. Confirmation and First Eucharist will be received in one celebration in the Spring of 2020. Email cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org for more information.
- **Confirmation grades 5-7+** Students who have received baptism, reconciliation and first communion but have not been confirmed should register for this class. Confirmation will be received in the Spring of 2020. The class will run from January through May. Confirmation will be received in the Spring of 2020. Email deaconjim@stchrisparishnh.org for more information.

Seeing is believing!

Enroll Now!



Apply online at StChrisSchoolNH.org

Faith Formation

Register now.... Faith Formation program starts THIS Weekend!

Families should meet in the church hall by 8:30 AM.

Forms for Fall 2019/2020 are available for download on the Parish website. Visit stchrisparishnh.org, print your registration and return both forms and fees to the parish office : attn Rel Ed.

- **FALL 2019**-Pre-K to 6th grade- Sunday Morning from 8:30 - 9:45 AM
- **FALL 2019**-Grade 7/8 program- Monday Evening from 6:30 - 7:45 PM

St. Andrew Dinners

St. Andrew was the first of the Apostles to hear Jesus' call to follow him. We would like to invite men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like some help hearing the Lord's call for their life, to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner. These evenings will take place for different age groups on Fridays from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Joseph House (279 Cartier Street) in Manchester. Please RSVP to Becky Vinson at rvinson@rcbm.org or 663-0153 if you would like to attend.

October 4: Young Men Ages 13-18
October 18: Men Ages 19-60

RCIA Reunion

Greetings RCIA friends past and present! As the summer winds down and we move towards another RCIA season here at St. Chris, we, the team, would like to pause and reflect on all the people and blessings that have been part of this wonderful program over the years. To that end, we are planning a reunion potluck dinner for past and present RCIA participants - candidates, team members, new inquirers, all - to be held on Monday, September 16 at 6:30 PM at the Pennell Center, 6:30 PM. Please come! And if you so desire, feel free to share a favorite appetizer, entree, or dessert.

Corpus Christi Corner

It's hard to believe that summer is over. It just passes so quickly! Thank you to all who put food into the church baskets during the summer months. Your continued generosity is amazing! The total for August is 137.4 pounds of food collected for the Pantry.

With school starting again, we are asking for food that can be used in school lunches and for after school snacks: jelly, crackers, brownie mix, toothpaste, beef stew, soup, hot cocoa, stuffing, gravy, syrup and pancake mix. There are baskets located at each of the church entrances for your donations. Thank you!

Yoga for Seniors

Start your week off by improving your overall health with Yoga. Yoga for Seniors takes place on Monday mornings at 8:00 am in the Church Hall. The class that moves the whole body through a series of seated and standing yoga poses to increase flexibility and range of motion, improve balance and core strength, and help promote stress reduction and mental clarity. Classes are provided free of charge to St. Christopher's seniors. All are welcome to stop by and watch or participate.

Upcoming class schedule:

September 16 – 8:00 AM
September 23 – 8:00 AM
September 30 – 8:00 AM

Anniversary Mass

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating an anniversary in 2019 of 5, 25 or 50 years, to attend the Fall Wedding Anniversary Mass. This celebration will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 2:00 PM, at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, please contact the parish office by September 20, 2019. Couples celebrating anniversaries of 10, 15, 20, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 55+ years will be asked to register later for a spring celebration.

Knights of Columbus Youth Essay Contest

All Catholic students in public, private and parochial schools grades 8-12, in Nashua, NH are invited to participate in the Annual Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. Every year, students are encouraged to write a 500 to 750 word essay on the theme of *"the meaning of Virtue and how you live and embody the virtue of Charity"*. The local contest will be hosted by St. Boniface Council 11907 in Nashua. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the contest. Participants are required to furnish written parental consent. Due by September 30. For entry forms or additional information, contact: Grand Knight Rob Everett (603) 229-7319 or rje7@hotmail.com.

From the Families of Nazareth

Allowing The Consequences Of Evil To Convert You

"Sometimes only a failure and the suffering it entails are able to shock us and lead to our conversion."

Tadeusz Dajczer, The Gift of Faith, 3rd. ed. (Ft. Collins, CO: IAMF, 2012), 78.

