

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 20, 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.



Jesus asked,
“Will not God
secure the rights
of his chosen ones
who call out to him
day and night?”

LUKE 18:7

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 20, 2019

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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, October 19

4:00 PM Craig M. Levesque
by His Mother and Father

Sunday, October 20

8:00 AM For the people of the parish

10:00 AM Maurice Bedard
by His Family

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

Monday, October 21

7:15 AM Norbert Higgins
by John & Mary Mann

Tuesday, October 22

7:15 AM Alison Nardone
by Fr. David Harris and Staff

Wednesday, October 23

7:15 AM James F. Gallagher
by His Family

Thursday, October 24

7:15 AM Jeanne Paquette
by Jean Berube

Friday, October 25

No Mass on Friday mornings

Saturday, October 26

4:00 PM Martin Bernard
by The Bernard Family

Sunday, October 27

8:00 AM Ernie Berube

by His Wife, Jean
For the people of the parish

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:

For A Special Intention

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 October 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.



God's Majesty Reflected in Autumn

I had the special opportunity to drive through northern New Hampshire and Vermont last week, and I was truly in awe of the sweeping views of bright foliage draped across miles of hills and mountains. At moments seeing the vast horizon of colors was simply overwhelming! To see nature in such stunning splendor makes me release how blessed we are to live in an area of the country where we have such a phenomenon right in our backyard (literally!). Of course, maybe we don't feel so blessed when those same leaves turn brown and fall off - which means we then have the laborious, or expensive, task of getting rid of them!

Nature glorifies God simply by its own existence. The fact that the natural world is designed, created, and sustained by God's providence means that nature points back to Him just by being here. A beautiful flower doesn't need to 'do' anything to glorify God - its growth, colors, and shape already reflect His glory. When we behold beauty in this world, we are beholding a hint of the radiance of God's face.

God wants us to see His loving hand everywhere. It is easy in a sinful world, which seems to be increasingly dark as the truth of the Gospel is disconnected from people's daily lives, to feel that God has abandoned us. This can lead to bitterness, discouragement, and hopelessness. We must remember that God continues to reveal Himself everywhere - in nature, in other people, in our hearts, and through His Word.

Maybe most importantly, God always reveals Himself to us in the Most Holy Eucharist, where He hides Himself under the appearance of bread and bestows infinite heavenly graces into our souls when we receive Him. Nothing else in the universe compares to the mystery of the Eucharist - God truly feeding His people with Himself. May we each have rock-solid faith that God is always entering our lives through the Sacraments, no matter what we may be concerned about in the Church or the world around us.

I hope you enjoy these 'peak' weeks of autumn and may you see God's glory revealed in the beauty that surrounds us.

**God Bless,
Fr. David**

St. Christopher's would like to welcome the following parishioners to our parish and their new spiritual home:

- Caitlin Sica and Philip Huntley
- Tessa Martin-Huntley



Christy Nguyen and Adam Trenholm were married at St. Christopher Parish, October 12, 2019 by Rev. Thien Nguyen.
Congratulations to Christy and Adam!

Boy Scouts Christmas Wreaths

Boy Scout Troop 773 will be selling Christmas wreaths as a fundraiser and will be taking orders before and after Masses on the weekend of October 26th & 27th, including at coffee and donuts after the 10:00 AM Mass. A variety of sizes and styles is available. Payment is due at the time of order. Cash and checks will be accepted. The wreaths will be available for pickup after Mass on November 24th.

You may also order online at <https://threeriversfundraising.com/fund/bs773-wreath2019> and either select pick-up (for the pick-up date of November 24th) or request 'direct ship' for an additional cost. If ordering online, please enter "St. Christopher Church" in the Pickup Instructions section at checkout. Thank you for supporting the Boy Scouts.

Corpus Christi Corner

During the month of September the total amount of food donated to the Pantry, including the Brown Bag Appeal, equaled 1,599.4 pounds. Adding the St Chris School Brown Bag of 1156.7 pounds, equals a grand total of 2,756.1 pounds of food.

