



July 17, 2022
Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Newsletter

Mass Times

Saturday-Sunday

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

6:30 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
12:30 pm, and 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass in Courtyard—

8:30 am 9:30 am and 10:30 am



Daily Mass: Mon-Fri—9:00 am

Mon-Thur — 6:30 pm.



Holy Days

7:00 am 9:00 am 12:noon and 7:00 pm



Confessions

First Saturday 9:30 am-10:30 am
& by appointment

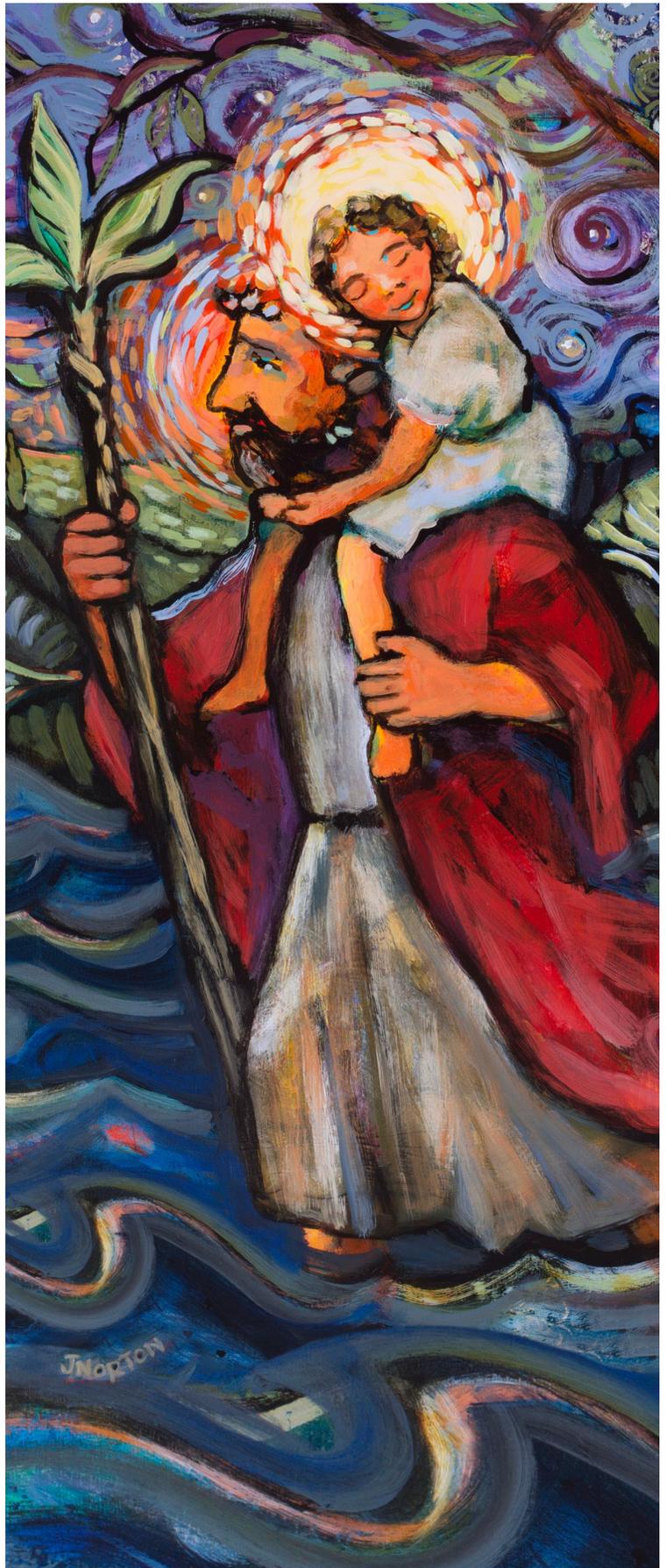
Infant Baptisms

Preparation can begin before or after the
birth of your child.

Call 408-269-2226 for more info.

Weddings

Couples, please contact a priest at
408-269-2226 at least six months prior to
the proposed date of wedding.



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CATHOLIC AND CREMATION

Can Catholics Be Cremated?

The practice of burying the body goes back to early Christian times. For centuries, cremation was expressly forbidden in the Church because of the belief that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, as well as the belief in the resurrection of the body. Cremation was seen as a pagan practice that denied the doctrine of the Resurrection. In 1963, the Vatican lifted the ban on cremation for Catholics. In doing so, the Church allowed cremation in certain circumstances provided the reasons for choosing it did not counter Christian belief. However, no allowances were made for any prayer or rituals to be used with the cremated remains. This meant all funeral services were to occur in the presence of the body, with cremation taking place afterwards. On March 21, 1997, this changed. The Vatican granted permission for the cremated remains of a body to be brought into church for the liturgical rites of burial. It is still, however, the Church's preference to have the full complement of funeral rites take place with the body present and then have cremation afterwards.

Why does the Church not allow cremated remains to be scattered or kept in a home?