First faith sharing meeting of the year is Thursday Sept 27, 7:00 PM at 94 Walden Pond Drive in Nashua.

For Vocations

"Make straight paths for your feet." Will your path of holiness be as a priest or in the consecrated life? Call Father Matt Mason (603) 669-3100, or write: mmason@rcbm.org.



*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
 Protect them as they protect us.
 Bless them and their families,
 For the selfless acts they perform,
 For us in our time of need.
 And give us peace.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord
 and Savior. Amen.*

Please pray for the following service people from our parish:

Children of William & Yvette Berthelotte:

LTC Brian Berthelotte (Army);
 LtCol Mark Berthelotte (USAF);
 LCDR Brad Berthelotte (Navy)

Grandson of William & Yvette Berthelotte:

Cpl. Matthew Berthelotte
 (USMC)

Son of John & Alana Kocsis:
 SSG. John Kocsis III (Army)

Son of Joseph & Sue Strob:
 Maj. Rob Strob

Grandsons of Pat & Kaye Heffernan:
 Sgt. Eamonn Garber (USMC)

Son of David & Patricia Taylor:
 SFC James Taylor (Army)

Grandson of Lorraine St. Pierre
 PFC Alexander St. Pierre (Army)

Sons of Laurie Kopka and
 Grandsons of Madeleine Kopka:
 AT2 Michael Allard (Navy)
 AME2 Joseph Allard (Navy)

Daughter of John Soltis:
 Lt.Col. Kristen Soltis (USAF)

Grandchildren of Dan & Sue Tracy:
 1Lt Brittany DesLauriers (Army)
 PFC Gavin Tracy (US Army)

Grandson of Betty Batey:
 Captain Nick Batey USAF

*To add to our military prayer list,
 email bulletin@stchrisparishnh.org or
 call the Rectory at 882-0632.*

**St. Christopher Parish
Community Outreach**

Parish Prayer Line
*Overwhelmed by life, by care?
May we help with our prayer?*

St. Christopher's Prayer Line --
24/7 from us to Heaven!

Call the Prayer Line
(Coordinator Maureen Brown)
882-8634

Go online to
www.stchrisparishnh.org

Send email to
prayerhotline@stchrisparishnh.org

Prayer Shawls

Our prayer shawl ministry, Creating for our Community, gathers once a month to knit, crochet, and pray as they create beautiful prayer shawls. If you know of someone who could benefit from the gift of a Prayer Shawl, whether they are having difficult time, or simply need the comfort of Prayer wrapped around their shoulders, please contact the rectory at 882-0632.

Outreach Ministry

If you are homebound and cannot attend Mass and would like to receive communion, please call the Rectory 882-0632.

Senior Companions

Are you homebound? Would you enjoy a visit? Your parish wants to stay connected with you! If St. Christopher is your spiritual home, how about a visit from one of your fellow parishioners? To arrange a visit, please call the Rectory at 882-0632.

Saint Cornelius

There was no pope for 14 months after the martyrdom of Saint Fabian because of the intensity of the persecution of the Church. During the interval, the Church was governed by a college of priests. Saint Cyprian, a friend of Cornelius, writes that Cornelius was elected pope "by the judgment of God and of Christ, by the testimony of most of the clergy, by the vote of the people, with the consent of aged priests and of good men."

The greatest problem of Cornelius's two-year term as pope had to do with the Sacrament of Penance and centered on the readmission of Christians who had denied their faith during the time of persecution. Two extremes were finally both condemned. Cyprian, primate of North Africa, appealed to the pope to confirm his stand that the relapsed could be reconciled only by the decision of the bishop.

In Rome, however, Cornelius met with the opposite view. After his election, a priest named Novatian (one of those who had governed the Church) had himself consecrated a rival bishop of Rome—one of the first antipopes. He denied that the Church had any power to reconcile not only the apostates, but also those guilty of murder, adultery, fornication, or second marriage! Cornelius had the support of most of the Church (especially of Cyprian of Africa) in condemning Novatianism, though the sect persisted for several centuries. Cornelius held a synod at Rome in 251 and ordered the "relapsed" to be restored to the Church with the usual "medicines of repentance."

