

# SAINT CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

**January 23, 2022**

**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  
info@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** 7:30 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

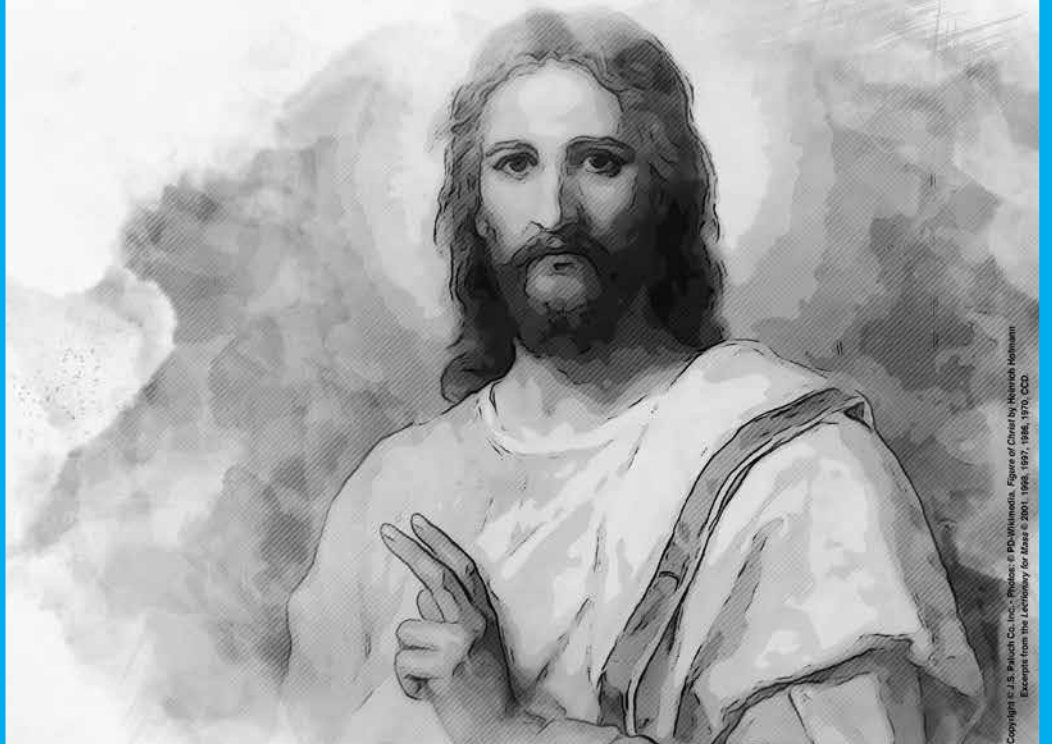
**Rosary** 7:00 PM Tuesday

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
Wednesday  
8:00 - 9:00 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.**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 23, 2022**



