

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 9, 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

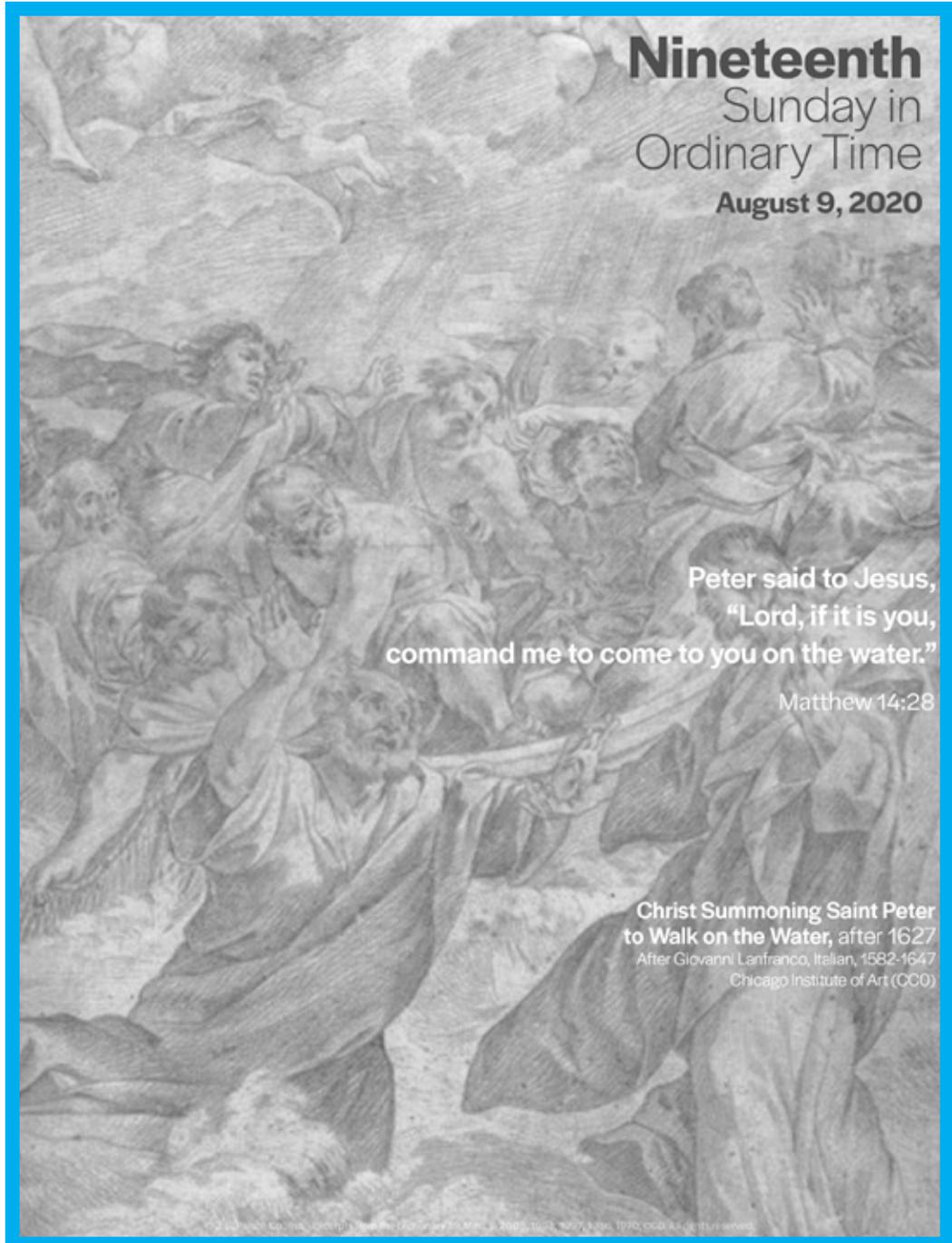
Confessions After Daily Mass,
approx. 8:00 AM
3:00-3:30 PM Saturday