The Church believes cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given the human body from which they come. If cremated remains are not treated with honor and dignity, cremation can allow for disrespect of the human body. Scattering the ashes deprives loved ones and descendants of the opportunity to visit the remains where they can pray and reflect upon the life and memory of the deceased. Dividing the cremated remains among family and friends or keeping them in the home seems to diminish the respect for human life and shows a lack of proper respect and dignity for the dead.

Must cremated remains be buried/entombed?

Yes. Burial options include a family grave in a cemetery marked with a traditional memorial stone or an urn garden, a special section in a cemetery with small, pre-dug graves for urns, or a columbarium.

When should cremation take place?

The Church prefers that cremation take place after the full funeral liturgy with the body. However, in the American culture, cremation often takes place immediately or soon after death. "Sometimes, however, it is not possible for the body to be present for the Funeral Mass. When extraordinary circumstances make the cremation of a body the only feasible choice, pastoral sensitivity must be exercised by all who minister to the family of the deceased." (Order of Christian Funerals, Appendix II).

May anything be added to cremated remains such as the cremated Remains of other persons, pets or other objects?

The principle of respect for the cremated remains of a deceased Christian embraces the deeper belief in the individuality of each baptized person before God. Throughout history, the mingling of remains has never been an accepted practice, except in extraordinary circumstances.

CATHOLIC AND CREMATION

What is the proper container for cremated remains?

Appropriate containers (not necessarily expensive) such as a classic urn are proper for the cremated remains. At the present time the U.S. Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy has determined only what is not a proper container. Although jewelry, dishes, statuary, and space capsules are now being offered, they are unacceptable in Catholic funeral practices. It is also unacceptable to have your cremated remains made into jewelry, dishes, and the like.

May I bury the ashes at sea?

Yes. Burial at sea of cremated remains differs from scattering. An appropriate and worthy container, heavy enough to be sent to its final resting place, may be dropped in to the sea. The burial of cremated remains at sea in this manner seems to be an appropriate alternative to the long-standing and revered custom of a traditional burial at sea. Please consult your local government for environmental regulations. (See Order of Christian Funerals, #405.4)



A ROMAN CATHOLIC FUNERAL

The Rites of a Catholic Funeral include the following elements: Prayers after Death, Prayers in the Presence of the Body, The Scripture Prayer Service at the Wake, the Funeral at Church (with or without Mass), and the Internment Prayer Service at the cemetery.

Together these services not only make up the total Catholic Funeral Service, but provide the Church's special prayers for the deceased. These are also intended to meet the many needs of those who are grieving. As much as we don't like to dwell on death, it is a real part of our lives and families. The Catholic Rites are intended to pray for the person who has died and help us deal with the difficulties and reality of death. Our faith provides strength and courage to face this radical loss in our lives. Even those who do not share our Catholic faith recognize that these Funeral Rites bring some greater understanding to a circumstance which of itself seeks answers.

Our culture, which often tries to avoid uncomfortable aspects of life, sometimes wants to skip some or all of the rites of a funeral—thinking that it is best to “just get it over with.” Unfortunately, research shows us that the opposite is the reality. People who do not have adequate time to face death as the Funeral Rites allow and who do not have time to grieve with the support of friends and family often suffer with separation anxiety and grief longer than those who take the time to participate in the grieving process through the rites of the Church.

Sometimes, relatives who are deciding the details of the funeral are not Catholic or are “non practicing” Catholics, and feel as if they would be uncomfortable with the Catholic Funeral Rites. Indeed, they may be unfamiliar with these rites, but since Catholics expect and have a right to the full rites of the Catholic Church, they do the deceased an injustice by limiting these normal rites. These special prayers are due Catholics by belonging to the Church through Baptism. In these situations, the persons planning the funeral arrangements need to think about the faith which the Church provides its members and what it offers for the deceased.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH AND SCHOOL

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www.saintchris.com

Summer Office Hours

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Email: revbennett@sbcglobal.org

Parochial Vicars & Deacons

Rev. Paolo Gobbo, ext. 306,
Email: Fr.Paolo@stchrissj.org

Rev. Khoa Vu, ext. 311,
Email: khoa.Vu@dsj.org

Deacon Richard Noack, ext. 316
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TBD

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Faith Formation

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Diane Forst—Faith Formation Assistant ext. 315

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Clarissa Barela—Sacrament Coordinator, ext. 314

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Email: afukawa@stchris.us


Angela Duncan
Email: aduncan@stchris.us



OUR COMMUNITY

PRAY FOR THE ILL IN OUR PARISH



Ed & Jo Bertaccini

Randi Myers

Joe Geraci

Cecilia Humecke

Bernie Filingeri

Mercedes DeCarli

Susan Chavez

Halen McClean

Maria Garcia



FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



Lina Veglia



Suzanne Castaneda



Elsie Fery



Donald Bedell



Ninfa Bondi



Irene Chacon



Gina Bozzo



Kevin Lichtenberg



Amul Jobalia



Jacqueline Neu



William Neu

Becoming A Catholic. (R.C.I.A.)

The RCIA is offered to those who have never been baptized in any Christian church but may also benefit those already baptized who desire to become Catholic. The non-baptized who are suitably prepared are joyfully received into the Catholic Church by the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely, Baptism, Confirmation and the Most Holy Eucharist. This takes place at the Easter Vigil in their local Catholic parish.