**THE SPIRIT  
OF THE LORD  
IS UPON ME,**

**because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.**

**LUKE 4:18**

## 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 22

4:00 PM Margaret Davis  
by Mary Rhodes

Tyler Coffey  
by his Mom, Laurie Coffey

### Sunday, January 23

8:00 AM People of the parish

10:00 AM Mona Pepin  
by The Thibodeau Family

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

### Monday, January 24

7:30 AM Louise Knapik  
by Paul and Milena Anzalone

### Tuesday, January 25

7:30 AM Sean Costello  
by Scott and Ann Colletto

### Wednesday, January 26

7:30 AM Richard and Patricia LaHood  
by The Family

### Thursday, January 27

7:30 AM Dick Blais  
by Maurice and Michelle  
Levesque

### Friday, January 28

No Mass on Fridays

### Saturday, January 29

4:00 PM Leona Marie Vacca  
by Michael Vacca

Sean Costello  
by Jane Cadwell

### Sunday, January 30

8:00 AM People of the parish

10:00 AM Mrs. Annette Geoffrion  
by the Harris Family

3:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

### The Sanctuary Lamp Burns This Week:

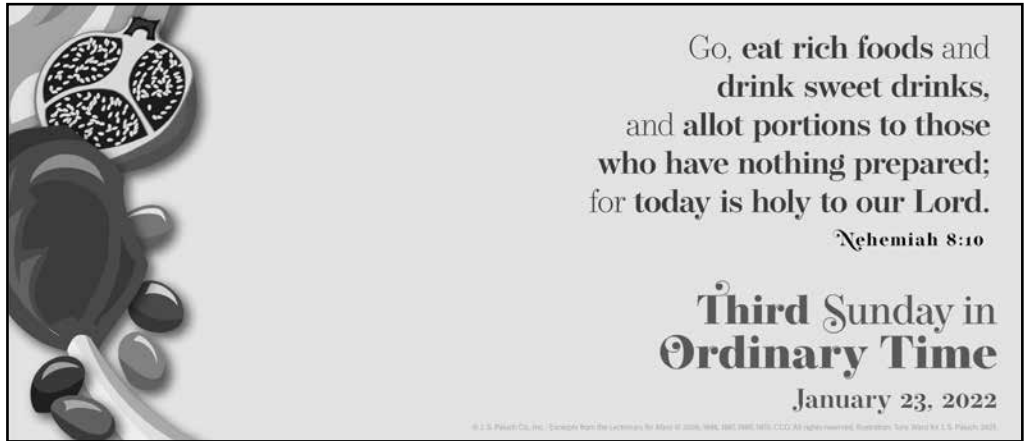
Sanctuary Lamp - Colleen Riley  
by Dennis and Janet Murphy

### 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 in memory of Tyler Coffey by his mom, Laurie Coffey.

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.

Votive candle suggested offertory is \$3.00 to cover the cost of the 3-day candle.



Go, eat rich foods and  
drink sweet drinks,  
and allot portions to those  
who have nothing prepared;  
for today is holy to our Lord.

Nehemiah 8:10

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 23, 2022

### COMMUNITY

Community is important. Community is essential. Community is crucial. This message is the foundation of today's readings from Nehemiah, Corinthians, and Luke. Ezra's reading of the scroll is done in front of the community, including—a radical act at the time—women, and children old enough to understand, groups usually not counted among those hearing God's promise proclaimed. Community is important. The mystical Body of Christ, like the human body, functions best and most fully when all members are playing the role for which they were meant. Community is essential. God's word is fulfilled when the community has heard it, and witnessed it. In Luke, the baptism and desert trials of Jesus lead to the synagogue scene, which will then lead Jesus to his public ministry of proclaiming the reign of God. He eventually will journey to Jerusalem and his crucifixion. Community is crucial.

### ONE BODY, ONE JESUS

Our liturgical calendar separates different Gospel scenes, which can sometimes do them a bit of a disservice. The liturgical year, of course, has its own rhythm and purpose, into which the stories of the life of Jesus are placed. However, when Luke was organizing his Gospel (for "Theophilus" the lover of God whom we encounter in today's Gospel introduction), today's scene was part of a three-fold structure: the baptism of Jesus; the temptation in the desert; the announcement of the public mission in the synagogue at Nazareth. Linking these is the Holy Spirit, who descended on the body of Jesus at his baptism, who filled his body as he endured his forty-day trial, and who is upon his body to announce and to bring about God's reign, a mission he fulfills with his body on the cross. The incarnation (the "in-flesh-ing") of Jesus, which we think of in connection with his birth, remains central to his story.

### ONE CHRIST, ONE BODY

Last week's reading from Corinthians concerned the one Spirit who gives many gifts, yet is the source of our unity. Paul continues this theme today using the image of the body, whose different members each have an important and distinct role to play. The Spirit of baptism forms that one mystical Body of Christ. The Spirit of baptism fills the many members, but unites them always as one. The Spirit of baptism is on each member, as it was for Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth. That Spirit of our baptism anoints each of us as a member of Christ's Body to be glad tidings, proclaim liberty, bring clearer vision, lift the oppressed, to announce God's reign to all. As different members of Christ's Body, we are each called upon to do this in our own way. We may face opposition or rejection, as Jesus did, but we can always turn again in faith to the Spirit of our baptism who is still with us.

### TODAY'S READINGS

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15  
1 Corinthians 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]  
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

### Catholic Charities NH: "How to Deal with Dementia" Support Group

Is your family member or friend struggling with memory loss? You are not alone, and Catholic Charities NH is here to support you. Its newest online support group, "How to Deal with Dementia," is a five-week program starting on February 24, providing an understanding of dementia, its impact on those affected and resources you can use to best support your loved one. To register, visit [www.cc-nh.org/dementia](http://www.cc-nh.org/dementia). You may also call 603-752-1325 or email [efrenette@nh-cc.org](mailto:efrenette@nh-cc.org). There is no cost to participate.

