

ST. CHRISTOPHER

CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 21, 2021

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Glorified

“The hour has come for the
Son of man to be glorified.”

John 12:23



St. Christopher
MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

SUNDAY

8:00 am

11:00 am

5:30 pm

WEEKDAY MASS

MONDAY, TUESDAY

9:00 am

THURSDAY

12:00 pm

FRIDAY

9:00 am

CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY

4:00 pm - 5:00pm

or by appointment

ADORATION

Third Thursday of

Every Month at

7:00 pm

1000 MICHIGAN AVE, MARYSVILLE, MI 810-364-4100
WWW.STCHRISMI.ORG



Pope Francis' Mission Statement: To Become a Band of Joyful Missionary Disciples.
Archdiocese of Detroit's Mission Statement: To Unleash the Gospel.
Saint Christopher's Parish Mission Statement: Transform Lives in Jesus Christ Through the Power and Freedom of the Gospel.
Parish Vision Statement: Foster a Personal Encounter with Jesus.

Pastor's Ponderings. Greetings and the Father's Blessing be upon you, my dear spiritual children. This Sunday we celebrate the Third Scrutiny for our catechumen at the 8:00 AM Mass. We will hear the gospel of the Raising of Lazarus (*Jn 11:1 – 45*) from *Cycle A* readings, which are prescribed whenever we have one (or more) catechumen(s) in our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. For the 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM Masses we will hear the continuation of the current *Year B* cycle of readings, for which our gospel will be *Jn 12:20 – 33* (Jesus speaks of a physical death leading to glorified eternal life in the grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying, which produces much fruit).

Families of Parishes Family Gatherings. Our Family of Parishes Family Gatherings dates and times have been chosen and agreed upon by our Moderator and the currently standing Pastors of our Blue Water Vicariate (North) Family. Once again, these Family of Parishes Gatherings are geared towards familiarizing ourselves with the other parishes and parishioners in our new Family. Please mark your calendars for the following dates and times:

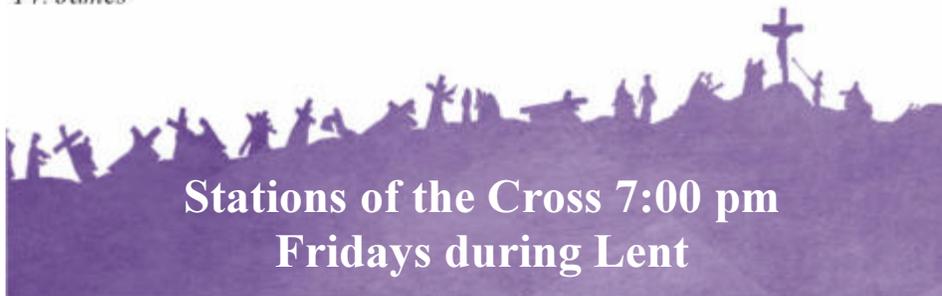
- Family Gathering #1 via *Zoom*: April 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM.
- Family Gathering #2 via *Zoom*: May 10, 2021 at 6:00 PM.
- Family Gathering #3 in person (hopefully) as circumstances suggest, or via *Zoom*: June 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

With regard to these Family Gatherings, we are asking everyone to register with an email address so that an invitation can be sent to you so that you may easily join in on the *Zoom* meeting. To register to receive an invitation, go to www.familiesofparishes.org. Click on "Find Your Parish" in the drop-down menu box and select "St. Christopher Parish – Marysville." Scroll down slightly and you will see the sub-heading "Connect," and underneath that a red button that says "REGISTER." Click on the red "REGISTER" button, and then scroll all the way to the bottom of that page. If your email address is not already filled in for you, then type it in along with your name. Then you will receive an invitation to the Family Gatherings via that email address you entered.

Catechism of the Catholic Church Preface for this Weekend's Readings to Ponder (Cycle A Gospel). "Christ will raise us up 'on the last day'; but it is also true that, in a certain way, we have already risen with Christ. For, by virtue of the Holy Spirit, Christian life is already now on earth a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ: 'And you were buried with him in Baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead....If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1002*).