The friendship of Cornelius and Cyprian was strained for a time when one of Cyprian's rivals made accusations about him. But the problem was cleared up. A document from Cornelius shows the extent of organization in the Church of Rome in the mid-third century: 46 priests, seven deacons, seven subdeacons. It is estimated that the number of Christians was about 50,000. He died as a result of the hardships of his exile in what is now Civitavecchia.

Reflection

It seems fairly true to say that almost every possible false doctrine has been proposed at some time or other in the history of the Church. The third century saw the resolution of a problem we scarcely consider—the penance to be done before reconciliation with the Church after mortal sin. Men like Cornelius and Cyprian were God's instruments in helping the Church find a prudent path between extremes of rigorism and laxity. They are part of the Church's ever-living stream of tradition, ensuring the continuance of what was begun by Christ, and evaluating new experiences through the wisdom and experience of those who have gone before.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

Welcome! Please use this form to register!

St. Christopher Parish welcomes all visitors to our Spiritual Home! If you are interested in joining the parish, please complete the form below and either drop it in the Offertory Basket or mail it to the Rectory. One of our Parish staff members will be in touch. Registration forms are also available online at www.StChrisParishNH.org.

Name _____ **Email** _____

Address _____

Phone _____



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**



Family Connection to this Week's Gospel

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-32

Jesus responds to those who criticize him for keeping company with the unworthy.

Read or retell in your own words, the three stories from the Gospel. Ask your children to recall games they play that involve losing or hiding something and then finding it. (Hide and Go Seek, Ghost in the Graveyard, Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?) Talk about how exciting it is to find the person or thing being looked for.

Ask your children if they have any memories of losing something special or being lost themselves. Share the stories as well as the fears or feelings. Then tell them that just as you would go to any length to find and bring them home if they were lost, so too would God. That is what Jesus is telling us in the three stories. No matter what we do, no matter how wrong we are, God, our loving father, is always anxious to forgive us and welcome us back home.

Reprinted from <http://www.loyolapress.com>

About Our Catholic Faith: What is Canon Law?

What is canon law and why is it important?

Every organization, whether secular or religious, requires its own laws and customs in order to maintain order. Within the Catholic Church, the internal legal system that governs its day-to-day workings is known as canon law.

Since the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic laity has become increasingly aware of the science of canon law. Whether because of the rise in annulments or because of the crisis over sexual misconduct among the clergy, coming across references to canon law is no longer uncommon for most Catholic laity.

The word *canon* comes from the old Greek word *kanon*, which means "reed." In the ancient world, a reed symbolized the authority to rule. Returning to the original Latin, one finds two words for law: *lex* and *ius*. *Lex* refers to an individual or particular law. From its plural form *leges* we derive the English words legislator and legislation. The term *ius*, on the other hand, means an entire system of law or the subject of law in the abstract. From it we derive the English words justice and jurisprudence. When the Church employs the term canon law, it is referring to this *ius*. Thus the Code of Canon Law is known in Latin as the *Codex Iuris Canonici*.

Why does the Church have a Code of Canon Law?

We need only think of the Ten Commandments as an example of how God has given law to his people. The New Covenant of Christ gave birth to a new set of laws for the Christian community. The Church eventually used aspects of the legal system of the Roman Empire to enforce these laws. The Church in turn was the principal means of stability for Europe through the Dark Ages. Law kept the Church focused on its mission to evangelize the nations and provided an environment in which the Church was more receptive to God's plan.

The Code of Canon Law provides an orderly presentation of law and deals with the day-to-day affairs of the Church. Canons are individual paragraphs of set law that the Church interprets and applies to given situations. Though the Roman Catholic Church has had collections of laws for many centuries, the Code of Canon Law was issued first in 1917, revised in 1983, and will be revised again at some point in the future. The Church does not need a Code of Canon Law, but it has chosen to use such a structure.

Prayer to Saint Michael

With so many challenges confronting us these days, we need help and strength to meet them head on. Please join us in praying daily that through the intercession of Saint Michael, we will remain faithful and strong in the Lord's service and in defending the Truth which resides in the Church!

St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle; be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits who wander around the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Prayer for Vocations

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service. Amen.

In the Words of
Pope Francis

"What must one do to be a good Christian? The answer is simple: we have to do, each in our own way, what Jesus says in the Beatitudes."

**Pope Francis I @ Pontifex
September 9, 2019**