### Pilgrims for Life

While there will be no diocesan pilgrimage to the national march for life this year, our prayer and advocacy must continue. The Diocese of Manchester has 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 throughout the Diocese of Manchester. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/pilgrimsforlife](http://www.catholicnh.org/pilgrimsforlife) for more information.

### Project Rachel Ministry

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available from Project Rachel Ministry. Call or email - Phone: 603-663-0192; email: [ProjectRachel@rcbm.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@rcbm.org) - for Project Rachel in New Hampshire. Spanish speakers may visit [EsperanzaPosAborto.org](http://EsperanzaPosAborto.org).

### First Saturday Mass in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Saturday,  
February 5  
8:00 AM

### Corpus Christi Corner

The total donations to the Pantry from St. Chris in 2021 are 4515.4 pounds of food, with a value of \$7362.63. During 2021, the Pantry provided food for 2606 families, for a total of 7791 people. Thank you for your continued generosity throughout the year. You help us to serve the needy of Nashua.

Suggested food items for the month of January include, Saltine crackers, canned beef stew, Graham crackers, jelly, salad dressing, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, disposable razors, and shaving cream. There are baskets at each of the church entrances for your donations. Thank you!

### For Vocations

"You are the body of Christ and individually members of it." Are you being called to strengthen His body through a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at [mmason@rcbm.org](mailto:mmason@rcbm.org).

### Eucharistic Adoration

The adoration of the Blessed Sacrament offers us the opportunity to break through our daily routine and pause a while in the presence of Our Lord. Every first Friday, from September through June, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. You are invited to take some time for peace and quiet to find strength to face daily challenges and to thank the Lord for his many blessings.



### Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, February 4  
1:00-3:00 PM

Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 PM

### 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:**  
[info@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:info@stchrisparishnh.org)

#### Fr. David Harris

[fr.david@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:fr.david@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Administrative Asst. - Kitty Provost**  
[kprovost@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:kprovost@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Bookkeeper - Jean Dickson**  
[bookkeeper@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Director of Music & Organist - Carol Ann Skabo**  
[music@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:music@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Religious Educ. - Christine Mercurio**  
[cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Confirmation - Alex Sullivan**  
[asullivan@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:asullivan@stchrisparishnh.org)

**RCIA - Joe Mercurio**  
[rcia@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:rcia@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Parish Council - Elizabeth Cote**  
[ecote@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:ecote@stchrisparishnh.org)

**Finance Committee -- Tom Nardone**  
[tnardone.work@gmail.com](mailto:tnardone.work@gmail.com)

**Bulletin - Marta Nissen**  
[bulletin@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:bulletin@stchrisparishnh.org)

Bulletin submissions are due one week before publication.



Like St. Chris Parish on Facebook!



**January 16, 2022 Offertory**

Offertory Envelopes	\$3,773.00
Loose Offertory	\$493.00
Faith Direct	\$2,516.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,782.75</b>

Seminarians	\$1,906.00
Total-to-date:	\$1,906.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$160.00
Total-to-date:	\$836.00
Fuel Collection	\$754.00
Total-to-date:	\$2,956.00
Catholic Education	\$25.00
Total-to-date:	\$25.00
Church in Eastern Europe	\$25.00
Total-to-date:	\$25.00
Snow Removal	\$30.00
Total-to-date:	\$30.00

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



**Saint Christopher  
ACADEMY**

Saint Christopher Academy is a pre-kindergarten through grade 8 Catholic school located on two nearby locations. At SCA, students are immersed in an authentically Catholic, academically excellent education within the embrace of a safe, joy-filled community.

Visit us online at  
[SaintChrisAcademy.org](http://SaintChrisAcademy.org)

**Now accepting  
applications for  
2022-2023!**

**Confirmation**

**Registration deadline is approaching!**

**Registration is OPEN!**

*Do you have an older student that has not yet been confirmed?*

**Register now for our Confirmation class beginning January 23rd**

Baptized students will attend classes in January 23, 2022 through May 15, 2022, preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on May 18, 2022. Students in this class should already have received Reconciliation and First Communion. Classes are 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Registration forms for Sacrament Prep are found at [stchrisparishnh.org](http://stchrisparishnh.org) Questions? Contact Chris Mercurio at [cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org).

**Sacrament classes for  
FIRST COMMUNION and  
CONFIRMATION!  
Register now!**

**Spring Classes begin January 23rd!**

*First Communion (grade 3)* -- These students recently completed classes in Confirmation and will continue their studies to receive both Confirmation and First Communion on May 18th. Student and parent attend class together. Class is 4:30 -5:30 PM.