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, August 8

4:00 PM Peter Cadwell, II, 9th Anniv
by His Mother, Jane

Sunday, August 9

8:00 AM Grace LoMascolo
by Her family

Randy Lamont
by Elizabeth Cote

10:00 AM For the people of the parish

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

Monday, August 10

8:00 AM Gertrude "Gail" Nightingale
Gettel
by the Nissen Family

Tuesday, August 11

8:00 AM Randy Lamont, 11th Anniv.
by Elizabeth Cote

Wednesday, August 12

8:00 AM For the people of the parish

Thursday, August 13

8:00 AM For the people of the parish

Friday, August 14

No Mass on Fridays

Saturday, August 15

4:00 PM Bob Dexter
by Jeanne Berube

Peter Ruseski, 5th Anniversary
by His friend Faith

Sunday, August 16

8:00 AM For the people of the parish

10:00 AM Michael Canny, 16th Anniv.
by His Wife, Florence

Justine Pelosi Musto
by Andrea Izzo

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:

For Randy Lamont
by Elizabeth Cote

Altar Bread and Wine:

The Altar Bread, which will become the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ at all Masses during August, will be offered for the people of the parish.

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.

Kindness
and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

Psalm 85:11-12



August 9, 2020
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FREE TO CHOOSE

Our readings today drench us in God's kindness. The Old Testament reading, Paul's letter, and the Gospel demonstrate God's creative and personalized outreach to us. In each case, we see a different reaction to God's gestures. Elijah drinks in his consolation, recognizing God in gentle silence and going out to meet God. The Israelites, according to Saint Paul, though encountering God in a variety of ways through the centuries, ultimately reject the Messiah whom God sends to them. Peter thinks he recognizes the Lord coming to him on the water, but demands proof and grows frightened. At all times and in all places, God longs for us to believe and goes to great lengths to strengthen our faith. Ultimately, God never compels belief, but leaves us free to choose. Today's scriptures challenge us to consider our own response to God's constant work in our lives.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Today's readings console and challenge us, reminding us just how hard God works for us so we might have faith. God's labors are infinitely diverse, too, always tailored to fit our particular situations, personalities, and needs. In Elijah's case, he is hiding in a cave on the very same mountain where Moses once encountered God in the burning bush. Hunted by the pagan Queen Jezebel, Elijah is running for his life. While Moses experienced God in fire on this mountain, Elijah requires a gentler touch. God comes to him not in awesome displays of power, but in a "tiny whispering sound." God provides exactly the tranquility Elijah needs before sending him off on a new mission.

God's creative care for us does not always lead to faith, however. In a strikingly tender passage, Saint Paul shares his heartbreak that God's chosen people could reject Jesus, even after all God has done to prepare them for the Messiah. God has accompanied the chosen people through adoption, miracles, covenants, commandments, prophets, and kings. Despite ages of dedicated and inventive caregiving, God's people do not unite in worship of the true Messiah. The proper response to this lack of faith is sorrow, and Saint Paul pours out the "constant anguish" in his heart.

In yet another astonishingly creative gesture, God visits people in need of faith by defying the laws of nature. Matthew's Gospel describes Jesus actually walking on water to comfort his disciples during a storm at sea. After their terror subsides and the winds grow calm, faith floods the disciples' hearts. They worship Jesus, proclaiming, "Truly, you are the Son of God."

TO THE LIMIT

Sometimes God's creative overtures are almost too much to handle. In a daring effort to trust, Peter challenges Jesus to share miraculous power with him. Jesus obliges, and Peter walks on water. Peter enjoys his miracle until his natural limitations spoil his faith. Just imagine what barriers we can shatter if only we believe.

TODAY'S READINGS

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
Psalm 85:9-14
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-33

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday: Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Ps 113:1-6; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 [59-63]; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

2020 NE Faith Forum

The 2020 New England Faith Forum goes virtual! Originally scheduled for August 7-8, 2020 in Nashua, NH, the Faith Forum has moved to an online format. Presentations will be offered throughout the year and we are starting on August 18, 2020 with our keynote presenter, Julianne Stanz. Please join us from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM for the first in a series of exciting presentations. There is no cost to participate, but registration is required.