Catechism of the Catholic Church Preface for this Weekend's Readings to Ponder (Cycle B Gospel). "The desire to embrace his Father's plan of redeeming love inspired Jesus' whole life, for his redemptive passion was the very reason for his Incarnation. And so he asked, 'And what shall I say? "Father, save me from this hour"? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour.' And again, 'Shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?' From the cross, just before 'It is finished', he said, 'I thirst.'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 607*).

Peace,
Fr. James



Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm
Fridays during Lent

March 21, 2021

Ministry Volunteers Needed

Lectors

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Hospitality Ministers

Altar Servers

Homebound Ministers

Please contact the Parish Office at (810) 364-4100 if you are interested in joining one of these ministries.

WEEKLY READINGS

- SUN 3/21** Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-31 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
- MON 3/22** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11
- TUE 3/23** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30
- WED 3/24** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42
- THR 3/25** Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
- FRI 3/26** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42
- SAT 3/27** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56
- SUN 3/28** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Sunday, March 21**
 8:00 am Mass - 3rd Scrutiny
 9:30 am RCIA
 9:30 am RE classes
 11:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting
 4:00 pm Confession
 5:30 pm Mass
- Monday, March 22**
 9:00 am Mass
 † **Judy Grupido**
 by the Severini family
- Tuesday, March 23**
 9:00 am Mass
 † **Paul Finley Saunders**
 by Kathy Simons, Kim & Cam
 5:30 pm Welcome Retreat Info Meeting
 5:30 pm Youth Choir Practice
- Wednesday, March 24**
 4:30 pm Small Church Community 3
 6:30 pm 1st Communion Mtg.
 7:00 pm Small Church Community 12&16
- Thursday, March 25**
 12:00 pm Mass
 † **Winnie Liester**
 by the Severini family
 5:00 pm Adult Choir Practice
- Friday, March 26**
 6:00 am TMIY
 9:00 am Mass
 † **Marilyn Moss**
 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross followed
 with Adoration/Benediction/Confession
- Saturday, March 27**
- Sunday, March 28**



Frank Behn
 Mary Bixler
 Elizabeth Bolton
 Linda Bowman
 Marilyn Bromberger
 Christine Cairns

William Cairns
 Marilyn Cruickshank
 Mary Deising
 Steven DeMeulenaere
 Denise Gawronski
 James Giachino
 Karen Goodman
 Sharon Goulet
 Martine Harrison
 Nancy Hubbard
 Linda King
 Sondra Kota
 Alan Langolf

Barbara Letzgos
 Edward Letzgos
 Kim McConnell Kalvert
 Mark Meier
 Iris Miguel
 Mike Murphy
 Natalie Lech Parent
 Greg Porrett
 Chuck Roehl
 Dorothy Shafran
 Michael J. Ward
 Robert Wawrzyniak
 Sara Wawrzyniak

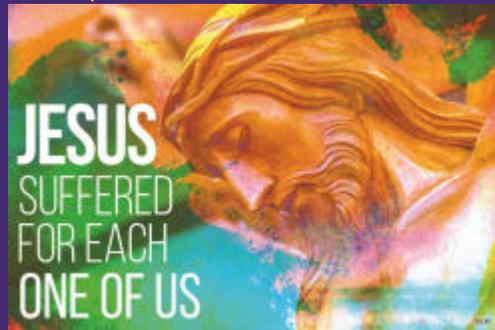


First Gathering

ENCOUNTERING JESUS THROUGH NEW RELATIONSHIPS

APRIL 12, 6:00 PM

Register online at FOPGATHERINGS.ORG



- 8:00 am Mass
- 9:30 am RCIA
- 11:00 am Mass
- 11:00 am Children's Church/Babysitting
- 4:00 pm Confession
- 5:30 pm Mass

TIMOTHY

OFFICE

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.”
1 Timothy 4:12



The Doors Are Open

One of the wonderful things about St. Christopher Parish is that the church’s doors remain unlocked each day and into the evening. In the distant past this was commonplace; however, through the years more and more churches have found the need to keep their doors locked except for those times when Mass is being offered. Being able to walk in and spend time with Jesus, who is present in the Tabernacle, is a great gift that many parishioners are unaware of. The time that is spent in the church outside of Mass is a different experience since many times you will find it is just you and our Lord who are physically present.