*Confirmation (grade 8 and up)* - Students in this class have been baptized, received reconciliation and First Communion and will prepare to receive Confirmation on May 18th. A parent and student attend class together, classes are held after the 10:00 AM Mass, from 11AM -12:15 PM.

**Summer Camp Scholarships**

We are pleased to announce Bishop Libasci is making scholarships available to youth aged 6 to 15 to attend Camps Fatima and Bernadette in 2022! This is possible in accordance with the terms of a bequest received by the diocese. The youth must be Catholic and residing in New Hampshire.

The full scholarships granted to those in financial need are based on the recommendation of the pastor of their parish. Please contact the parish office to request a letter of recommendation and application. The deadline for submission of recommendations is March 11, 2022.

**Catholic Schools Week**

Saint Christopher Academy will join Catholic schools from around the country in celebrating Catholic Schools Week from January 30 through February 5. Sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association, Catholic Schools Week has been held for the past 48 years and showcases the faith, spirit, academic, and service aspects of Catholic schools.

**Christ In Us Family Faith Program**

**New Families Welcome!**

**Rolling registration for this program for  
Grades K-Grade 6**

Our parish students in public school grades K to grade 6 AND their families gather once a month in the Church hall for a light breakfast. Students will participate in a grade level lesson while their parents participate in a program just for them. We can all use a recharge in our faith journey!

Students will continue with self paced lessons at home each week and submit completed work online. Registration forms can be found on our parish website at [stchrisparishnh.org](http://stchrisparishnh.org) Questions? Email Chris Mercurio at [cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org](mailto:cmercurio@stchrisparishnh.org).



**Catholic Schools  
Week 2022**  
January 30-February 5

[www.NCEA.org/csw](http://www.NCEA.org/csw)

#CSW22

### Poverty Awareness

The key to solving a problem? Understanding it. Learn the facts about poverty in the United States, understand the root causes, and—just as important—how people are helping themselves and others out of poverty. Visit <http://povertyusa.org/> to learn more. The Poverty USA website is an initiative of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) and was created as an educational resource to help individuals and communities to address poverty in America by confronting the root causes of economic injustice—and promoting policies that help to break the cycle of poverty.

### Pop-Up Food Pantries

United Way of Greater Nashua, in partnership with the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter and the YMCA of Greater Nashua, will continue to offer free fresh fruits and vegetables to our neighbors in downtown Nashua through the cold months. Daily Pop-Up Pantries will be at INDOOR locations until April 15th, when they will move back outside. These free perishable items are available to anyone who needs them at one location every weekday between 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM. Monday at Arlington Street Community Center, Tuesday at Boys and Girls Club of Greater Nashua, Wednesday at Harbor Care, Thursday at Nashua Community Music School, and Friday at Crossway Christian Church. Please write to [info@unitedwaynashua.org](mailto:info@unitedwaynashua.org) for more information.

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

- Tyler and Lauren Roeser and their son, Raymond
- William & Charlene Maniotis and their children - Luke, Olivia, Joshua, and Veronica



### Thank You from Saint Gianna's Place

Dear Parishioners of Saint Christopher's, We are more than grateful for the generosity you have shown us through your recent Giving Tree Program. Your donations allow us to continue to provide food, housing, and education to pregnant women in need and their children. With your help we are able to offer them hope for a brighter future. We ask you to please keep us in your prayers as we keep you in ours.

With deepest gratitude,  
Saint Gianna's Place Team

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30

**Tuesday:** Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18

**Wednesday:** 2 Tm 1:1-18 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20

**Thursday:** 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25

**Friday:** 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday:** 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41

**Sunday:** Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21-30



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 Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Friday until noon. Suggested donation is \$10 and mass cards are available. Arrangements can also be made to donate the Altar bread and wine for a month.



*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:  
Cpt. 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](mailto: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!

#### **Go online to**

[www.stchrisparishnh.org](http://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 Marianne Cope** (251 – 356)

On January 23, 1838, a daughter was born to Peter and Barbara Cope of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. The girl was named after her mother. Two years later the Cope family emigrated to the United States and settled in Utica, New York. Young Barbara worked in a factory until August 1862, when she went to the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in Syracuse, New York. After profession in November of the next year, she began teaching at Assumption parish school.

Marianne held the post of superior in several places and was twice the novice mistress of her congregation. A natural leader, three different times she was superior of St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, where she learned much that would be useful during her years in Hawaii.

