MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 8:00 am (livestreamed) and 10:00 am

Weekday Masses
(Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am
Holy Day Masses: To be determined

RECONCILIATION: Suspended until further notice

BAPTISM: By Appointment Only
Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.
Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
Please contact/talk to the Pastor after Mass to make an appointment **twelve months in advance,** before making plans for reception and wedding date.

St. Christopher Church

950 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606

"Behold Saint Christopher . . .
. . . Go Thy Way
in Safety"

CONTACT US

Rectory: Phone 508-853-1492; FAX 508-853-4338

Religious Ed./Church Hall/Bingo: 508-853-3302

Email: parish@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Web Site: www.stchristopherworcester.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Parish office is closed on Friday.

****

Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor
frstanley@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Deacon Van Nguyen

Religious Education Office
Kim Fitzpatrick - Administrator/Director
508-853-3302
religioused@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
508-853-1492

James Joinville – Music Director

Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager
busmgr@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Cindy Barnaby
Administrative Assistant
adminasst@stchristopherparishworcester.org

John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman

We thank you for visiting us!

If you wish to become a parishioner of St. Christopher's, please see Fr. Stanley after Mass for a parish registration form.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 9th
4:00pm **For our Parish Family**
Sunday, October 10th
8:00am **Kevin Wilder,**
by Angela & Rich Halloran
10:00am **Deacon Chris Meyers,**
Birthday Remembrance,
by Bob & Mary Anne Josephson
Monday, October 11th
9:00am **Mass**
Tuesday, October 12th
No Mass
Wednesday, October 13th
No Mass
Thursday, October 14th
9:00am **Mass**
Friday, October 15th
9:00am **Kevin Wilder,**
by Friends

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 16th
4:00pm **Vincent Venza, 13th Anniversary,**
by Family
Sunday, October 17th
8:00am **William St. Germain,**
by Angela & Rich Halloran
10:00am **Lilia Butler,**
by Husband

The sympathies of our parish are extended to the family of

Lucille Ouellette

who recently passed away.

HELP WANTED—MANY OPENINGS! ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE

TIME REQUIRED—NOT MUCH,
AND VERY FLEXIBLE.
COMPENSATION—"OUT OF THIS WORLD"

Help enlarge our prayer line. Are you willing to take private time in prayer for others in need? Call Ken Butler at 508-852-0127 for more information. Please consider joining.

Also, do you know of someone in need of prayers? We just need the person's first name and the nature of the problem.

Remember, someday YOU may be the one in need!

We are still in need of teachers for the following grades:
Grade 7 ~ Grade 8 ~ Grace 9

Registration forms were mailed out.
Please complete and return completed forms to the Religious Education Office by mail or by placing into the collection basket at Mass.

OPEN REGISTRATION will be held on the following weekends:
October 9th & 10th
October 16th & 17th

Kim Fitzpatrick and/or Sheila Slik will be available at the front entrance of the church to collect you child's registration form and registration fee, and to answer any questions you may have about the program.

Also, if your child is entering 1st grade and you have not received a registration form by mail, please contact the Religious Education office, or stop by during open registration.

***8th Annual* Celebrate Priesthood—**
Taste of the Diocese Gala
Saint Paul Diocesan Jr./Sr. High School
144 Granite Street, Worcester
Thursday, October 28th ~ 5:30 p.m.

For the past seven years, the Diocese of Worcester has hosted this wonderful gala as a benefit for Retired Priests' Care. We cannot let a year go by without pausing to reflect on the gift of the priesthood in the lives of all Catholics. There will be live presentations followed by the Taste of the Diocese event to be held in the newly-refurbished Gymnasium. Attendees can attend both events or simply drop in for the tasting. The live presentations will also be streamed online for those who cannot attend in person. To make a donation, to buy tickets for Taste of the Diocese, or for advertisement information, visit *worcesterdiocese.org* or call Michael Gillespie at 508-929-4368.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church
111 Worcester Street, West Boylston
Begins Monday, October 18th from 1:00-2:30 p.m.
All are welcome to this six-part series of "A New Day Ministry." Advance registration is required. Call Renate Isbell at 508-835-3286 to register or to get more information.

1230AM, 970AM & 101.1FM Emmanuel Radio 2021 Fall Pledge Drive

Emmanuel Catholic Radio, a non-profit ministry, will broadcast a live three-day Fall Pledge Drive from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. on October 20th-22nd to raise the funds needed to bring the Daily Mass, Holy Rosary, and EWTN programming to the Diocese of Worcester.

Your tax-deductible gift will help keep Catholic radio on the air serving all local diocesan parishes, Catholic Schools & organizations, and charities. To donate, pledge or make a prayer request, call 508-767-1230, Visit 1230radio.com, or mail donations to: Emmanuel Radio, P.O. Box 20027, Worcester, MA 01602.

