

**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@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org)**

**Web Site: [www.stchristopherworchester.org](http://www.stchristopherworchester.org)**

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

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**Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor**  
[frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Deacon Van Nguyen**

**Religious Education Office**  
**Kim Fitzpatrick - Coordinator**  
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Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)  
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**James Joinville – Music Director**

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[busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Cindy Barnaby**  
Administrative Assistant  
[adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**John Slik - Building & Maintenance**

**Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman**

 **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.

*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.





## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> (Holy Day)

9:00am For our Parish Family  
(No 4:00pm Mass)

## Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:00am Brian Cerullo, 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,  
by Karen & Kim Cerullo

10:00am Raymond Gromko,  
by Paul Leroux

Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>

9:00am Mass

Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>

No Mass

Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>

No Mass

Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

9:00am Mass

Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

9:00am Mass

## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Theresa Parretti,  
by Mary Stevenson

10:00am Mass



### 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!**



January 1<sup>st</sup> celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

The Gospel says that "Mary kept all these things (all the events and messages surrounding Jesus' birth) and reflected on them in her heart."

As we begin a New Year, perhaps we might make a resolution: to take more time in prayer to reflect in our hearts, on Mary and the awesome responsibility she had of being the Mother of God, and the grace given her by God for saying "yes" to his will.

May her holiness and dedication inspire us this New Year to be more faithful in our prayer, service, and dedication in giving ourselves to and saying "yes" to the Lord and His will for us.

*"May God bless you, keep you, and be gracious to you" and your family throughout the New Year.*

*Fr. Stanley*

## MASS SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Eve  
No evening Mass

Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> (Holy Day)

9:00 a.m. Mass  
(No 4:00 p.m. Mass)



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord  
Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mass at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ATTN: Business Owners,  
Professionals, Families,  
and Self-Employed



Stephen Gargas from Liturgical Publications will be at our church this week working on securing new ads for the advertisement section of our bulletin. We need your help! **Please consider taking out an ad.** Advertisements can be purchased for a business, a family, a charity, in memory of a loved one, or to support an organization. Contact Stephen Gargas directly at 978-793-6477 or by email at [SGargas@4lpi.com](mailto:SGargas@4lpi.com) for more information.

**Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

No classes due to the New Year's holiday.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Grade 2 only** will meet from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Grades 1, 4-9 and Grade 10 Confirmation Class**

will meet from 11:00 a.m.– 12:15 p.m.

*We wish our students, families  
and teachers a very blessed  
Christmas season  
and a Happy New Year!*



**FESTIVAL UPDATE**

We are very happy to report that, after collecting the final monies from the silent auction table, our Christmas Festival raised a total of \$6,192.71 for the parish!! We again want to thank Diane and Joe along with the many parishioners, volunteers and supporters who gave of their time, talent and treasure to make our 2021 Festival such a success!

However and unfortunately, we had another blockage about 130 feet down in the sewer line that runs from the rectory to the street. After a day and a half, it was finally repaired.

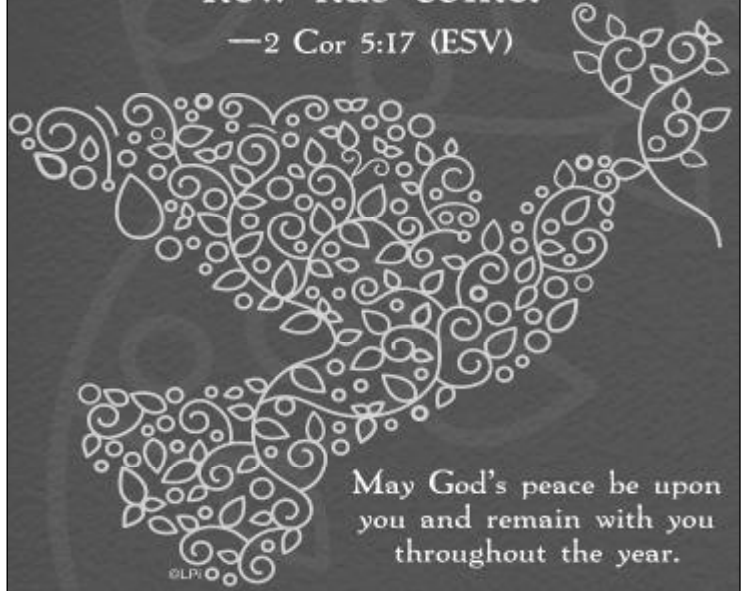


So, I'm pretty sure that a good portion of that \$6,192.71 will be going "down the drain." But, we are very grateful to have had the extra funds available to make this very necessary repair.

Thank you all! God bless you. *Fr Stanley*

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon you and remain with you throughout the year.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB**

*Last month our group made a \$200 donation to McAuley Nazareth Home for Boys, Inc. for the youth in need. Thank you for your donations!*

**The Retired Club will not meet during the winter months of January & February.**

**Next Meeting:  
Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.**

*People of any ages are invited to join this social group dedicated to fellowship, charitable causes, and parish support . . .*

Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 for more information.



