

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 5, 2020

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

Saint Christopher Academy

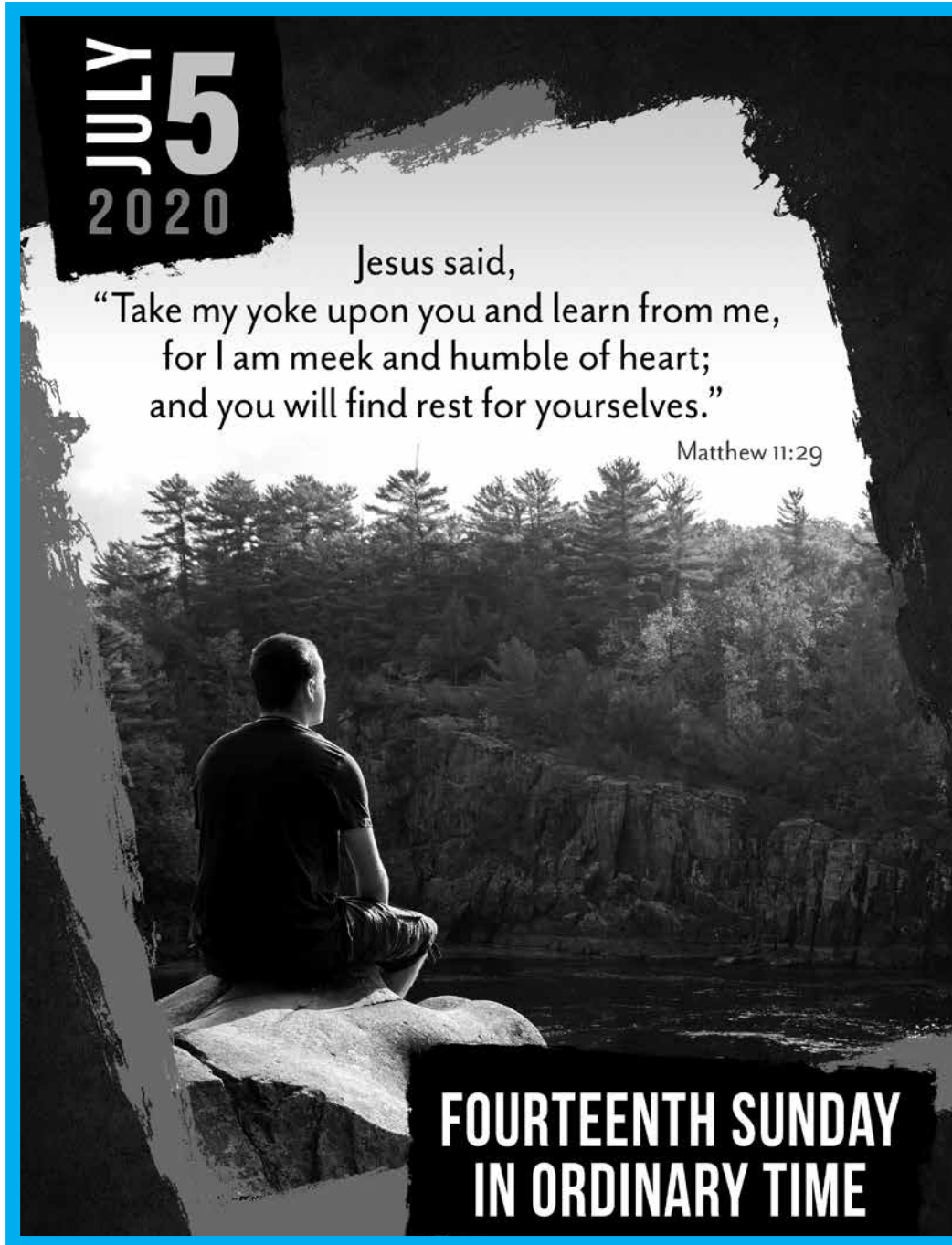
Mrs. Cindy Clarke, Principal
cclarke@saintchrisacademy.org

Grades PreK - 8
20 Cushing Ave. &
6 Bartlett Ave
Nashua, New Hampshire 03064
(603) 882-7442
www.saintchrisacademy.org

Worship Schedule

Daily Mass	8:00 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. 8:00 AM 3:00-3:30 PM Saturday
Rosary	7:00 PM Tuesday
Eucharistic Adoration	Wednesday 8:30 - 9:30 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.