Notre Dame Fall Open House
425 Salisbury Street, Worcester
Sunday, October 17th ~ 1-3 p.m.

Also, the high school entrance exam is Saturday, November 6th at 9:00 a.m.

Register online for the Open House and/or the Entrance Exam at *www.nda-worc.org/admissions*.

St. Christopher's Church Hall Resumes Friday Night, October 15th 7:00-10:00 p.m.

All those 18 years of age or older are invited to enjoy a fun Friday night out with a family member or friend!! Play an evening of games for a minimum of $15-$25!

You may just find yourself yelling "Bingo!!"

Also, if you would like to help out at Bingo, we would love to have you! Call Leo at 508-853-9492.

Frank Runyeon will be performing in this special event at Our Lady of Loreto, 33 Massasoit Rd. in Worcester on Saturday, October 16th from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Frank is a practicing Catholic and has starred in over 1,000 TV shows over the last 30 years. Now he does one-man performances from the Gospels. All are invited to this evening of entertainment and edification as Frank recreates the sights and sounds from the Holy Land as he performs the parables from the Gospel of Luke. Tickets are $10/person and can be purchased at: https://eventbrite.com/e/frank-runyeon-live-at-our-lady-of-loreto-church-in-worcester-ma-tickets-159155164381.

St. Christopher's Retired Club & Social Group
St. Christopher's Church Hall
Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 20th ~ 1:00 p.m.

Adults of all ages are invited to join our group...no need to be retired! Our main focus is to host activities and fund-raisers in support of our parish and other charitable causes. We are a very supportive and fun group who enjoy working and socializing together for the good of all in need. Please come join in the fellowship at our next meeting! Dues are only $5/year and regular attendance at meetings is not required. Information will follow in the coming months about our 2021-2022 activities. Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 for more information.

Upcoming 2021 Cursillo Weekends
Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center
600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT
Thursday, Oct. 14th- Sunday, Oct. 17th (Women)
Thursday, Nov. 11th - Sunday, Nov. 14th (Men)

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock…"

It's time to learn more about your Faith. It's time to experience what our religion can do for you. Jesus is waiting for you, personally. Cursillo weekends are a wonderful, fun way to give you a start on this journey.

Go to *www.fourthday.org* and download an application or call Pam Hamilton at 774-239-8909 for more info. You will be glad you did!

Mass to Honor the Knights of Columbus
Saint Anne Church
130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury
Monday, October 11th at 10:30 a.m.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass
Cathedral of St. Paul, Worcester
Sunday, October 31st at 3:00 p.m.

Couples who are marking significant anniversaries this year (25th, 40th, 50th, etc.) are invited to this liturgy of thanksgiving to God for the many years of faithful witness to the sacredness of Christian marriage.

Bishop Robert McManus will celebrate the Mass and a light reception will follow downstairs in the Cenacle. Family and friends are welcome! Couples wishing to attend should pre-register no later than October 18th so that commemorative certificates may be issued. To register, complete the registration form at *worcesterdiocese.org/wedding-anniversary-mass*, contact the Office of Marriage and Family at 508-929-4311 or email *aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org* to request that a registration form be sent to you.

Offertory Collection

Weekly Goal:	$ 3,287
Weekend of September 25th & 26th:	$ 2,599
Deficit:	($ 688)
Air Conditioning (to date):	$20,315

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/21-8/31/22):	$13,148
Year-to Date Collections:	9,354
Year-to Date Electronic Payments:	1,765
Year-to Date Deficit:	($ 2,029)

SPECIAL NOTE: Our new fiscal year began on 9/1/21. Last year's deficit was $31,764, so we actually begin September, 2021 with that deficit amount being carried over into the new fiscal year.

This weekend's special second collection is for *Relief Efforts for Hurricane Ida*.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Christopher Church!

TIME • TALENT • TREASURE

"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

~Mark 10:25

Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. But, we are all called to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts, and especially the one that means the most to us! That includes our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in parish ministries and our treasure supporting our local parish and other charities.

Special Second Collection this Weekend for Relief Efforts for Hurricane Ida

All parishes in the Worcester Diocese are being asked to take up a special second collection to help the Gulf state residents in their long-term recovery from Hurricane Ida. Online donations are also being accepted on the diocesan website homepage at: *www.worcesterdiocese.org*. Thank you!

50/50

The Winner for Week 1 (October 4, 2021)

#97— Isabel Marinus

Good luck to all our 50/50 members!

If you would like to be on a waiting list to join in on the fun with our next 10-week 50/50 session, please contact the parish office by phone or email.

