



ST. CHRISTOPHER PARISH

**20141 DETROIT ROAD
ROCKY RIVER, OHIO 44116**

PARISH OFFICE: 440-331-4255

FAX: 440-331-3885

SCHOOL : 440-331-3075

RELIGIOUS ED.: 440-331-6226

EMAIL: info@stchrisparish.com

WEBSITE: www.stchrisparish.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday: 8:00 am– 4:00 pm

Closed Saturday and Sunday

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am

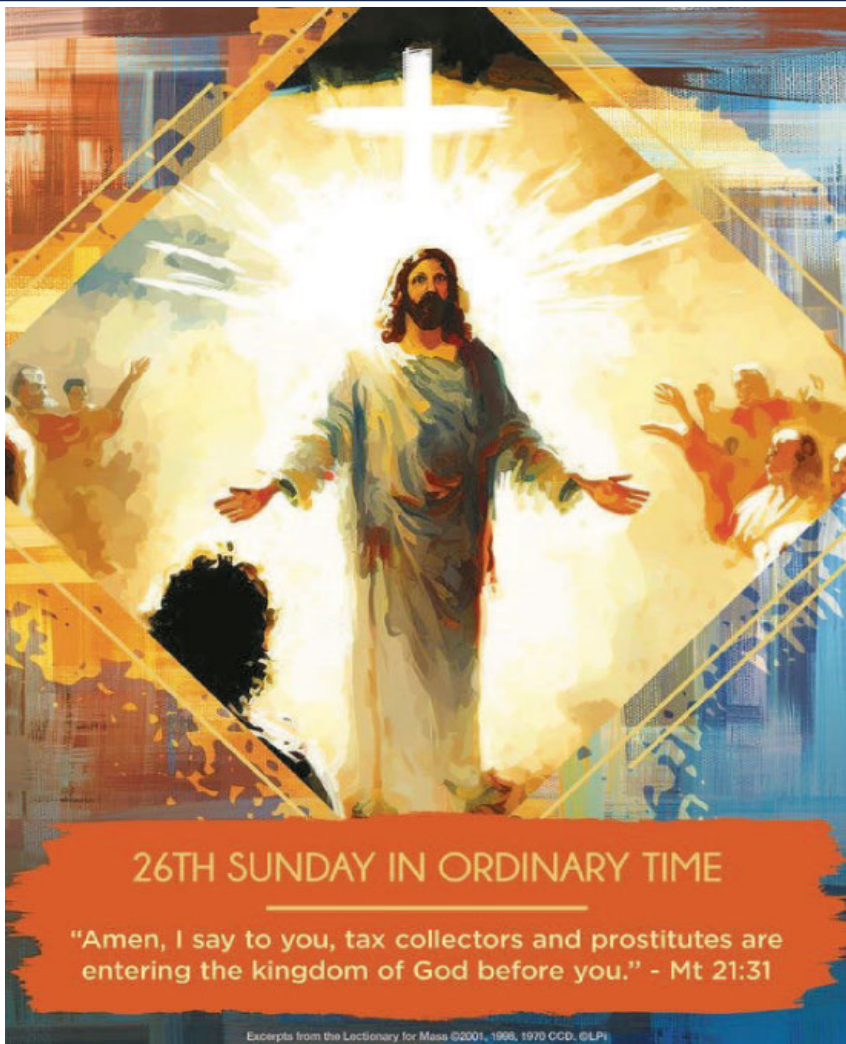
Monday- Friday: 11:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 4:00 pm

MISSION STATEMENT

We are the people of St. Christopher Catholic Church, a Eucharistic community of faith dedicated to Welcome, Celebrate, Care, & Grow ... in the image and likeness of Jesus

Catholic Diocese
Of Cleveland



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." - Mt 21:31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCB, GLPI

October 1, 2023

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John C. Chlebo.....Pastor

Rev. Anthony J. Marshall.....Parochial Vicar

Rev. Timothy M. Daw.....Retired

Ms. Gayle Cilimburg.....Pastoral Associate

Mr. Logan Feldkamp.....Pastoral Minister

Ms. Mayumi Naramura.....Music Ministry Director

Mrs. Mary Meler.....School Principal

Mrs. Sharon Armstrong.....Director of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Melissa DiFini.....Pastoral Minister

Ms. Terri Pastura.....Pastoral Associate

Sr. Jeanne Cmolik C.S.J.....RCIA Coordinator

Mr. Joe Williams.....Business Manager

Ms. Dawn Bloom.....Office Manager

Fr. John's Column

The annual **Pet Blessing** will take place this Wednesday, October 4th at 6:30 P.M. Pets and their owners are asked to meet in Centennial Park for the prayer service. In case of rain, the blessing will be moved inside to the Upper Gathering Area.

