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, January 9**
4:00 PM  Donald Rhodes  
by Richard and Anne Marie Emond  
Joan Conway  
by Fr. David Harris

**Sunday, January 10**
8:00 AM  For the people of the parish  
10:00 AM  Mary Jane Davis  
by Julie Radakrishnan  
William J. Wilson  
by Leona and Family  
3:00 PM  Vietnamese Mass

**Monday, January 11**
7:30 AM  Craig Levesque  
by Mom and Dad

**Tuesday, January 12**
7:30 AM  Georgie Swartz  
by St. Christopher's Parish

**Wednesday, January 13**
7:30 AM  For the people of the parish

**Thursday, January 14**
7:30 AM  Rebecca Lamont  
by Elizabeth Cote

**Friday, January 15**
No mass on Friday

**Saturday, January 16**
4:00 PM  Robert Dexter  
by The Dexter Family  
Simone Belair  
by Arthur Belair

**Sunday, January 18**
8:00 AM  Mathew Trombley  
by Denise Trombley  
Pearl Oliver  
by Sandra Tuplin  
10:00 AM  For the people of the parish  
3:00 PM  Vietnamese Mass

**The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:**
Sanctuary Lamp - Rebecca 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 January, 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.

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**2020 Christmas Flower Donations**

**Given in Memory/Honor of...**

Chester & Margaret Davis and  
Donald Rhodes  
by Mary and Brian Rhodes

Richard McLinnis, Jeannine Wood and  
Noel Wood  
by Mr. & Mrs. Philip Wood

Tony Courounis  
by his wife Marlene Courounis

Robert Garant  
by Mrs. Bronislawa Garant

Our Grandparents  
by Mr. & Mrs. Joel Deleon

Mayor and Mrs. Charles Puksta  
by Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Puksta

Michael Meads  
by The Laplante Family

Faith Skowron, Angel Skowron and  
James Skowron  
by Mr. Anthony Skowron

Logan Venti  
by Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sarette

The Eddy Labrecque Family and  
The Paul Langlois Family  
by Mr. Ronald Labrecque

Patricia Langston, Edith Garbin,  
Denise LaVine and Sean Paradis  
by Mr. & Mrs. Mark LaVine

Mary Jane & Edgar McAlloon,  
Peter McAlloon and  
William & Mary Costello  
by Ms. Nancy Pelletier

Harold & Alma Graser, Alcide & Jeannette  
Boufford and Raymond & Janet Peters  
by Tammy Graser

Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Gianfrocco  
Joe Gianfrocco and Albert Page  
by Rosine Page

In Honor of Nathan & Charlotte  
Barry and Grace & Madeline  
Desjardon  
by Mr. Jeffrey Howell

The Cordery Family  
Mr. & Mrs Peter Ingeneri

Emil & Phylis MacDougall and  
James & Maureen Feenan and  
Frank & Wilena Collins  
and Basil MacDonald  
by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Feenan Sr.

Brenda Bredehoeft and David Knapp  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Knapp

The Tracy Family and  
The Koszalka Family  
by Mr.& Mrs. Daniel Tracy III

Auntie Granny, Auntie Mary, Nana and  
Auntie Joni  
by Ms. Tracey Bradshaw

The LeBlanc Family and  
The Plaisted Family  
by Mr. & Mrs. John LeBlanc

The deceased members of the Wells  
and Kaminski Families  
by William Kaminski

The Moreau Family  
by Priscilla Moreau

Sylvianne Beaucher, Margaret Stevens  
and Lola Jean Quinn  
by Mark Stevens

Randi Lamont, Gemetta & Bill Wood  
and Rebecca & Henry Lamont  
by Elizabeth Cote