If we are truly in love with God, then the basics are not going to be enough. That love is going to want to be expressed in going above and beyond, in leaving the comfortable and familiar, in stretching and growing, and in following a voice other than our own. St. Teresa of Calcutta rightly instructs us that for "love to be real, it must cost, it must hurt, it must empty us of self." Being in love with God requires more than just checking the boxes of the commandments.
It requires a sincere and unconditional self-investment. Desiring God with our whole heart, mind, and soul means that I must also desire a relationship with my neighbor with that same degree of fervor.

Biases and prejudices usually occur when people are kept at a distance and treated as objects. We cannot truly know our neighbors, especially if they are different than us, if we keep them in boxes and do not listen to their stories. When we open ourselves to listen to another person's story, we begin to realize more how similar we are than dissimilar. Being overly attached to our possessions, ideologies, agendas, lifestyles, and personal needs are absolute barriers to achieving the type of personal investment love demands. This is why following Christ can be difficult. It is less a matter of intellect and more a matter of heart and soul. It requires that we transfer our treasure from an investment in tangible secular things and move it into the Kingdom of God. It is only the gift of wisdom and discernment that can help us decide what to do and how to do it.

Contemporaries of Jesus would know that a camel could not enter through the portal of a city weighed down with the baggage it was carrying. In order to enter, the baggage must be removed so that the animal could fit through the entry way. The same is true for us. We carry a lot of excessive baggage around with us that keeps us tethered to our past histories, wounds, myopic world views, prejudices, fears, and suspicions. To invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God, do God's work and live out our love relationship with God, we need to shed the extra weight. While it may seem that a lot of that stuff is necessary, it really is not. We are much more than the things that we think define us and more secure than we think.

The more there is to hold on to and the more that we carry with us, the harder it will be to leave it all behind. Many choose not to and walk away sad because they are not ready to trust.

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SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.
I preferred her to scepter and throne,
and deemed riches nothing in comparison with her
(Wis 7:7-8)

PSALM:

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy! (Ps 90)

SECOND READING:

No creature is concealed from him,
but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him
to whom we must render an account. (Heb 4:13)

GOSPEL:

"Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come,
follow me." (Mk 10:21)

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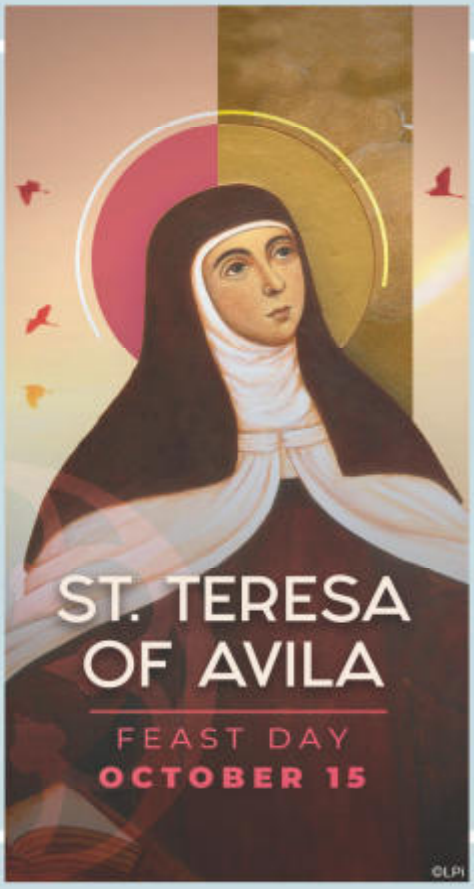
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 10, 2021

Sunday:	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. John XXIII, Pope; Columbus Day
Thursday:	St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
Friday:	St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	St. Hedwig, Religious;
	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin; BVM
Next Sunday:	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the Week

St. Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582) was a Spanish Carmelite nun who lived in the 16th century. She was a mystic and author of spiritual writings and poems. The originator of the Carmelite Reform, she founded numerous convents throughout Spain and restored a contemplative life to the order. She became well known for the mystical experiences, many of which she described in her autobiography.

The first of only four women to be named a Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa's ascetic doctrine and Carmelite reforms shaped Roman Catholic contemplative life, and her writings on the Christian soul's journey to God are considered works of art. Her writings, especially the "Way of Perfection" and "The Interior Castle," have helped generations of believers.

St. Teresa of Avila died on Oct. 15, 1582. She was canonized on March 22, 1622, along with three of her greatest contemporaries: St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Philip Neri.

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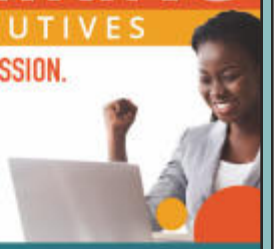
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