Some people use this time to pray the Rosary or Divine Chaplet while others may light a candle and offer up prayers. I have seen people sitting quietly while reading their Bibles, journaling, or kneeling in reverence before our Blessed Mother. As far as myself, I often just sit in silence and ask Jesus to quiet my heart so I can better hear Him. Even if I am only there for a short time, I know from the peace in my heart that it is time well spent.

I’d like to offer another option called a visual church meditation. This meditation allows us to be very mindful of our surroundings and can help draw our eyes and hearts towards things and feelings that we may overlook when we are in the presence of other people. This following meditation while usually done alone, can also be used by parents. As the parent quietly reads and leads their children through the experience it offers a perfect opportunity for all of them to *really see* what surrounds them and to *really hear* what God may be speaking to their hearts.

Visual Church Meditation

Begin by walking quietly into the church and let your eyes move around slowly as you take in everything you see. Remember that the church is not full of decorations but reminders of important truths about the faith —everything points to Christ in some way.

You can find somewhere to sit where you feel comfortable, and you can also feel free to move about the church. As you begin ask God to help you enter into the meditation with patience and peace.

Focus your eyes on the altar. This is where a miracle takes place. The Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus, offered for us and to us at every Mass. It is a supernatural way for us to experience Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. Spend some time reflecting on this truth and what it means to you.

Focus your eyes on an image of a saint. The saints all led very different lives, but they all shared a great love for Christ. Take a moment to ask this saint to show you how you can love Christ like they did.

Focus your eyes on a place in the church where the Word of God is proclaimed, spoken or in song. Every time we come to Mass, we have the opportunity to learn more about Christ and His love for us. Do you take that opportunity, or do you let it pass you by?



Focus your eyes on a source of light. Christ is our light, who offered Himself for us so that we would not have to live in darkness. In your heart, speak to Christ about one area of darkness in your life, and ask Him to shine His light into that area of darkness.

Focus your eyes on whatever part of the church is drawing your attention most. What might Christ be saying to you? Is He asking you to pay more attention during a particular part of the Mass? Is He inviting you to join a liturgical ministry or to play a bigger role in the Mass? Take a few minutes to sit in silence and listen to Him now.

Focus your eyes on the cross. Have you ever wondered what you would do if you were at the crucifixion? The answer to that question lies in what you do at Mass. The Mass is our opportunity



to be present to Christ's sacrifice each Sunday. The Eucharist is our opportunity to receive Jesus' Body and Blood. We all occasionally fail to give the Mass our full attention, but let's resolve now to realize the beauty of what Christ has given to us in the Mass and try to be more present and aware of what is happening at each Mass.

Finally, focus your eyes on the tabernacle where Jesus is physically present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Pray the Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Circle any words or phrases that are meaningful to you and conclude the meditation experience by praying the prayer one more time.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I consecrate myself to Your Most Sacred Heart. Take possession of my whole being; transform me into Yourself. Make my hands Your hands, my feet Your feet, my heart Your heart. Let me see with Your eyes, listen with Your ears, speak with Your lips, love with Your heart, understand with Your mind, serve with Your will, and be dedicated with my whole being. Make me Your other self. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, send me Your Holy Spirit to teach me to love You and to live through You, with You, in You and for You. Amen



Remember...the doors are open, and He is waiting for you.
In His love,
Kristi Socha

Source: Lifeteen/Edge



The Significance of March 25

I've been reading from an informative, entertaining and practical book called *The Catholic All Year Compendium* by Kendra Tierney. In her book, she begins with the season of Advent and journeys through the Church year from the perspective of a Catholic parent who wants to **live out the liturgical year in their domestic church** (a.k.a. their family). I was fascinated when I got to the Solemnity of the Annunciation of The Lord (Lady Day) on March 25. This is what I read:

“March 25 is the most important day in human history. It has also been a very busy day in Christendom. You know it's the solemnity of the Annunciation, also known as Lady Day (for Our Lady)... But did you know that March 25 is also understood by Christians to be the date on which God created man, the date on which Adam and Eve fell, the date on which Our Lord was crucified, and the date on which Frodo Baggins cast the one ring into the fiery depths of Mount Doom in J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy? And did you know that they're all connected?