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, July 4

4:00 PM Richard Y. Ingraham
by Dan & Sue Tracy

Sunday, July 5

8:00 AM For the people of the parish
10:00 AM Grace LoMascolo, 10th Anniv.
by Her family
3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

Monday, July 6

8:00 AM Garnetta Wood
by Elizabeth Cote

Tuesday, July 7

8:00 AM The intentions of Bishop
Peter Libasci

Wednesday, July 8

8:00 AM Gary Moore
by Karen Narkis

Thursday, July 9

8:00 AM Anthony Beatrice, Jr.
by Adele Mendel

Friday, July 10

No Mass on Fridays

Saturday, July 11

4:00 PM Carl M. Wappman
by Dan & Sue Tracy

Sunday, July 12

8:00 AM For the people of the parish
10:00 AM Andrea Izzo
by Her daughter, Lia
3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:

For the people of the parish

Altar Bread and Wine:

The Altar Bread, which will become the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ at all Masses during July, will be offered for Tyler Coffey, 11th Anniversary, by his Mother Laurie.

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.



Weekly Gospel Reflection by Seminarian Cuong Nguyen

Matthew 11:25-30

In today's Gospel, we find beautiful texts of the Gospel in which Jesus did not only speak of his unique relationship to the Father, but he expressed his deep desire to embrace us in our weakness and weariness. Therefore, when we open our hearts to listen to Jesus' words attentively, we are aware that our exhaustion is the door into the gentle mercy of Jesus.

Sometimes in our lives, many burdens can overwhelm us (family life, study, work...). For this reason, we can be filled with uncertainty and fear, and we will be swallowed up in despair and lack of hope. Today, Jesus gives us a lifeline and invites us to come to him. This sounds very simple, but in the deepest of Jesus' heart, he wants to be with us to walk with us because he knows we are carrying heavy burdens of work, and we are laboring under the weight of sin. "Come to Him" and we will find rest because he is love and mercy.

Through prayer, we will find ways to stand back and work less; instead of trying to find a way to avoid difficulties and burdens, we are invited to come to Jesus and entrust ourselves to God's providence. Jesus Christ will be with us in all challenges and hardships. We are called to remain in his presence, and he will refresh us with his gentleness and humility, so we find peace in our hearts to continue to work.

Summer Daily Mass Schedule Change

Please note that our daily morning mass schedule has changed from now until Labor Day! Daily mass will be held at 8:00 AM, from Monday through Thursday. There continues to be no mass on Friday. Thanks!

From the Families of Nazareth

Jesus Will Reveal Himself To The Little Ones

"Our Church needs apostles, priests, and even bishops with the heart of a child. Indeed, a child reminds us of the fundamental rule of the kingdom, the weakness on which rests the infinite mercy of the Father. Divine power – that loves to be deployed – emanates through this law of weakness in order to transfigure it."

Andre Daigneault, The Way of Imperfection

(Ft. Collins, CO. IAMF, 2016) pg.38.

Until further notice...

St. Christopher Church

will be OPEN

for prayer

Monday to Friday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Please use
the side door to enter the church!

St. Christopher's would like to welcome Sarah Diggins and her son Carter to the parish and their new spiritual home.



For Vocations

"...and I will give you rest." Ask in prayer if God may be inviting you to consider a life of peace and rest. To learn more about vocations to the priesthood or consecrated life, write Father Matthew Mason at mmason@rcbm.org.

Has Something Changed?

Have you moved or changed your phone number or email address? Help us stay in touch by calling the parish office at 603-882-0632 to update your parish record. Thanks!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9]

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH AT HOME VBS!!

IT'S A MIRACLE!



The Miracles of Jesus July 27-31st

Pick up your kit daily beginning at 8:45AM at the Cushing Ave. entrance to the Church Hall. Drive by...we will hand you your kit and you're off on a journey through the miracles!

St. Christopher Parish is excited to offer our families a take home VBS this year! Since you cannot come to the parish for VBS, the parish will come to you with The Miracles of Jesus!