In Honor of Violet Koperniak  
by Paul & Suzanne Koperniak

Daniel Pinard  
by Dennis & Janet Murphy

Valentino & Pearl Oliver  
by Sandra Tuplin

Mel & Bernadette Nissen and Don Evans  
by Chris & Martha Nissen

Edward J. & Marian C. Kelley  
by their son, Msgr. Richard J. Kelley

In Honor of John Regan Sr.  
by Lisa Ross & Steve Regan

To our Parents  
by Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Dionne

The Kluska & Viggiano Family  
by Michael & Theresa Viggiano

Josephine Pillarela  
by Mr. & Mrs. Steven Phillips

The Hanafin & Provost Family  
by Mr. & Mrs. Larry Provost

In Memory of Deceased Family  
Members  
by Mrs. Florence Canny

Manvin & Enes Higginson and  
John & Bridget Morgan  
by Mr. & Mrs. Carol Higginson

John DaMotta, Artur Quintanilha and  
Maria Bibiana Quintanilha  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Motta

The Toohee Family & The Zoeo  
Family  
by Dr. & Mrs. Warren Toohee

Mr. & Mrs. William M. Grady and  
Jane Myette  
by Mr. & Mrs. William Grady

Richard & Frances Vita  
by Mrs. Cindy Clarke

In Honor of Rylee & Ronan Bradshaw  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Unda

Charles H. Farwell Jr. and  
Ernest R. Brandt  
by Mr. Dana Farwell

Leon Brassand and Bill Lockhead  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Bellavance III

Arthur & Gladys Coll  
by Mrs. Fath Marotte

Tyler Coffey  
by Laurie Coffey

Pauline L. Cushion and The Cushion  
Family

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We apologize for any misspellings that may have occurred in transposing the names.
**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20  
**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28  
**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39  
**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45  
**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12  
**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17  
**Sunday:** 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

**Corpus Christi Corner**

Wishing all parishioners at St Christopher’s Church a very Happy New Year! Totals for the month of December for donated food to the Pantry are 278.3 pounds with a value of $440.00. We truly appreciate your continued support. Suggested donations for the month of January are: Corn, Peas, Saltines, Graham Crackers, Hamburger Helper, Chicken Noodle Soup, Ramen Noodles, Jelly, Mayonnaise, Children’s Toothpaste, and Disposable Razors. There are baskets located at each of the church entrances for your donations.

**Seminarian Fund Collection**

The annual Seminarian Fund collection will be taken up the weekend of January 16-17, and 100% raised will go toward the education and formation of our young men studying for the priesthood. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Seminarian Fund and please continue to pray for our seminarians and for vocations in the Diocese of Manchester.

**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

**Administrative Assistant - Joanne Pridham**
jpridham@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 - Alex Sullivan**
asullivan@stchrisparishnh.org

**RCIA - Joe Mercurio**
rcia@stchrisparishnh.org

**Parish Council - Elizabeth Cote**
ceote@stchrisparishnh.org

**Finance Committee -- Tom Nardone**
tnardone.work@gmail.com

**Bulletin - Marta Nissen**
bulletin@stchrisparishnh.org

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**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**JANUARY 10, 2021**

*A voice came from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”*  
*Mark 1:11*

When we go to a pop music concert, there is often an opening act. Usually they are a young group on their way up, or older musicians who are past their prime and still hanging on in the business. This is indeed a hard job. In the comedy world it is the same thing. You have to warm up the crowd. You are not who they are coming to see, and audiences may be unresponsive, come in late, or not pay a lot of attention. Yet John had no problem being the opening act, the messenger, the harbinger of faith for Jesus. He was very devout in his faith and knew what his role was, Many Jews were actively seeking a messiah, and he was quick to let them know that he was not the one for whom they were waiting. “I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Yet he conducted his ministry with faith and hope.

**BEING THE MESSAGE**

As John humbly carried out his mission and Jesus accepted this simple baptism by John, the Holy Spirit indeed came down upon Jesus, and God proclaimed for the first time, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Thus Jesus began his formal ministry. There must have been much that he already knew, but also much that he uncovered each day in his encounters with the disciples and the crowds. As he responded “yes” to the Father over and over, his thirst was quenched and his spirit strengthened.