A **Ladies Night Out** is scheduled for Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 P.M. in the Parish Center. All ladies are welcome to attend. See details in this bulletin and at our website.

As you are undoubtedly aware, **the upcoming election on November 7th** includes an important issue that needs careful study and understanding. Issue 1 is a proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution that would endanger the health and safety of women, threaten parental rights, and allow for abortion through all nine months of pregnancy. Included in the bulletin today is more detailed information regarding this amendment. A second part was included in last week's bulletin and both pages are available in hard copy at all our exits. These fact sheets have been prepared by the Catholic Conference of Ohio. You can also visit their website www.ohiocathconf.org/protect for more information.

I want to remind you about the opportunity to again donate towards the Angel Scholarship Fund. This program in the State of Ohio began last year allowing donors to qualify for an Ohio State tax credit when doing their taxes. This has helped many families in our school with tuition expenses for the 2023 - 2024 school year. This tax credit will continue in the current tax year. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to help support Catholic schools. This **tax law allows you to take a 100% Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750.00** against your 2023 state tax liability and can really help our parish and school! In other words, the state of Ohio allows you to "spend" some of the state income taxes you must pay anyway to provide tuition assistance for students seeking an education at St. Chris. Details are available by using this link: catholiccommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund or contact Joe Williams, Business Manager, at 440-331-4255, extension 101. Make sure you designate your contribution to **benefit students at St. Christopher School**. Talk to you next week...

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 2, 2023

11:00 am Eleanor & Harold Drescher

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

11:00 am Lance McGannon

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

11:00 am Daniel Marinelli

Thursday, October 5, 2023

11:00 am Kevin McCluskey

Friday, October 6, 2023

11:00 am Bob Lavin

Saturday, October 7, 2023

2:00 pm Wedding of Nicole Lamendola & Charles Wisniewski

5:00 pm Mary & Fenton Fitzpatrick

Sunday, October 8, 2023

8:30 am Dr. J. Peter Fegen

10:00 am John Mishak

11:30 am Nadia Dorenkott

Prayers for the Sick This Month

Jim Sweeney, Jim Garrison, Ken Fink

Anne Mayer, John Going, Jerry Yarcusko

Gina Christoffers, David McNamee

September 24, 2023 Offertory.....\$8,770.00

Weekly online donations.....\$9,800.00

Total for week of 9/24/2023.....\$18,570.00

To donate online, go to stchrisparish.com/online-giving/ Thank you!

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Matthew Previts, Patrick J. Bergen, Audry Harte,
Frank Conroy, Trent Hunton, Christopher Nastal,
Sean McClaren, Matthew P. Schroer, Mark Pullar,
Jake Young, Joseph Conroy, Tim Mayer,
Jason Ward, Alec J. Schuerger, Vanessa Armstrong,
Kevin Spellacy

The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* **No. 616**

GLORIA Mass of St. Paul the Apostle

SCRIPTURE READINGS **No. 1167**

PSALM 25 Guimont



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **No. 337**

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* **No. 828**

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS
Holy, Holy, Holy **No. 370**
Memorial Acclamation **No. 371**
Amen **No. 372**

LAMB OF GOD **No. 389**

COMMUNION HYMN *The Servant Song* **No. 751**

RECESSIONAL *The Kingdom of God* **No. 736**

Sing to the Lord a New Song

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. It is a perfect time to renew one of the most cherished prayers and devotions of the Church, especially as a family. I must admit that growing up, the Rosary was not particularly my favorite prayer. I found it boring, and was frustrated when one of my grandmothers would want to pray it with me. Now, however, I carry a Rosary in my pocket and pray it with joy whenever I have the chance; still not daily, but that is my goal. Perhaps you, too, have come to cherish the Rosary as a favorite devotional prayer. When I visit our sisters and brothers in nursing homes or the homebound, they usually will tell me that the Rosary is their only regular connection to the Church, and that the Virgin Mary's prayers for them become their hope and joy.