The 6th-century *Martyrologium Hieronymianum* (the earliest surviving list of Christian martyrdoms and other important dates worth remembering) lists all those events, except the Frodo one, of course...

Jesus Christ died on 15 Nisan of the Jewish calendar, which is March 25 on the Roman calendar. Jewish tradition held that a great man would die on the same day as his conception, so the **early Christians determined that the date of Jesus' conception must have also been March 25.** From the conception date came the date on which we celebrate Christmas, as **December 25 is nine months after the Annunciation.** So, when devout lifelong Catholic J.R.R. Tolkien was writing a story in which a humble hero triumphs over temptation and suffering and saves the world from the forces of evil, well, **it had to happen on March 25.”**

I hope you found that as intriguing as I did. Whether or not all those important events truly converged on the same calendar date, we probably won't know this side of heaven, but I liked following the tradition (lower-case “t”), history and logic behind it. Thought it was worth sharing and certainly worth pondering.



Happy Lady Day!
Suzy DeVeny



April 19 @ 6:30-8:30pm is our next in-person session. Candidates and at least one parent need to attend. Sponsors are welcome to attend. Feel free to contact the Timothy Office 810-364-4100 with any questions.

Bible Study Reminders:
Young Adult/Teen Bible Study is **Sunday, March 28, 9:30-10:45am** in the QUEST/EDGE Room. The topic is **Scriptural Apologetics** (understanding & defending the faith). No prior experience with Bible studies necessary and it's ok to miss from time to time.
Remaining dates are as follows:
April 18.

Join Us
FOR QUEST!

March 28 – No QUEST Spring Break

April 4 – No QUEST – He is Risen!!

April 11 – Gathering 7-8:30pm in Social Hall

April 18 - Walk Among the Saints at the Cathedral in Detroit. Leave at 1pm. Permission slips (handed out and found online) due by March 28.



Sacred Music Ministry

Musical Musings

This being the 5th Sunday of Lent, we are nearing the holiest week of the year. Some of the most beautiful music is performed at this time of year. Passion music is a genre unto itself. Passion oratorios or cantatas set the drama of the Passion and death of our Lord to music.

Bach wrote at least two Passion oratorios: the St. John Passion written in 1724, and the St. Matthew Passion written in 1727. (It has recently been contested whether he wrote the St. Luke Passion, or merely arranged it). His St. Matthew Passion was written for solo (soprano, alto, tenor, bass voices), double choir (two soprano, alto, tenor, bass choirs), and double orchestra. At two and half hours, both listening to and performing this beautiful oratio is quite a commitment; however one that is well worth the time! Both the music and text provide an excellent opportunity to meditate well on the passion and death of our Lord. Here is one performance that you may like to listen to, if you don't have a recording of your own.

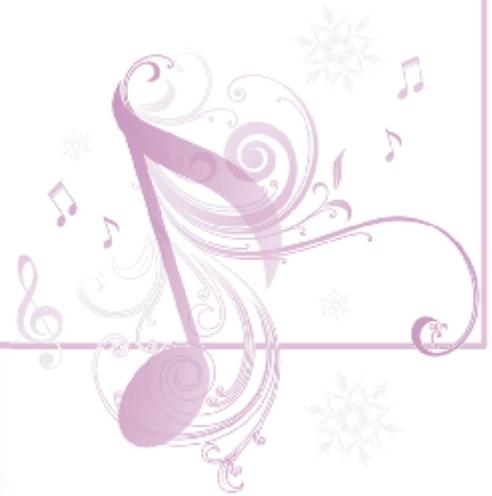
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrrdWYh9Hwc>

This particular video recording is convenient for finding different movements, which are listed in the notes under the video, although the titles are in German.