Learn about 5 miracles performed by Jesus during his ministry! Each day participants will receive an "at home kit". Follow the included guide sheet for a "miraculous time." You are invited to attend 8:00 AM Mass each morning Monday through Thursday, then swing by to pick up your kit afterward.

This program is geared for St Christopher Parish children ages 5-10 (approx) and is being provided to you at no cost!

Some of the included items: morning prayer, craft, outdoor "get up and go" activity, Bible story, snack, quick video link, and more! Schedule and instructions will be included each day for parents to lead the activities at home.

Our program has materials for 32 participants for the week on a first-come, first serve basis. Please email Chris Mercurio at cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org to sign up! Please include the child's name and age, as well as parents name and preferred email address.

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

Bookkeeper - Jean Dickson

bookkeeper@stchrisparishnh.org

Director of Music & Organist -

Carol Ann Skabo

music@stchrisparishnh.org

Religious Educ. - Christine Mercurio

cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org

Confirmation - Caitlin Sica

csica@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!



An early bulletin deadline has caused our offertory reporting to be a bit "behind schedule." Please check back here next week to catch up!

Thank you for supporting your Spiritual Home!



Knights of Columbus

1.9 Million members, \$185 Million donated to charity, 73 Million volunteer hours. Who does all of that? Go to KofC.org/Joinus for more information. We'd love to have you be part of the council at St Chris. Help grow in your faith while being charitable in your church and community.

Thank You to Our Bulletin Advertisers

A sincere "Thank You" to all of our loyal advertisers who continue to support our parish bulletin. The bulletin is one of our main communication tools with our parishioners. It provides inspirational words from Fr. David, Mass intentions, news, and events. We are thankful that this crucial communication piece is provided at no cost thanks to generous advertising support. Please say thanks to our sponsors!

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.

Corpus Christi Corner

Corpus Christi Food Pantry is hoping to start opening on Tuesday afternoons in July. We are still looking for a couple of volunteers. We need some "muscle" to bring food orders upstairs and hand off to the clients between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00 PM. If you can help, please call Maryellen at 882-6372.

We are also asking for donations of fans to give to our clients, many of whom live in apartments without anyway to cool the hot summer air. Fans can be left by the food baskets at church.

Suggested items for the month of July include: coffee, instant or regular, tea, Hamburger Helper, canned beans, canned meat, juice boxes for kids, dish detergent, mayo, ketchup and snack for kids. Your donations can be dropped off during the hours the church is open for prayer or mass. There are baskets located at each of the church entrances. Thank you!!

Why choose Saint Christopher Academy for your PreK 3 to Grade 8 child?

Reason #1: Faith is Alive at Saint Christopher Academy.

The whole child - mind, body, and soul - is formed and nurtured at Saint Christopher's. Guided and inspired by the Catholic faith, our academy strives to give each student a strong moral compass, an understanding of eternal truths, and an invitation to have a personal relationship with God. Our spiritual life is nourished through daily prayer and devotionals, bi-monthly Masses, daily theology class, service projects, Eucharistic adoration and Confessions. Students can share and express their faith in an environment of respect and support among classmates, teachers, and staff. They are encouraged to use their gifts and abilities to serve God and neighbor, which opens the horizon for a happy and fulfilling life in whichever vocation they are called.

Visit SaintChrisAcademy.org to learn more!



Saint Christopher ACADEMY

40th Annual High Adventure Scout Retreat

Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, American Heritage Girls, and their Leaders have been gathering every year for the past 40 years on the 3rd weekend in September to give a meaningful, spirit-filled beginning to a new year of Scouting.

All Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts & American Heritage Girls in grades 6-12, and Adult Leaders, are invited to the 40th Annual High Adventure Scout Retreat from Friday, September 17 through Sunday September 19, 2021 at Camp Fatima in Gilmanton Iron Works, NH. The cost is \$13 per scout and \$10 per adult.

This retreat is very active - like a Camporee - involving the scouts in a number of fun, interesting, challenging, thought provoking and faith filled activities. It includes a climbing wall, high ropes, capture the flag, and dance.

For more information, contact the Catholic Scouting Committee at nhcatolic scouting@gmail.com.