Sometime back Pope Francis made this appeal: "Especially during this month of October, I invite everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary, which has nourished the faith of Christian people throughout the centuries."

If you have forgotten how to pray the Rosary, our US Bishops have a handy online guide to assist at usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary. It is a step-by-step process that can be printed out or used on one's smartphone. The important thing to remember when praying the Rosary is that it is a prayer from the heart, and the mechanics of it are simply a tool to aid our contemplation of a particular mystery.

Finally, in 2018, Pope Francis encouraged the faithful to conclude the recitation of the Rosary with the Church's oldest prayer to the Virgin Mary – *Sub Tuum Praesidium* – and with the prayer to Saint Michael Archangel. Printed below is the English translation of both prayers.

Sub Tuum Praesidium

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God.
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.
Amen!

~Fr. Anthony

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,
be our protection against the wickedness and
snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we
humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all
the evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking
the ruin of souls. Amen!



WEDDING BANNES

III Nicole Lamendola & Charles Wisniewski

Rest in Peace

In your prayers, please remember:
Marilyn Bertalan
who recently entered into eternal life.



Readings for the Week of October 1, 2023



Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37/Lk 10:17-24

Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 (Isaiah 5:7a)/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-4



We welcome these newly baptized members of our parish family:

Theodore MacEachern Goecke
 Delaney Ruth Johnson
 John Joseph Villwock
 Goldie Jean Harris
 Charlie James Carey
 Noah Alexander Bieler

Flynn Thomas Price
 Nico Antonio Ventosa
 Griffin James Arcuri
 Peyton Elizabeth Lyzen
 Anna Sue Vavruska



PRE-BAPTISM CLASS FOR NEW PARENTS
Sunday, October 29 @ 12:30 in the Atrium

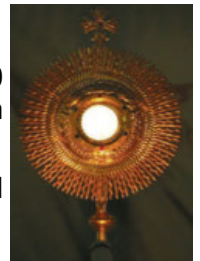
Congratulations on your new bundle of joy and gift from God! To celebrate an infant baptism here at Saint Christopher, parents should be members of our parish and need to attend a Pre-Baptism Class if they have not done so previously. Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 12:30 pm and other times by arrangement. They may also be celebrated during a weekend Mass.

Our next quarterly Pre-Baptism class is on **Sunday, October 29 at 12:30 pm in the Atrium**. You are encouraged to attend this class prior to your baby's arrival, if at all possible. Please call the Parish Office at 440-331-4255 to schedule a Baptism and/or to register for the Pre-Baptism class.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ON FIRST FRIDAYS

We will have Eucharistic adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this **Friday, October 6 from 11:30 until 3:30 in the Prayer Room**. Everyone is invited to spend a few minutes or more in adoration of our Lord, who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

If you would like to sign up to commit to an ongoing Holy Hour or Holy Half-hour, please call Melissa DiFinì at the parish office at 440.331.4255 X 105 or email at mdifini@stchrisparish.com



COFFEE & THE WORD —Wednesday, October 4 @ 9am
at Starbucks in Rocky River, 19555 Detroit Rd

Enjoy a cup of coffee and discussion about the upcoming Sunday scripture readings with Fr. Anthony. All are welcome!

Please RSVP to Carol Yellig at 330-730-9815 or cyellig1155@gmail.com

ROCKY RIVER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

THE MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION for the Rocky River Assistance Program is the weekend of **October 7-8**. Some items requested for this month include Evaporated Milk, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Pie Crusts, Stuffing, Canned Yams. All non-perishable food items are gratefully accepted.





**PSR GRADES K-5: TAKE HOME LESSON OCTOBER 1ST— NO IN PERSON PSR
JOIN US FOR THE YOUTH MASS AT 11:30**

YOUTH MASS

Join us for the 1st Youth Mass of the school year on **Sunday, October 1st at 11:30**. Our Youth Choir will be joining us. If you would like to help as an usher, cantor, or lector and are in 5th through 12th grade, please contact Sharon Armstrong at 440-331-6226 X402. The Youth Mass will be once a month throughout the school year. It allows the youth of our Parish to have an integral part in the Liturgy and take part in all aspects of the Mass. We would love to have your help. **ALL ARE WELCOME** and suggestions and ideas are welcome.