**This Week**

**Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Sunday Masses

8:00 & 10:00am

Church

NO Religious Education Classes

NO Religious Education Office Hours

**Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

NO Wachusett Community Band Practice

**Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Office Hours

5:30-7:30pm

Religious Ed. Office

**Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**

Scout Troop 9 Bottle & Can Drive/Meeting

7:00-9:00pm

Church Hall

**Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

Bingo (Call Leo at 508-853-9492 to volunteer to help)

7:00pm (Doors open at 4:30pm)

Church Hall

**Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Class (Grade 2)

9:00-10:00am

Church Hall

Religious Education Classes (Grades 1, 4-9 & Confirmation)

11:00am-12:15pm

Church Hall

Religious Education Office Hours

11:00am-1:00pm

Religious Ed. Office



Weekly Goal:	\$ 3,287
Weekend of December 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 2,646
Deficit:	(\$ 641)
Christmas Flowers:	\$ 342
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$20,714

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/21-8/31/22): \$52,592  
 Year-to Date Collections: 40,552  
 Year-to Date Electronic Payments: 9,479  
 Year-to Date Deficit: (\$2,561)

This weekend's special collection is for  
*The Catholic University of America.*  
 Envelopes for *Parish Renovation and Maintenance* will also be collected this week.

***A special thank you for your continued support of our parish throughout this past year!***



This weekend, the diocese will be taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs in the heart of Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting both future Catholic leaders, religious and lay, and the University's various research and training initiatives that support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. Please give generously. Learn more at: [collection.catholic.edu](http://collection.catholic.edu).

**Part-time Cook needed in Worcester**

Duties include basic home cooking three afternoons/week, grocery shopping, and cleaning up from dinner. If interested, call Msgr. Robert Johnson at Holy Family Parish on Hamilton St. at 508-754-6722.



**The winner for week 2 (12/20/21):**

**#71 — Jesse Knott**

*Due to an early bulletin deadline, the winner for 12/27/21 will be reported in next weekend's bulletin.*

**Good luck to all our 50/50 members!**

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction."



Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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**Annual Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference**

**Assumption University, Worcester  
 Saturday, April 2, 2022**

**Visit [www.firstmensconf.org](http://www.firstmensconf.org) for tickets or info.  
 Tickets are \$45 until 3/21; Student tickets are \$30.**





## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

### PSALM:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

### SECOND READING:

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

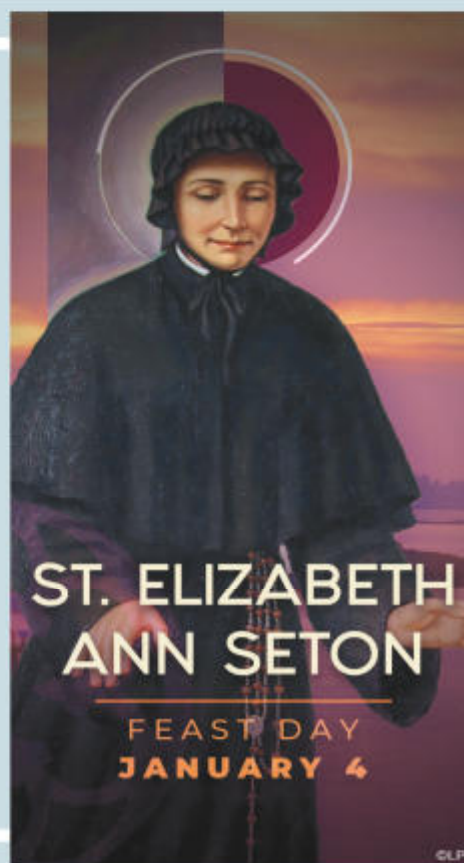
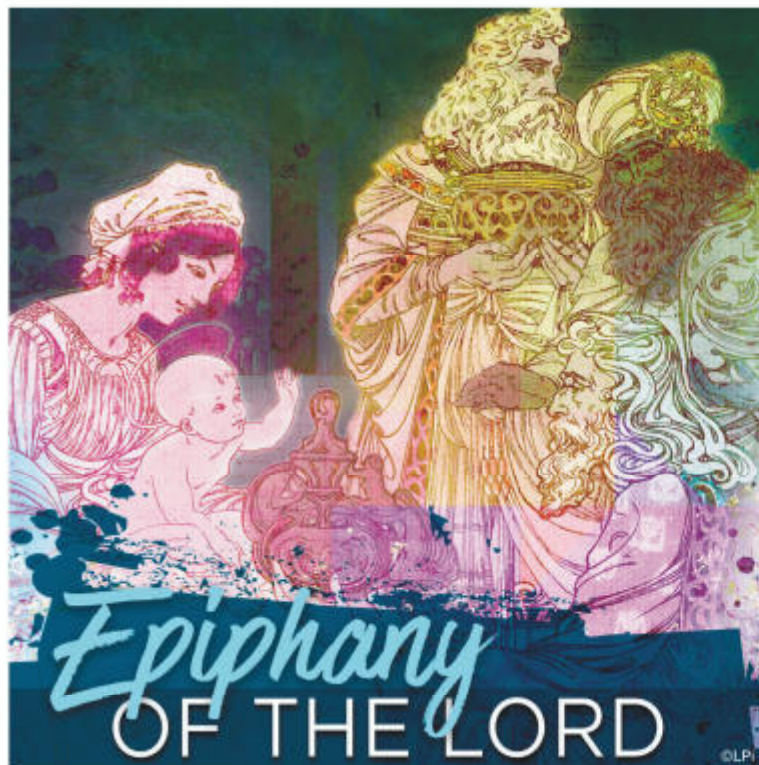
### GOSPEL:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2022

- Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church  
Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious  
Wednesday: St. John Neumann, Bishop  
Thursday: St. André Bessette, Religious  
Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest  
Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord



## Saint of the Week

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."



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