St. Gianna's Place Volunteers

St. Gianna's Place, a caring home in Hudson NH for pregnant women in crisis, is looking for volunteers. Our current need is for Catholic women 25 years old and older who can volunteer at our home on weekends. Whether you can volunteer for a couple hours in the daytime once a month, or can commit to an overnight now and again, if you are able bodied and want to help please call 603-521-8440 or send an email to Admin@StGiannasPlace.org. Also, as the state begins to open and schools and activities return to normal, we will need women to assist our residents with transportation. If you have a reliable vehicle and wish to volunteer please let us know!

Overcoming Racism Resources

Racist acts are sinful because they violate justice. They reveal a failure to acknowledge the human dignity of the persons offended, to recognize them as the neighbors Christ calls us to love. Learn more about overcoming racism at <https://www.catholicnh.org/community/public-issues/issues/racism>



*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

Grandson 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)

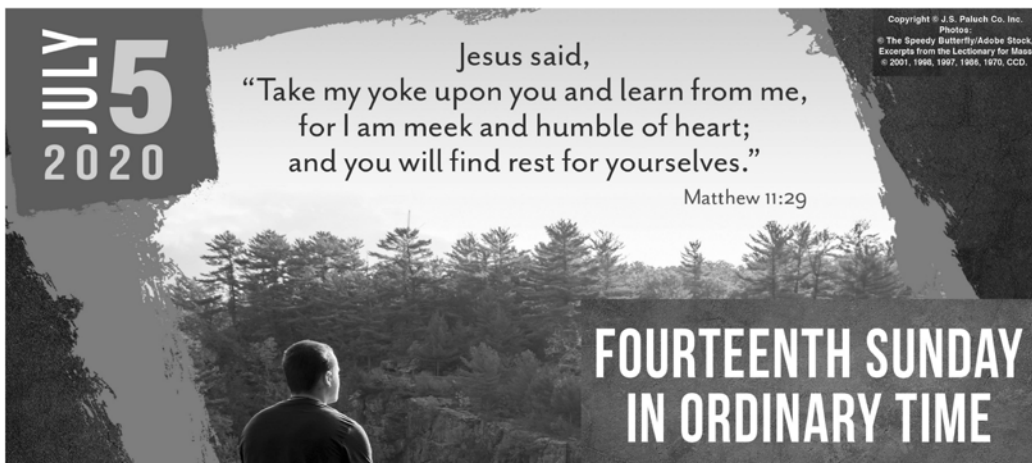
Daughter of John Soltis:
Lt.Col. Kristen Soltis (USAF)

Granddaughter of Dan & Sue Tracy:
1Lt Brittany DesLauriers (Army)

Grandson of Betty Batey:
Major 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.*



We live in an age and a society that has never been more educated or had a higher standard of living, yet never have we carried as much debt. Many are living beyond their means. We have so many resources and time-saving devices at our hands, yet our lives are more complex than ever. While many people may not engage in extreme manual labor we rarely escape our jobs. Many are connected through phones and constantly receive calls, texts, and emails. Others spend hours in traffic on their daily commutes or pack on the frequent flyer miles.

We spend hours binge-watching our favorite shows. Many children are accustomed to being in front of a screen all the time and no longer know how to play creatively. The statistics for those who continue to leave the Church and all forms of organized religion also continue to rise.

While there is no such thing as a "good old days" to return to, there was something to be said for sleeping soundly after putting in a good day's work, and for a family gathering around the table for a shared meal. For many, this model for eucharist rarely exists. Jesus knows and feels our pains, and

calls out, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

So how do we declutter? Downsize? Devote ourselves again to Christ and live out our gospel calling? Sign up for a liturgical ministry, or volunteer to help with a religion program. Join a small faith group. Volunteer at a food pantry or Habitat for Humanity. Become involved as an individual, or a family. Meanwhile, back at the house, make a commitment to go through one drawer a day, and take things to your local St. Vinnie's or secondhand store. Remember meal and bedtime prayers. Find a minute to read the daily scriptures. Take many baby steps. It's not rocket science. It is a continual commitment to bring ourselves as we are, and to respond to Jesus' call to "Come."

Today's Readings: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

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**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!

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.