How many times do we witness baptisms in the parish? The priest ministers with simple elements of water and oil, but the Spirit is called down each time. Every time we participate, we are experiencing the message, experiencing the call again. How many times have we blessed ourselves with holy water, or participated in a sprinkling rite? Yet in these days, when church fonts are empty due to safety precautions, we need to remember those other times, trust in God, and sing the prayer of Isaiah in our hearts about drawing water joyfully. We must trust in the message. We must become the message of God’s saving action through our baptism and our lives.

Today’s Readings: Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3; 4bcde, 5-6; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mt 1:7-11

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Like St. Chris Parish on Facebook!
Faith Formation

Register Now for Spring Sacrament Classes!

Our sacrament prep classes will be an IN CLASS format!

Forms for Spring 2021 are available for download on the Parish website. Visit stchrisparishnh.org, print your registration and return with the required certificates/fee to the parish office.

Note: All students registering for a sacrament class must also be enrolled in ongoing faith formation classes (Catholic parish or a Catholic school)(Grades 2-8) A copy of the student’s birth certificate and baptismal certificate are required for registration.

First Eucharist- (grade 3 and up)
Email: cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org
Who? Students who received Reconciliation in the Fall of 2019 and who attended the Fall 2020 Grade 3 Confirmation class. This class will run Jan-May 2021. Confirmation and First Eucharist will be received in one celebration in the Spring of 2021.

Confirmation grades 5-7+
Email: asullivan@stchrisparishnh.org
Who? Students who have received Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion but have not been Confirmed should register for this class. Classes will run Feb-May 2021. Confirmation will be received in the Spring of 2021.

Religious Education: Pre-K to 6th grade
Grade 7/8 program

Our program for second semester will be an AT HOME format.

It’s never too late to register for religious ed classes!! For more information on our program- email Chris Mercurio cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org.

Families with children in this program should be following each week with the assigned chapter. Students complete the reading and assigned work in each chapter and submit their chapter test and unit test directly to their teacher. Each teacher should be in regular contact with your family.

Questions regarding particular assignments can be directed to the individual teacher for clarification. If you have not been in contact with your instructor please contact: cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org so we can get you connected!
Pilgrims for Life
While there will be no diocesan pilgrimage to the national march for life this year, our prayer and advocacy must continue. We’ve created “Pilgrims for Life” to help the faithful of New Hampshire build up the culture of life in the Diocese of Manchester and beyond. Prayer opportunities related to the March for Life will be held in each of the nine deaneries of the Diocese of Manchester. Visit www.catholicnh.org/pilgrimsforlife for more information.

Saint Christopher Academy
Now Accepting Applications
Saint Christopher Academy is now accepting applications for students interested in grades Prekindergarten 3 through 8 for the 2021-2022 school year. To apply, visit the school website at SaintChrisAcademy.org.

Online Bereavement Support Group from Catholic Charities NH
Have you recently lost a spouse, family member or friend, and are struggling with grief and loss? Catholic Charities NH will be hosting its next online support group, “Bereavement – Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding your Way Again,” a six-series program helping participants learn about the dynamics of grief, discover new ways to cope while healing and gain the opportunity to be supported and support others also sharing a painful journey. Sessions will be held on Thursdays (January 28 – March 4) from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. To register, visit www.cc-nh.org/bereavement. You may also call 603-752-1325 or email efrenette@nh-cc.org.

St. Gianna’s Place, Inc.
PO Box 725, Londonderry, NH 03053
(603) 521-8440

December 27, 2020

Fr. David Harris, Pastor
St. Christopher Parish
62 Manchester Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Dear Fr. Harris,

Once again, we at St. Gianna’s Place feel so very blessed to be recipients of St. Christopher’s giving tree this year. As we all know 2020 has been a rough year for everyone, and this generous support from the parishioners at St. Christopher’s is much needed and so appreciated.

St. Gianna’s Place provides housing, clothing, food, continuing education and in-house trainings such as personal budgeting, faith formation, parenting skills and more to expectant women who are homeless. Our goal is to help our residents become self-supporting and independent, and ultimately able to support themselves and their children.