Storyteller, author, retreat leader, beach glass hunter, Julianne Stanz is the Director of Parish Life and Evangelization for the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin. She is passionate about parish life and living a joyful Catholic faith, and is a consultant to the USCCB Committee on Catechesis and Evangelization. Julianne has been profoundly influenced by her life growing up in Ireland. She is the author of the book "Developing Disciples of Christ" and co-author with Joe Paprocki of the book "The Catechist's Backpack- Spiritual Essentials for the Journey" by Loyola Press and blogs monthly for the website "The Catechist's Journey". She is happily married to Wayne and they have three children, two sons and a daughter.

Julianne will speak on "START WITH JESUS : WE THE MISSIONARY PEOPLE." Becoming a vibrant parish community is the result of small, intentional steps initiated at the parish leadership level but also accepted by each disciple personally. If our people are renewed, our parishes and ministries will be renewed. "We the people" are the ones who will renew our parishes but only if we have been renewed by the Lord Jesus Christ himself who wants us to grow as his disciples. People are always our best resource in the disciple making process. With joy, humor and practical insights, Julianne will help you to set forth a vision for reaching all people and practical ways by which we can become a community of missionary disciples that set the world on fire.

For reservation questions, contact Alyse Hlasny at ahlasny@rcbm.org or visit catholicnh.org.

Engaged Couple Courses

Engaged couple formation courses in the Diocese of Manchester are available online. The courses are based on Ascension Press' Joy-Filled Marriage program and run online for five consecutive Tuesday or Thursday evenings, from 7 to 8:30 PM. They are facilitated by a pair of Catholic couples experienced in leading marriage formation. Registration in a course also includes a save-worthy marriage formation box (think, subscription box for your relationship!) containing a number of helpful and enriching resources. All interested couples should speak to Fr. David to register for the following course dates:

Thursdays: July 30 – August 27
 Tuesdays: August 25 – September 22
 Thursdays: September 24 – October 22,
 Tuesdays: October 20 – November 17

Please Support Our Bulletin Advertisers

Our Sunday bulletin is an important way for us to communicate with you, especially during these days of the Coronavirus pandemic. It might be the only way that we can reach some of you. Every bulletin that you receive is paid for through the generosity of the businesses that you see advertised on the back cover. Most of these advertisers are members of our local community, and many belong to our parish. We urge you to think of them when you decide to have a meal or other item delivered to your door. Tell the business owners that you appreciate their support of our parish through their advertisements in the bulletin. This is one small way that we can work within our own community to weather the challenges that we face. Together we can help each other make it through.

St. Christopher's would like to welcome Elizabeth Siracusa and her son Noah Coates to the parish and their new spiritual home.



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

Rectory Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00-3:00
 Friday 9:00-12:00

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

cmurcurio@stchrisparishnh.org

Confirmation - Alex Sullivan

asullivan@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!



August 2, 2020 Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$4,221.00
Loose Offertory	\$501.00
Faith Direct	\$1,853.00
Total	\$6575.00
Assumption (total to date \$115.00)	\$25.00
Parish to Parish Support (total to date \$656.00)	\$30.00

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



Knights of Columbus

Called "The strong right arm of the Church" by Saint John Paul II, the Knights of Columbus has more than 1.9 million members and families who support the church and charitable causes around the globe. Go to KofC.org/Joinus for more information on how you and your family can transform the world.

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.

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

Corpus Christi Corner

The Pantry is now open three days a week. Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10am to noon and on Tuesdays from 2 to 3:30pm. We are looking for some more volunteers to help prepare client orders. Could you come and work one day a week for us? The hours are as follows: Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 to noon and Tuesdays from 1:30 to 4:00 PM. If you are interested, please call Maryellen at 882-6372.

During July, 243.5 pounds of food was donated to the Pantry from St Chris, with a total value of \$407. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Suggested items for the month of August are: rice, pasta sides, ketchup, mayo, peanut butter, jelly, tea, coffee, taco kits, Vienna sausage, pasta sauce, canned carrots, shampoo, flour, sugar, canned beans and cookie mix. There are baskets located at each of the church entrances for your donations. Thank you for your continued support.