St. Benedict

(480-547)

It is unfortunate that no contemporary biography was written of a man who has exercised the greatest influence on monasticism in the West. Benedict is well recognized in the later Dialogues of Saint Gregory, but these are sketches to illustrate miraculous elements of his career.

Benedict was born into a distinguished family in central Italy, studied at Rome, and early in life was drawn to monasticism. At first he became a hermit, leaving a depressing world—pagan armies on the march, the Church torn by schism, people suffering from war, morality at a low ebb.

He soon realized that he could not live a hidden life in a small town any better than in a large city, so he withdrew to a cave high in the mountains for three years. Some monks chose Benedict as their leader for a while, but found his strictness not to their taste. Still the shift from hermit to community life had begun for him. He had an idea of gathering various families of monks into one "Grand Monastery" to give them the benefit of unity, fraternity, and permanent worship in one house. Finally he began to build what was to become one of the most famous monasteries in the world—Monte Cassino, commanding three narrow valleys running toward the mountains north of Naples.

The Rule that gradually developed prescribed a life of liturgical prayer, study, manual labor, and living together in community under a common abbot. Benedictine asceticism is known for its moderation, and Benedictine charity has always shown concern for the people in the surrounding countryside. In the course of the Middle Ages, all monasticism in the West was gradually brought under the Rule of St. Benedict.

Today the Benedictine family is represented by two branches: the Benedictine Federation encompassing the men and women of the Order of St. Benedict, and the Cistercians, men and women of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance.

Reflection

The Church has been blessed through Benedictine devotion to the liturgy, not only in its actual celebration with rich and proper ceremony in the great abbeys, but also through the scholarly studies of many of its members. Liturgy is sometimes confused with guitars or choirs, Latin or Bach. We should be grateful to those who both preserve and adapt the genuine tradition of worship in the Church.

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 _____



Family Connection to this Week's Gospel

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus prays in thanks to God, who has revealed himself to the lowly.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches an important lesson for families: from the youngest and simplest among us we can learn the most profound insights about God. Parents who are attentive to this reality can learn much from their children even as their children are learning from them. Families who create time and space for encounters with God will enrich the faith of all who share in family life.

Gather as a family and read together today's Gospel, Matthew 11:25-30. Allow time for each person to reflect on what Jesus reveals to us about God. Invite each person to show these things in a creative way, perhaps through a picture, poem, or some other means. Share these with one another. Conclude in prayer together, thanking Jesus for making God known to us. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm, Psalm 145.

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

About Our Catholic Faith:

Were any of the signers of the Declaration of Independence Catholic?

Only one of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll, is identified as a Catholic.

Charles Carroll was born into a wealthy Roman Catholic family in Annapolis Maryland. He began his formal education at the age of 8, when he was packed off to France to attend a Jesuit College at St. Omer. He graduated the College of Louis the Grande at age 17 and continued practical studies in Europe until, at the age of 28, he returned home. Charles Carroll is said to have identified with the radical cause at once, and he proceeded to work in the circles of American patriots. In 1772 he anonymously engaged the secretary of the colony of Maryland in a series of newspaper articles protesting the right of the British government to tax the colonies without representation.

Carroll was an early advocate for armed resistance with the object of separation from Great Britain. He visited the Continental Congress in 1776, and was enlisted in a diplomatic mission to Canada. Shortly after his return, the Maryland Convention joined in support for the Revolution. Carroll was elected to represent Maryland on the 4th of July, and though he was too late to vote for the Declaration, he did sign it.

He served in the Continental Congress, on the Board of War, through much of the War of Independence, and simultaneously participated in the framing of a constitution for Maryland. In 1778 he returned to Maryland to participate in the formation of the state government. He was elected to the Maryland Senate in 1781, and to the first Federal Congress in 1788. He returned again to the State Senate in 1790 and served there for 10 years. He retired from that post in 1800.

Charles Carroll was the last surviving member of those who signed the Declaration. He died in 1832 at the age of 95.

Reprinted from SimplyCatholic.com

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, cast 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

"Only those who see with the heart see things well, because they know how to "look into" each person: to see a brother or sister apart from his or her mistakes, hope amid difficulty. They see God everywhere."

Pope Francis I @ Pontifex
June 26, 2020