



September 17th, 2023
24th 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



Daily Mass: Mon-Fri—6:30 am and 9:00 am



1st Saturday of the Month

9:00am Mass with the anointing of the sick



Holy Days

6:30 am 9:00 am 12:noon and 7:00 pm



Confessions

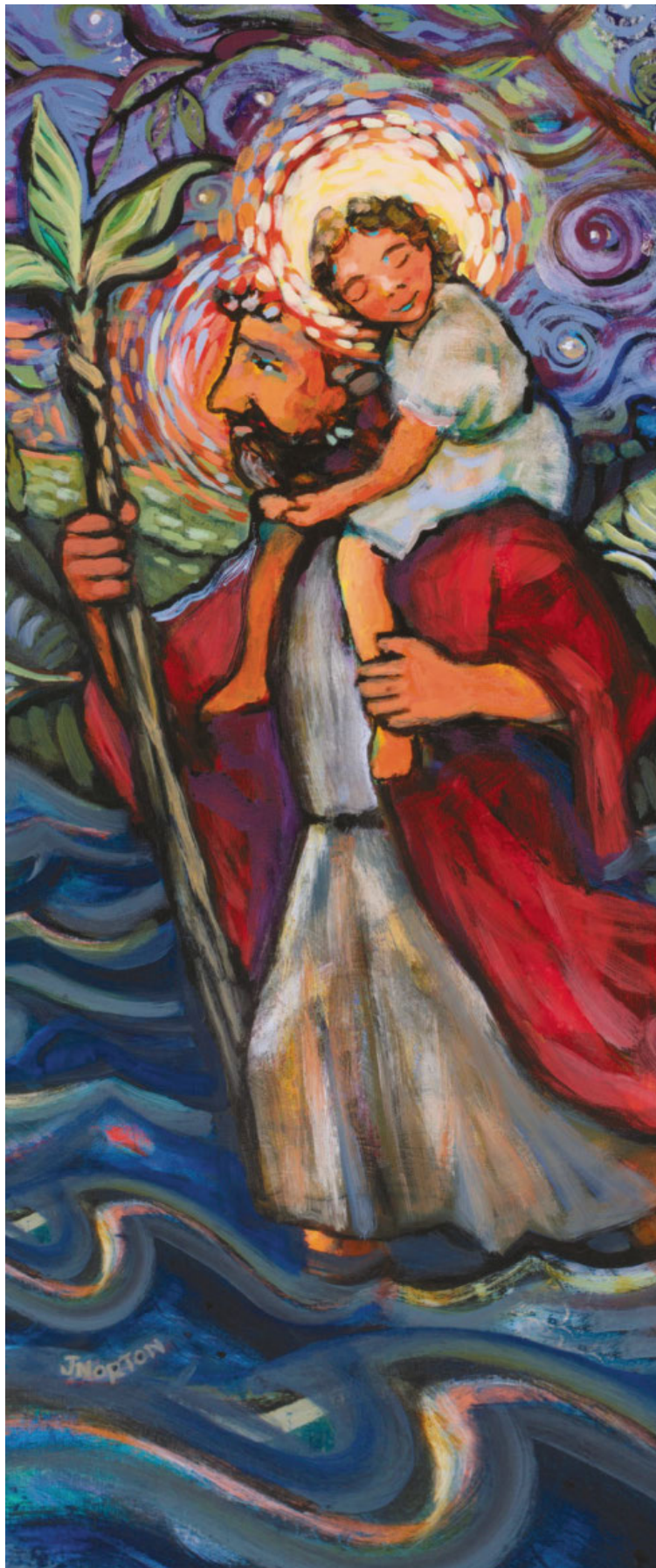
First Saturday 10:00am-11:00am
& by appointment

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.



"St. Christopher" © Jen Norton
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“Enlarge the space of your tent” Synod 2023-2024

Cultures, religions and dialogue

An essential element of a synodal Church, one which still needs significant deepening and better understanding, is the call to a more meaningful inter-cultural approach. This approach begins by walking together with others, appreciating cultural differences, understanding those particularities as elements which help us to grow: “The encounter between the Catholic Church in Cambodia and the Buddhist Monks and lay Cambodian Buddhists ‘creates a new culture.’ All our activities affect each other and affect the whole world. We may differ in religion, but we all seek the common good” (EC Laos and Cambodia). It is the Churches that represent a small minority in the context in which they live that experience this most intensely: “For example [there is] what we might call the ‘porosity’ of our Churches, whose line of demarcation with civil society is paradoxically less marked than elsewhere [...]. There is no problem of doing things ‘inside’ or ‘outside’ the Church. We are an outgoing Church by definition, because we are always ‘in the home of others’ and this has taught us listening, flexibility, and creativity in forms, language, and practices” (EC North African Region - CERNA).