The gift cards you have provided will be used to purchase clothing and personal items by our moms for themselves and their children and for much needed household items and groceries.

Thank you all again for your generosity and prayerful support!

In His Service,

Maura Fitzpatrick, MPH
Executive Director, St. Gianna’s Place, Inc.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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

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 Brittnay 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.

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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

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**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.

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

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**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.

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**St. Marguerite Bourgeoys**
*(April 17, 1620 – January 12, 1700)*

“God closes a door and then opens a window,” people sometimes say when dealing with their own disappointment or someone else’s. That was certainly true in Marguerite’s case. Children from European as well as Native American backgrounds in 17th-century Canada benefited from her great zeal and unshakable trust in God’s providence.

Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Her applications to the Carmelites and Poor Clares were unsuccessful. A priest friend suggested that perhaps God had other plans for her.

In 1654, the governor of the French settlement in Canada visited his sister, an Augustinian canoness in Troyes. Marguerite belonged to a sodality connected to that convent. The governor invited her to come to Canada and start a school in Ville-Marie (eventually the city of Montreal). When she arrived, the colony numbered 200 people with a hospital and a Jesuit mission chapel.

Soon after starting a school, she realized her need for coworkers. Returning to Troyes, she recruited a friend, Catherine Crolo, and two other young women. In 1667, they added classes at their school for Indian children. A second trip to France three years later resulted in six more young women and a letter from King Louis XIV, authorizing the school. The Congregation of Notre Dame was established in 1676 but its members did not make formal religious profession until 1698 when their Rule and constitutions were approved.

Marguerite established a school for Indian girls in Montreal. At the age of 69, she walked from Montreal to Quebec in response to the bishop’s request to establish a community of her sisters in that city. By the time she died, she was referred to as the “Mother of the Colony.” Marguerite was canonized in 1982.

**Reflection**

It’s easy to become discouraged when plans that we think that God must endorse are frustrated. Marguerite was called not to be a cloistered nun but to be a foundress and an educator. God had not ignored her after all.

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**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 ____________________________**

**Address __________________________________________________________**

_________________________________________________________________

**Phone _____________________**

**Email ______________________**
Family Connection to this Week’s Gospel

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:7-11
Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist.

In the story of Jesus’ baptism, we hear the report of a significant moment in Jesus’ life. By accepting baptism from John the Baptist, Jesus shows himself to accept solidarity with sinners. In the voice from heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit, we know that God received this offering from Jesus and found it pleasing. In the passages that follow in Mark’s Gospel, we learn that Jesus’ baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry.

Although many of us may have already taken down our Christmas decorations, liturgically speaking, the Christmas season hasn’t ended yet; today is the last day. Holidays like Christmas are highlights of our year, moments of great grace. This grace renews us and prepares us for our return to the season of Ordinary Time, to the continuing work of discipleship.

Gather as a family and discuss your feelings about the ending of the Christmas season. How does it feel to take down the Christmas decorations? Many of us experience a letdown after the excitement of Christmas; others may feel relieved that life is returning to normal. Liturgically, we end the Christmas season today by reflecting on the importance of Jesus’ baptism. Read together today’s Gospel, Mark 1:7-11. Jesus’ baptism prepared him for his public ministry. What will we take from this Christmas season to carry us forward into Ordinary Time, to renew and strengthen our life of Christian discipleship? Conclude by praying together today’s psalm response taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6, or pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

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.

About Our Catholic Faith:

Can a child be baptized with two sets of godparents?

No. Canon law provides that one godparent is sufficient but that there may be two, so long as there is one of each sex (can. 873, Code of Canon Law). There is no provision for more than two godparents.

If the parents wish to honor another couple at the baptism, and that couple are both baptized Christians, they may ask the couple to be Christian witnesses to the baptism together with the Catholic godparents (Principles and Norms on Ecumenism 98).

Prayer to Jesus

“Jesus is the eternal Word of God, who has always thought of us and wanted to communicate with us.”

Pope Francis I @ Pontifex
January 3, 2021

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