Elected provincial in 1877, Mother Marianne was unanimously re-elected in 1881. Two years later the Hawaiian government was searching for someone to run the Kakaako Receiving Station for people suspected of having leprosy. More than 50 religious communities in the United States and Canada were asked. When the request was put to the Syracuse sisters, 35 of them volunteered immediately. On October 22, 1883, Mother Marianne and six other sisters left for Hawaii where they took charge of the Kakaako Receiving Station outside Honolulu; on the island of Maui they also opened a hospital and a school for girls.

In 1888, Mother Marianne and two sisters went to Molokai to open a home for "unprotected women and girls" there. The Hawaiian government was quite hesitant to send women for this difficult assignment; they need not have worried about Mother Marianne! On Molokai she took charge of the home that Saint Damien de Veuster had established for men and boys. Mother Marianne changed life on Molokai by introducing cleanliness, pride, and fun to the colony. Bright scarves and pretty dresses for the women were part of her approach.

Awarded the Royal Order of Kapiolani by the Hawaiian government and celebrated in a poem by Robert Louis Stevenson, Mother Marianne continued her work faithfully. Her sisters have attracted vocations among the Hawaiian people and still work on Molokai.

Mother Marianne died on August 9, 1918, was beatified in 2005, and canonized seven years later.

### **Reflection**

The government authorities were reluctant to allow Mother Marianne to be a mother on Molokai. Thirty years of dedication proved their fears unfounded. God grants gifts regardless of human shortsightedness and allows those gifts to flower for the sake of the kingdom.

### **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](http://www.StChrisParishNH.org).*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_



## Family Connection to this Week's Gospel

### Gospel Reading: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

*In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus reads aloud from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and announces that this Scripture is now fulfilled.*

Jesus was the one sent by God to bring salvation to the world. Jesus announced that mission using the framework we hear in today's Gospel from the prophet Isaiah: glad tidings will be brought to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God in his person—through his life, death, and Resurrection. We are charged with the task of continuing the mission that Jesus began. Jesus set the framework for all of us when he announced his ministry in today's Gospel. Jesus also gave us the helper we would need to enable us to participate in his mission. The Holy Spirit has been given to us so that we, the Church, might serve the Kingdom of God.

Gather with your family and suggest that they try to picture the vision that Jesus describes using the words of the prophet Isaiah as you read today's Gospel, Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21. Think about your neighborhood, your community. What are the situations and who are the people who most need to see this vision fulfilled? What steps would be necessary to make the vision a reality for them? Make a family commitment to pray for the Kingdom of God and to take a particular action that will address a need you see in your community. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you by praying the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

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

## About Our Faith: What do the parts of the Vatican flag symbolize?

Just like other national flags, the design of the Vatican flag has rich meaning.

As the national flag for Vatican City, this flag is displayed not only in this part of Italy, but also in many Catholic churches, universities, and other Catholic institutions.

The flag is modeled after the flag of the Papal States from the early nineteenth century, and is also referred to as the flag of the Holy See. Many earlier papal flags were red and gold.

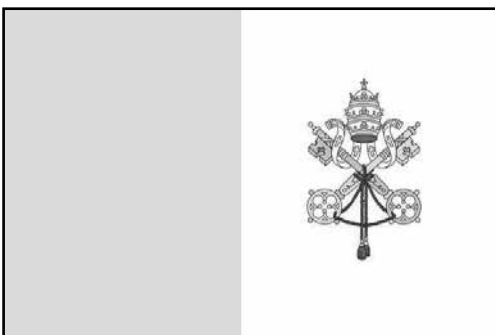
The left side of the flag is a rich yellow. The right side is white and features the coat of arms of Vatican City. At the top of the coat of arms is the papal tiara, which was worn by popes from the eighth century to the mid-twentieth century.

Beneath the papal tiara are two keys, referring to Matthew 16:19, when Jesus says to St. Peter, "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." The gold key represents spiritual power and the silver key stands for worldly power. The keys are connected with a red cord, which symbolizes how the two powers are bound together.

Regarding the choice of yellow and white for the flag, there are various historical and symbolic explanations for these colors.

One possible connection is to the keys themselves: the yellow field corresponding to the gold key, the white to the silver key. In heraldry, yellow is equivalent to gold (the heraldic color or) and white to silver (argent). The colors certainly offer a striking visual echo of the keys of Peter.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>



## 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*

*"It is love that transforms: ordinary things become extraordinary when they are done with love."*

**Pope Francis I @ Pontifex**  
**January 17, 2022**

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