Thank you all for your generosity. Your support helps us to keep our doors open and to meet the needs of the residents of Nashua who are down on their luck.

Suggested items for the month of October include, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, instant potatoes, pie crust mix, pumpkin pie filling, muffin mix, canned carrots, canned peas, pickles and olives. As always, there are baskets located at each of the church entrances for your donations.

Diocesan Youth Conference

The Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Events Advisory Committee, known as SUMMIT, is presenting the diocese's first Youth Conference to be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, NH from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The day will include excellent speakers, praise and worship music, adoration and confession opportunities, a presentation of World Youth Day NH Youth awards, and conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Libasci at 4:00 PM. For additional event information and registration, please visit: <https://www.catholicnh.org/summit/>

On November 9th at the 4:00 PM Mass, St. Christopher Parish will gather to show their appreciation to all our Veterans. After the Mass, we will be serving dinner to the veterans and their guests. We will be sending out invitations to our veterans for the Mass and dinner with a request to call the parish office at 882-0632 and let us know how many will be attending the Mass and dinner.

If you are a veteran and have not received an invitation, please call the office at 882-0632. We will reserve you and your guests a place at the Mass and for the dinner.



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

cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org

Confirmation - Deacon Jim Daly

deaconjim@stchrisparishnh.org

RCIA - Joe Mercurio

rcia@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!



Diary of a Little Soul — WEEK 3:

Even though I am just about the size of a comma, my very tiny heart started beating for the first time today. How can some people say that I am just a "clump of cells"? God's master plan is at work right here! He says that I am "fearfully and wonderfully made."

*Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb.
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; wonderful are your works.
My soul also you knew full well; nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret,
when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth.*



October 13, 2019 Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$3,041.00
Loose Offertory	\$1,026.86
Faith Direct	\$1,292.50
Total	\$5,362.36
Under Budget	\$73764
NH Priest Retirement	\$10.00
(total to date \$2,549.56)	
Mission Sunday/POF	\$75.00
(total to date \$105.00)	

**Thank you
for supporting
your Spiritual Home!**

**St. Christopher School
Fall Open House**

**Wednesday, November 6
9:30 - 11:00 AM**

Interested in a St. Christopher School education for your child or grandchild? Stop by our drop-in Fall Open House for prospective students and their families! The Open House will take place Wednesday, November 6, from 9:30 - 11:00 AM! Meet the teachers and staff, tour the school and get all your questions answered!

Parents of PreKindergarten 3's to grade 6 students will appreciate the emphasis on outstanding academics built on a strong Catholic moral and spiritual foundation. Classrooms and school facilities are light and bright and feature the latest in educational technology. Service and extracurricular opportunities are an integral part of a St. Chris education and parents (and grandparents!) are always welcome.

St. Chris is still accepting new students for this school year and has begun accepting applications for 2020-2021. Demand for the PreK 3 program in 2020-2021 looks to be in high demand, so parents are encouraged to apply now if they are interested!

Private Tours -- Unable to attend the Open House but still interested in all that St. Christopher School has to offer? Private tours are available any time the school is open! To set up a tour, contact Jackie Langenfeld at 603-882-7442, ext. 114 or email at jlangenfeld@stchrisschoolnh.org.

For more information, visit the school's website at www.StChrisSchoolNH.org.

Faith Formation

All classes are up and running!

HELP WANTED- We could use a few volunteers to serve a substitute teachers for our Sunday morning classes on the few mornings that a teacher is unable to be in class! A volunteer teacher would have a chapter in the student text to teach/review with the class. Class size is small (about 5-7 students) All volunteers must complete a criminal background check and child safety online training as outlined by the diocese. To volunteer, please contact Chris Mercurio at cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org. Thanks!