YOUTH CHOIR

Youth Choir is back this fall for all the students of St. Christopher Parish in grades 2-8. No auditions required. Only 2 practices a month and singing during the Youth Mass once a month at 11:30. **Our next practice is Thursday, October 19 from 3:30- 4:15 in the lower gathering area.**

All are welcome! Stop by and see us. Please call the Religious Education Office with questions at 440-331-6226.



OCTOBER CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class is this **Sunday October 1st from 12:30-3:00 in the Parish Center**. We will meet for 11:30 Mass in the Church



THE WAY– Grades 6-8 PSR

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, October 8th at 10:00** in Mary's Room or **Tuesday, October 10th at 3:30** in the Atrium.

**SAVE THE DATE: PARISH TRUNK-OR-TREAT!
Thursday, October 26 from 5-8 pm**



ANNUAL PET BLESSING

Join us on **Wednesday, October 4th at 6:30 in Centennial Park Pavilion** for the St. Christopher Pet Blessing for the Feast of St. Francis! Every pet attending the blessing will receive a special gift. Bring your well-behaved dogs, cats, mice, hamsters, turtles, rabbits. If you can't bring your actual pet, then bring a picture of them or a stuffed animal! All are welcome! (In case of inclement weather we will, be in the Gathering Area.)

BOY SCOUTS INFORMATION NIGHT

Scouts BSA Troop 287 of St. James Parish invites all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys and their families to a Meet the Troop Night **Wednesday October 4, 7:00-8:30 pm** at St. James Parish Center located at 17400 Northwood Avenue, Lakewood. Join us and see the opportunities the Scouting program and Troop 287 can provide. We look forward to meeting you!



SOCIAL CONCERNS PRESENTS A VIEWING OF POPE FRANCIS' *THE LETTER*

You are invited to join the Social Concerns Committee's viewing of Pope Francis' video *The Letter; A Message for Our Earth* on **Tuesday, October 3 at 11:45 (after the 11:00 mass) in Mary's Room**. The video features four voices from around the world coming together to share their stories of hope for our common home. All are welcome. We hope you can join us!



LADIES NIGHT OUT- "RAISE YOUR SPIRITS"!

Thursday, October 12th at 7 pm in the Parish Center

Sponsored by the St. Chris Ladies Guild

Bring a friend, a sister, a neighbor...Let's catch up with old friends and make some new friends as we Raise Spirits! Wine & Light Appetizers provided by Lake Road Market. Desserts by Kathy's Kolacke & Pastry Shop. Cost: \$40

Don't miss out on this fun filled evening - register today!
Please register online with credit card at stchrisparish.com/ladiesnightout
Or pay with cash or check in the parish office.



AVILA DAY OF PRAYER

Wednesday, October 18, from 9 am-3 pm at the Center for Pastoral Leadership, Wickliffe

Through prayer, Avilas seek to foster religious vocations and encourage perseverance in already embraced vocations. Each year, the Avilas sponsor a Day of Prayer, open to everyone. This year's agenda includes a morning presentation by Father Damian Ference, Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Woost, and, after lunch, a presentation by Father Kevin Estabrook. All are welcome! Cost: \$30, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. Please reserve by October 9.

For more information please contact Sylvia Profenna, 216-795-5005 or Joan Evans, 440-331-2383.



J+WALKERS YOUTH MINISTRY

"Bother the Father" Night

Sunday, October 8, 6:30-8p in Mary's Room

Grades 7-12 Combined Event

Join us for a "Bother the Father" night: you ask the questions and the priest provides the answers! (Almost) everything is fair game to ask.
We will have catered snacks for the evening.

Scan the QR code for more information or contact Logan Feldkamp
lfeldkamp@stchrisparish.com



Follow us on Instagram @Jwalkersscp



WHERE DOES IT SAY THAT?



THIS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT...

THREATENS PARENTAL RIGHTS

By using "individual" instead of adult or woman, anyone under the age of 18 could have an abortion or make any other reproductive decision without their parents' consent or notification.

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

Current Ohio laws* require abortion providers to explain procedure risks and ensure access to hospital transfer if needed. These health and safety standards could be seen as a "burden" and be eliminated, making it even less safe for women seeking an abortion.