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

Reason #6: We develop student leaders who are called to mentor others, model strong values, and form new relationships.

Through the Buddy program at the lower campus, every older student is paired with a younger student so that everyone has a buddy. Students visit each other regularly to enjoy projects, events, and each others' company. Older students learn how to mentor, and what it means to take on leadership roles and set good examples. Younger students learn how to form new relationships and understand that they are cared for by all in the Saint Chris community. Students at the upper campus engage in a formal emerging leadership program and have the opportunity to participate in student government and the Junior National Honor Society.

Visit SaintChrisAcademy.org to learn more!



**Saint Christopher
ACADEMY**

From the Families of Nazareth

Doubting Can Lead to Drowning

"When the accent is placed on our I, we stop remaining, with the effort of the will, in the presence of the Divine You; we stop walking toward Christ and relying on Him. As a result, we start drowning because we are overwhelmed by the 'waves' of life's adversities as well as our own spiritual misery."

S.C. Biela, Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock (Ft. Collins, CO: IAMF, 2005), 119.

For Vocations

"Get hold of yourselves! It is I. Do not be afraid!" Uncertainty can sometimes bring fear along with God's call to consecrated life or priesthood. If the Lord is truly calling you, what is needed is trust. If you are discerning your vocation, write Fr. Matthew Mason at mmason@rcbm.org.

Virtual Young Adult Retreat

Are you a young adult living in New Hampshire or Maine? Do you ever wonder what it would be like to set aside all of society's pressures for a while and feel perfect just as you are? Would you like to get to know other Catholic young adults in a relaxed and spirited setting? Then have we got a weekend for you! Join us for a Virtual Retreat on September 11-13.

The Living in God's time virtual retreat will dive deep into what it means to live on God's time. We will cover topics such as Kairos and Chronos, Identity, Connection, and Letting Go, and Going Down the Mountain (living our faith in the season of Young Adulthood). The schedule for the weekend will include a mix of real-time interactions via video conference and off-line time for personal reflection. The retreat will conclude with a livestreamed Mass in southern Maine that, if conditions allow, registrants will have the option to attend in person.

For more information, visit www.catholicnh.org/ya-retreat-2020.



*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.*



In Matthew's Gospel, Peter often serves as a representative of Jesus' other disciples, and of all who strive to follow Jesus. When Peter desires to imitate Jesus by walking on the water in the middle of the storm, maybe wishing to show how strong his faith is, he encounters his own limitations and his need to be rescued by Jesus. Jesus then says to Peter, with tenderness as well as with challenge, "O you of little faith." Jesus accepted the fragile and limited faith of Peter and the other disciples and loved them unconditionally.

The early church identified with Peter, as people with a "little" faith. Their faith was not fully mature, nor as extraordinary as others' faith might seem to be. But they knew that their faith, however small or imperfect, was real and true. We might remember that our own "little" faith is cherished by God. God loves us as we are, and always seeks to form us toward a fully mature Christian life of faith.

GROUNDING IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Today's passage from Saint Paul's letter to the Roman begins an extended reflection, in Chapters 9-11, of Paul's coming to

terms with the mixed but generally negative reception of his fellow Jews toward his proclamation of Christ. He was concerned for the Jewish people certainly, but also for the members of the early church, who were both Jew and Gentile. His primary concern was that their Christian faith should always be grounded in God's faithfulness. So Paul rejected any notion that God somehow had abandoned Israel or God's covenant with them.

As Catholic teaching confirms, especially in the Second Vatican Council, the Church shares with the Jewish people in the tradition of God's faithfulness. We are to acknowledge and repent of the Church's participation and complicity in the darkness of anti-Semitism, both in the past and today. We pray continually with and for the Jewish people as our sisters and brothers in faith.

Today's Readings: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

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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.

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

(January 28, 1572 – December 13, 1641)

Jane Frances was wife, mother, nun, and founder of a religious community. Her mother died when she was 18 months old, and her father, head of parliament at Dijon, France, became the main influence on her education. Jane developed into a woman of beauty and refinement, lively and cheerful in temperament. At 21, she married Baron de Chantal, by whom she had six children, three of whom died in infancy. At her castle, she restored the custom of daily Mass, and was seriously engaged in various charitable works.