**Pre-K to 6th grade- Sunday Mornings
from 8:30-9:45 AM**

- October 20- Regular Class
- October 27 - Regular Class
- November 3 - Regular Class

**Grade 7/8 program- Monday Evening
from 6:30-7:45 PM**

- October 21- Regular Class
- October 28 - Regular Class
- November 4 - Regular Class

From the Families of Nazareth

The Priority of Prayer

"In the light of faith, the most important activity in our day is prayer. It must take precedence over all other activities."

Tadeusz Dajczer, The Gift of Faith, 3rd. ed. (Ft. Collins, CO: IAMF, 2012) 227.

A faith sharing meeting takes place each Thursday at 94 Walden Pond Drive in Nashua. All are welcome! **Please note that there will be no faith sharing meeting on October 31 as it is the eve of a Holy Day.**

Mass Intentions

Parishioners may request memorial masses for loved ones, as well as sponsoring the Sanctuary Lamp for a week, by contacting the rectory at 882-0632, Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Suggested donation is \$10 and mass cards are available. Arrangements can also be made to donate the Altar bread and wine for a month by contacting the rectory.

Seeing is believing!

Enroll Now!



**Apply online at
StChrisSchoolNH.org**

Coffee and Donuts

**October 27
After 10:00 AM Mass**



*Sponsored by the
Knights of Columbus*

Sacrament Preparation Program

Grade 2 Reconciliation and Grade 3 Confirmation Classes have begun!

Oct 20- 4:00-5:00 pm--Reconciliation- Chapter 2 due

Oct 20- 5:30-6:30 pm--Confirmation Grade 3

Register Now for January Sessions! Forms 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)

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 Grade 3 Confirmation class. Students must have received instruction for Confirmation prior to this class. Class will run from January to May 2020. Confirmation and First Eucharist will be received in one celebration in the Spring of 2020. We are awaiting dates from the Diocesan office.
- **Confirmation (grades 5-7+)** Students who have received baptism, reconciliation and first communion but have not been confirmed should register for this class. Class will run from January to May 2020. Confirmation Mass for this class will be: Tuesday June 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Calling All Alumni!

Are you an graduate, or parent of a graduate, from St. Christopher or Infant Jesus Schools? The Advancement Office at St. Chris is looking to update its alumni records and stay in touch with our friends! Alumni and their parents from both St. Chris and Infant Jesus are invited to complete the information form on the school's website at <https://www.stchrisschoolnh.org/apps/form/StayInTouch>. Alumni and parents will receive the News and Notes newsletter twice each year, as well as special event invitations. We can't wait to hear from you!

Create a Legacy

How can you become a real and active participant in the direct ministry and sacramental life of others, even when you're gone? A bequest to St. Christopher Parish is an investment in the lives of future parishioners, our children and grandchildren. When making these future plans, consider making a legacy gift to St. Christopher Parish and make an impact on our future ministries and the Catholic faith.

For more information about how to include St. Christopher's Catholic Church in your will, please contact Fr. David Harris at the rectory, 603-882-0632.

For Vocations

"Fight the good fight of the faith." Is your faith in Christ leading you to grow in holiness as a priest or in the consecrated life? Call Father Matt Mason (603) 669-3100, or write: mmason@rcbm.org.

Yoga for Seniors

Join the Yoga for Seniors class on Monday mornings 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:

October 14 – 8:00 AM

October 21 – 8:00 AM

October 28 – 8:00 AM

November 4 – NO CLASS

November 11 – 8:00 AM

Did You Know..

The Catholic Church is the largest charitable organization in the U.S.



*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)

Grandson of Betty Batey:

Captain Nick Batey USAF

Nephew of Karen Narkis:

AMT3 David P. Narkis (Coast
Guard)

*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 Anthony Mary Claret

The "spiritual father of Cuba" was a missionary, religious founder, social reformer, queen's chaplain, writer and publisher, archbishop, and refugee. He was a Spaniard whose work took him to the Canary Islands, Cuba, Madrid, Paris, and to the First Vatican Council.