ALLOWS ABORTIONS THROUGH 9 MONTHS OF PREGNANCY

In U.S. law,** "health" includes age or physical, emotional, or psychological well-being. This means a woman's age or emotional health could be cited to justify aborting a full-term baby. An abortion-providing physician would decide when a baby could survive outside the womb, leaving no clear protections for preborn children.

IS MISLEADING

Referring to "miscarriage care" promotes a myth that a "right to abortion" is necessary to preserve care for miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies. This is false. Catholic hospitals have always provided comprehensive miscarriage care and will continue to do so regardless of the outcome of this vote.

ARTICLE I, SECTION 22

*The Right to Reproductive Freedom
with Protections for Health and Safety*

1. Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion.
2. The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either an individual's voluntary exercise of this right or a person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right, unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care.
3. However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.
4. As used in this Section, "Fetal viability" means "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures. This is determined on a case-by-case basis"; and "State" includes any governmental entity and political subdivision.
5. This Section is self-executing.

* Ohio Revised Code, Sections 2312.56 & 3702.303

** Based on Doc 14, Bailton

www.ohiocathconf.org



THE WEEK AHEAD

For the most up-to-date calendar, go to stchrisparish.com

Monday, October 2

2:00 pm Grief Support Group—PR
 2:50 pm Eager Engineers—SC
 6:00 pm CYO Volleyball—G
 7:00 pm 8th grade DC Trip Meeting—A
 7:00 pm RCIA —A

Tuesday, October 3

10:00 am Ladies Guild Board Meeting—M
 11:30 am Social Concerns Meeting—M
 3:00 pm CYO Volleyball—G
 6:00 pm Women's & Men's AA—M
 7:00 pm Holy Land Pilgrim Meeting—A
 8:00 pm Men's AA Group—M

Wednesday, October 4

9:15 am Healing Prayer Group—PR
 10:30 am Rosary—C
 5:00 pm CYO Volleyball—G
 6:30 pm Music Rehearsal—GA
 7:00 pm Pack 390 Meeting—PC
 8:00 pm AA Men's Group—M

Thursday, October 5

8:00 am AA Drop the Rock—M
 10:30 am Rosary—C
 2:45 pm Tutoring/Homework Club - A
 2:50 pm Eager Artists—SC

Friday, October 6

11:30 am Eucharistic Adoration—PR
 8:00 pm AA Young Adults' Group —M

Saturday, October 7

7:00 am Men's AA Group—M

Sunday, October 8

8:30 & 10:00 am PSR Grades K-8—SC/M
 10:00 am Communion at Normandy—off site
 12:30 pm Baptisms—C

C=Church G=Gym M=Mary's Room CY=Courtyard
 GA=Gathering Area RC=Rectory Conference Room
 CP=Centennial Park A=Atrium MC=Media Center
 PR=Prayer Room PC=Parish Center SC=School
 Conference Room P1-4=Parish Center Meeting Rooms
 CR=Computer Room L=Library PL= Parking Lot

SACRAMENTS**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday 4:00 PM in the church and any time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Parents should be members of our parish and need to attend a pre-Baptism Class if they have not already done so. Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 12:30 pm and other times by arrangement. Please call the parish office to arrange all Baptisms.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Available to those in 8th grade or older. Contact the Religious Ed. Office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: In keeping with Diocesan regulations, arrangements must be made with a parish priest at least 6 months before the date selected to allow for the necessary preparation.

RCIA: Adults interested in the Catholic faith are invited to participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Meetings are Mondays from 7:00-8:30 PM beginning in the Fall and continuing through Easter. Call the parish office for details.

MINISTRY WITH THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: We are happy to bring the Eucharist or to provide the Anointing of the Sick to the homebound. Please contact the office.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are made with the help of a Funeral Director. They will assist in contacting the parish office to arrange a time for a Funeral Mass before any notice is placed online or in the newspaper.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New Parishioners are asked to call 440-331-4255 to set up an appointment for registration. Parishioners who are moving are also asked to notify the parish office.

PSR CLASSES: K -Grade 8: Sundays 8:30 & 10am. Or Tuesday at 3:30 for grades 6-8. For information/registration call the Religious Ed. Office.

CLOW: Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW), offered during 10:00 AM Mass on Sundays, gives children ages 5 to 10 the opportunity to hear and discuss the Scripture readings at their level. Offered Sept.—April.

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