Jane's husband was killed after seven years of marriage, and she sank into deep dejection for four months at her family home. Her father-in-law threatened to disinherit her children if she did not return to his home. He was then 75, vain, fierce, and extravagant. Jane Frances managed to remain cheerful in spite of him and his insolent housekeeper.

When she was 32, Jane met Saint Francis de Sales who became her spiritual director, softening some of the severities imposed by her former director. She wanted to become a nun but he persuaded her to defer this decision. She took a vow to remain unmarried and to obey her director.

After three years, Francis told Jane of his plan to found an institute of women that would be a haven for those whose health, age, or other considerations barred them from entering the already established communities. There would be no cloister, and they would be free to undertake spiritual and corporal works of mercy. They were primarily intended to exemplify the virtues of Mary at the Visitation—hence their name the Visitation nuns—humility and meekness.

The usual opposition to women in active ministry arose and Francis de Sales was obliged to make it a cloistered community following the Rule of Saint Augustine. Francis wrote his famous Treatise on the Love of God for them. The congregation consisting of three women began when Jane Frances was 45. She underwent great sufferings: Francis de Sales died; her son was killed; a plague ravaged France; her daughter-in-law and son-in-law died. She encouraged the local authorities to make great efforts for the victims of the plague, and she put all her convent's resources at the disposal of the sick.

During a part of her religious life, Jane Frances had to undergo great trials of the spirit—interior anguish, darkness, and spiritual dryness. She died while on a visitation of convents of the community.

<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 _____



Family Connection to this Week's Gospel

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

Every family has special moments that they remember and share. In sharing these stories, the meaning and importance of the events develops and deepens over time. This is how it was with the disciples' remembrance of Jesus' Transfiguration. The full significance of what they had seen and experienced could only be understood after Jesus' Death and Resurrection. As Peter, James, and John reflected on the event and told other believers about the Transfiguration, their own faith deepened. Because Matthew, Mark, and Luke recorded the account of the Transfiguration in their writings, we too can deepen our faith in Jesus, the Son of God and our Savior.

Gather as a family and think about some special memories that your family recalls over and over again. Talk about why these moments are important to you. Remember that in the Bible we find many important stories about Jesus. They have been recorded so that we too can learn about him and his teachings, so that we too can come to know and love Jesus, God's beloved Son. Read today's Gospel, Matthew 17:1–9. Discuss as a family how Jesus fulfills the promises that God made to Israel and how God glorified Jesus after the Resurrection. Talk about your family and the promises you have made to one another. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer so that as a family you continue to grow in faithfulness to one another and to your heavenly Father.

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

About Our Catholic Faith:

What do we see at Mass? Part 1

The material elements of the Mass—such as the altar with its linens, candles and flowers, the priest's vestments, and the crucifix—affect our hearts and minds even when we're unaware of it. If those elements are truly beautiful, they bring to mind the Psalmist's words:

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of the Lord (Ps. 84:1–2).

The beauty of the Mass is an invitation to the faithful to turn toward the Lord. The altar, the candles, incense, crucifix—even the flowers arrayed in the sanctuary—are means for the Church to reveal Jesus more fully to the faithful gathered to relive his Passion.

At Mass, the faithful can truly come *facie ad faciem Dei*—face to face with God. Pope Benedict XVI noted that sacred art and symbolism make “the Church's common faith visible.” He suggested that holy images should “lead us beyond what can be apprehended at the merely material level, to awaken new senses in us, and to teach us a new kind of seeing, which perceives the Invisible and the visible” (The Spirit of the Liturgy, Ignatius, 133).

What we see at Mass not only visually imparts the Church's teachings; it also brings us into a richer relationship with God, who, in St. Bonaventure's words, “descends upon the altar . . . [as] he did when he became man the first time in the womb of the Virgin Mary.”

Reprinted from CatholicAnswers.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

“Let's look at the “saints next door” who, with simplicity, respond to evil with good, have the courage to love their enemies and to pray for them.”

Pope Francis I @ Pontifex
August 3, 2020