In his spare time as weaver and designer in the textile mills of Barcelona, Anthony learned Latin and printing: The future priest and publisher was preparing. Ordained at 28, he was prevented by ill health from entering religious life as a Carthusian or as a Jesuit, but went on to become one of Spain's most popular preachers.

Anthony spent 10 years giving popular missions and retreats, always placing great emphasis on the Eucharist and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was said that his rosary was never out of his hand. At age 42, he founded a religious institute of missionaries beginning with five young priests, known today as the Claretians.

Anthony was appointed to head the much-neglected archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba. He began its reform by almost ceaseless preaching and hearing of confessions, and suffered bitter opposition mainly for opposing concubinage and giving instruction to black slaves. A hired assassin—whose release from prison Anthony had obtained—slashed open his face and wrist. Anthony succeeded in getting the would-be assassin's death sentence commuted to a prison term. His solution for the misery of Cubans was family-owned farms producing a variety of foods for the family's own needs and for the market. This invited the enmity of the vested interests who wanted everyone to work on a single cash crop—sugar. Besides all his religious writings are two books he wrote in Cuba: Reflections on Agriculture and Country Delights.

He was recalled to Spain for a job he did not relish—being chaplain for the queen. Anthony went on three conditions: He would reside away from the palace; he would come only to hear the queen's confession and instruct the children; and he would be exempt from court functions. In the revolution of 1868, he fled to Paris with the queen's party, where he preached to the Spanish colony.

All his life Anthony was interested in the Catholic press. He founded the Religious Publishing House, a major Catholic publishing venture in Spain, and wrote or published 200 books and pamphlets.

At Vatican I, where he was a staunch defender of the doctrine of infallibility, Anthony won the admiration of his fellow bishops. Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore remarked of him, "There goes a true saint." At the age of 63, he died in exile near the border of Spain.

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 18:1-8

Jesus urges his disciples to pray and not lose heart, for God hears and answers prayers.

Children nag because it works. Parents, like the judge in the parable, often get worn down by the persistence of their children asking for things large and small. Nagging is not a positive trait, to be sure. The confidence and the persistence behind this behavior, however, confidence in the goodness of the giver and the tenacity to stay in the relationship, are traits worth emulating in our relationship with God.

Read together Luke 18:1-8. Talk about appropriate ways to make needs and desires known to one another and to God in prayer. Recall that God wants to answer our prayers. As a family, offer your needs as prayers of petition to God. Reprinted from <http://www.loyolapress.com>

About Our Catholic Faith:

Six Reasons to Make the Sign of the Cross, Part 1

Catholics often make the Sign of the Cross casually, just as a nice gesture for beginning and ending their prayers. But when we learn to take this act seriously, signing ourselves frequently with faith and reverence, remarkable results can take place. We find ourselves doing measurably better in our Christian life: praying with more passion, resisting our bad inclinations more effectively, and relating to others more kindly.

The Sign of the Cross, after all, is not merely a pious gesture. It is a powerful prayer, a sacramental of the Church.

Scripture, the Church Fathers and saints, and Catholic teaching offer six perspectives on the Sign of the Cross that reveal why making it opens us to life-transforming graces. Once we grasp them, we can make the gesture with more faith and experience its great blessings.

Six Reasons to Make the Sign

1. A mini-creed.

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith in God as He has revealed himself. It serves as an abbreviated form of the Apostles' Creed.

Touching our forehead, breast and shoulders (and in some cultures, our lips as well), we declare our belief in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are announcing our faith in what God has done — the creation of all things, the redemption of humanity from sin and death, and the establishment of the Church, which offers new life to all. When we sign ourselves we are making ourselves aware of God's presence and opening ourselves to His action in our lives.

That much alone would be enough to transform us spiritually, wouldn't it? But there is much, much more.

Prayer to Saint Michael

St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell, Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl about 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.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your Divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

In the Words of

Pope Francis

"The Lord gives each of us a vocation, a challenge to discover the talents and abilities we possess and to put them at the service of others."

Pope Francis I @ Pontifex
October 14, 2019