A blessed fifth week of Lent,

Deidre Collins

Director of Sacred Music



Welcome. CRHP 2.0
There is **More to Life**

(Christ Renews His Parish 2.0) returns to St. Christopher Church

We are excited to announce that St. Christopher's will be starting to offer the Dynamic Catholic Welcome retreat in the fall. Welcome is the new name for the retreat previously named Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP).

At this time, we are reaching out to all parishioners who might be interested in supporting this retreat, in any way, to attend an informational meeting. Those of you who have participated in CRHP in the past already have some idea of the effort involved to make this retreat run smoothly. So, please come to the informational meeting to hear about the retreat, and let us know if you are called to serve through this powerful retreat experience.

Date: Tuesday March 23, 2021

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: St. Christopher's Social Hall

Mark Your
Calendar

DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY

Celebrate an Hour of Divine Mercy with Confession on April 11, at 3 pm..

Please note that our usual confession time of 4 pm is moved to 3 pm

March 21, 2021

Weekend Liturgy for March 28, 2021

Day/Time	Sunday 8 am	Sunday 11 am	Sunday 5:30 pm
Mass Intentions	† Genevieve Threm by Poppy & family † Mary O'Brien by Mike & Sue O'Brien † Rosalia Schulte by Charlotte Carufel	† Ila Seczawa by her family † Betty Nelson By James & Deborah Nelson Willam DeVeny by Chris & Suzy DeVeny	Parishioners Territorial Souls of St. Christopher Parish
Celebrant	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady
Lector	Carrine Sylvia Deem Boldreff	Traci Rumsey	Justin Bonney John Gomola
EMHC <i>*Mass Sacristan</i>	Julia Szczygiel Sarah Voight Mary Brown*	Fely Nurenberg Irene Huber Cami Armstrong*	Sherry Kobe Elizabeth Moore Mike King Debbie Gomola*
Altar Server	Lucas Spresser Charlie O'Brien Sophia Senyk	Jacob Tunich Nick Hong	Jerry Measel Conner Wattle
Hospitality Ministers	Mike O'Brien Gale Messing Ted Hubbard	Webb & Sue Coates Jan Hamblin	Bruce & Marianne Rinke Paul Urben



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Counsel 9526

February

Knight & Family of the Month

Knight - Joseph G. Pavlov
Family - The Collins Family



Scholarships

Knights of Columbus Counsel 9526 has 2 scholarships available, (\$500 each) 1 male and 1 female for high school seniors that are graduating this school year. Deadline for submitting applications for scholarships is April 20, 2021. Scholarships can be used for 2 and 4 year degrees and trade schools tuitions.

Applications are available through Marysville High School, or by contacting Willie DeVeny (810-334-7648) or Rick Clark (810-388-0566).

PARISH SUPPORT

March 14, 2021

Loose	\$ 370.00
Envelopes	\$ 5,759.00
Online.....	\$ 500.00
Total Collection	\$ 6,629.00
Parishioner Summary	
Registered Families.....	705
Envelopes Received.....	141
Contributing Families.....	20%

CSA 2020 Goal \$58,354

Total Pledges..	\$114,683.95
Contributions Received	
	\$109,726.45
Families Supporting CSA - 180	
<i>Please make checks payable to Archdiocese of Detroit - CSA</i>	



St. Clair County Right to Life will be holding an Oratory Contest for all pro-life high school students on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at St. Christopher Parish Social Hall, 1000 Michigan Ave., Marysville MI 48040. The contest begins at 2:00pm and ends at 5:00pm. **To enter call Anne Arendt at 810-434-6409 on or before March 21, 2021**. Orators are to research, write and present a 5-7 minute pro-life speech on the issue of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or embryonic stem cell research/human cloning. There will be a prize of \$100 for finishing in third place, a prize of \$200 for finishing in second place and a prize of \$300 for finishing in first place. For further information about the Contest go to <https://rtl.org/school-student-resources/oratory-contest/>



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ASSOCIATE BROKER
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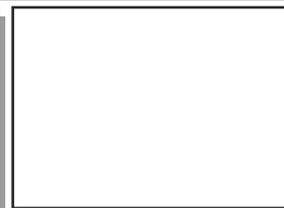
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