If you are interested in becoming Catholic or simply finding out more about the RCIA, you should contact our parish office and make an appointment to speak to one of our priests or our RCIA coordinator. We look forward to hearing from you.



EVER THOUGHT OF BEING A CATECHIST? As we prepare to enter another year for our program in the Fall, we are in need of 2 co-catechists and 5 volunteer aides to serve our ministry on specific Sundays (TBD) once a month from 2pm to 4 pm running from September 2022 through the end of the academic year in May 2023. If you have any questions or feel that you are called to serve in our ministry, please reach out to Edward Dantes at edward.dantes@stchrissj.org or call (408) 264-8764 (ext. 317).



Lector

The Lector Ministry makes a truly satisfying and meaningful contribution to Eucharistic celebrations at Saint Christopher Church. When one answers the call to be a minister of the word, one enters a deeper relationship with the word of God as revealed in sacred scriptures. The lector takes upon themselves the duty and privilege of bringing the printed word to life—making it flesh. The ministry as a lector gives voice to God's healing and challenging words as it goes forth irrevocably to the ends of the earth, achieving the purpose for which God sent it. In a very real sense, the lector becomes a prophet—one who speaks for God. Please consider becoming a Lector. For more information please Contact:

Loretta Pfaff at 1-408-269-2226 ext. 303 or email Loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org



Hospitality

People experience the presence of Jesus Christ in the world through the ministry of the Church. The first task of the parish community is to reach out to all people in Christian love and service. Christian hospitality draws people together, opens them to participation, and sets the tone for the liturgy. Hospitality is important because it is the first thing that people will hopefully experience when they walk through our church's doors. First impressions make a lasting impact, so we need to "Receive all guests as Christ." Please consider becoming a Hospitality Minister. For more information please Contact: Loretta Pfaff at 1-408-269-2226 ext. 303 or email Loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org



Save the Date Jubilarian Mass

August 7 at Holy Cross Parish. A Mass celebration to honor all the priests and religious celebrating their milestone anniversaries for their tireless dedication in serving the Lord through the Diocese of San José and the Catholic Church.



FAITH FORMATION

Online registration is now open for the 2022-2023 Faith Formation session. To register for classes, go to saintchris.com, click on Faith Formation and choose Grades 1-6 or Confirmation Year 1 and 2. Please call our office at 408-264-8764 if you have any questions.



Married Couples

Looking for a romantic get-away? Whether you've been married just a few years or over 50 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is one of the best and most affordable marriage enrichments available anywhere. Take the time you need for each other and give yourselves the marriage you deserve and God desires for all couples to have. The next local experience is November 4-6 at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista. For more information or to register visit wwme.org. For questions, call Ken & Claranne Schirle at 408-782-1413.

Extraordinary Ministry of the Eucharist

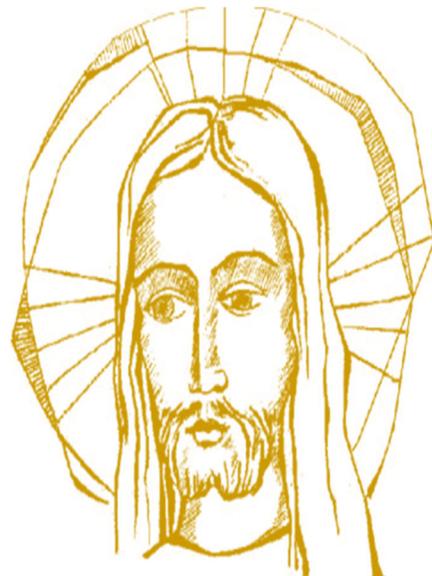
Being a Minister of Holy Communion is humbling and beautiful. Here is the opportunity to serve the deep hunger of people to find the presence of Christ. This is our ministry and our privilege. The presence of the risen Christ which you bring, both in the sacrament and in yourself, is a presence characterized by a deeply spiritual, realistic love – a love that seeks the good of others – a love that never ends.

Please consider becoming a Minister of the Eucharist. For more information please Contact: Loretta Pfaff at 1-408-269-2226 ext. 303 loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org



CALLING TO BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER

It's slowly and carefully, becoming the time to call upon our children to come back to church and to be engaged in the life of the parish by becoming an Altar Server. We would like to call upon boys and girls who have received already the 1st Holy Communion to register for this program. Parents, please, help your children to do so if they express such a desire to become an Altar Server. PLEASE, submit the names of your children to the Parish Office.



July 30 SATURDAY
7:30 am to 12 noon
Archbishop Mitty High School Campus

YEAR OF PRAYER
In preparation for the diocesan synod

the SOCCER Cup For

VOCATIONS

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The St. Clare C P
The Monastics

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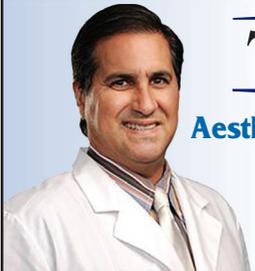
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