However, even when we come to acceptance or even appreciation of the other, the journey is still incomplete. The Church’s intercultural approach aims at the horizon to which Christ calls us: the Kingdom of God. In the embrace of an enriching diversity, we can find our deeper unity and the opportunity to cooperate with God’s grace: “We should also take heed of the thoughts and ideas of the extended family and companions in the journey; non-Catholics, Politicians and non-believers. These are voices in our neighborhood we cannot afford to avoid lest we miss out God’s whispers through them!” (EC Zimbabwe). This constitutes a witness within a world that struggles to see diversity in unity as a true vocation: “The community [...] must take greater account of diversity, aspirations, needs and ways of living the faith. The universal Church must remain the guarantor of unity, but Dioceses can enculturate the faith locally: decentralization is necessary” (Archdiocese of Luxembourg).

In a good number of reports, there is a call to better recognize, engage, integrate, and respond to the richness of local cultures, many of which have worldviews and styles of action that are synodal. People express a desire to promote (and in some cases recover and deepen) local culture, to integrate it with faith, and to incorporate it into the liturgy. “In this context, Christians are called to offer their own contribution starting from their own vision of faith in order to enculturate it in the new cultural contexts [...]. This diversity of approaches should be seen as the implementation of a model of interculturality, where the different proposals complement and enrich each other, going beyond that of multiculturalism, which consists in the simple juxtaposition of cultures, closed within their perimeters” (Contribution of the Pontifical Council for Culture).

In many cases, the reports call especially for attention to the situation of indigenous peoples. Their spirituality, wisdom, and culture have much to teach. We need to reread history together with these peoples, to draw inspiration from those situations in which the Church’s action has been at the service of their integral human development, and to ask forgiveness for the times when it has instead been complicit in their oppression.

At the same time, some reports highlight the need to reconcile the apparent contradictions that exist between cultural practices or traditional beliefs and the teachings of the Church. On a more general level, the practice of synodality – communion, participation and mission – needs to be articulated within local cultures and contexts, in a tension that promotes discernment and generativity

(to be continued)



The Italian Catholic Federation



The Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) is a non-profit fraternal organization for practicing Catholics of all ages and cultures. Founded in 1924, the federation's mission is to uphold and develop the religious spirit among its members and to spread that spirit throughout the community. As Christians, we continue the tradition of love, hospitality, and works of charity as signs of Christ's peace among us.

Members of the ICF enjoy the fellowship of other Catholics and their families. Together we enrich ourselves, strengthen our family and spiritual lives, and share our blessings with one another.

We are proud of our assistance to parishes, pastors and local communities. We often help local pastors with various parish projects and fundraisers. Our members are often active in parish councils, finance committees, and other Catholic organizations. The ICF is an example of the laity's participation in the apostolic mission of the Catholic Church.

Our Heritage Program informs and enlightens each new generation about the many contributions that Catholic men and women who came before us have made to our society. At local branch meetings and at our local convention, you can learn about our rich Italian American heritage as well as other heritages that make up this great nation of immigrants.

Our national publication, *The Bollettino*, is filled with local and national ICF news and offers the reader information about events, scholarship awards, family recipes, book reviews and historical and religious articles.

To support the clergy, the ICF offers prayers and monetary donations for the continuation of vocations and contributes to the education of young men training for the priesthood. We award scholarships to Catholic elementary and high school students and grants to assist the developmentally disabled.

We are a major supporter of Cooley's Anemia research and treatment, and we sponsor an Organ Donor Awareness program. Our Gifts of Love Program provides grants to individuals with disabilities so that they may develop academic, athletic, vocational and creative arts skills that assist them towards greater independence.

The ICF offers various annual awards. The Pope Saint John XXIII Award is presented to an outstanding lay person who best exemplifies the humanitarian qualities of this exemplary pope.

The Saint Teresa of Calcutta award recognizes and honors a priest, nun, deacon or brother for exemplary humanitarian work. We also honor a family of the year as well as a young adult who exhibits the qualities of leadership. We annually bestow the Grand President's Award to a member for exceptional community service in the spirit of the ICF.

The Italian Catholic Federation encourages and promotes faith renewal, apostolic and charitable works, and the preservation of the Italian-American heritage in our communities.

**Coming In the Fall to St. Christopher Parish
An Information Meeting will be held to provide interested
parishioners with more detailed information and answer ques-
tions about the ICF**

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH AND SCHOOL

PARISH OFFICE

Msgr. Allen Center
2278 Booksin Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125
Tel. 408-269-2226; Fax 408-269-2784
www.saintchris.com

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-3:30pm
Fridays. 8:30am-noon

Pastor

Rev. Christopher Bennett, ext. 302
Email: revbennett@sbcglobal.net

Parochial Vicar & Deacons

Rev. Paolo Gobbo, ext. 306,
Email: Fr.Paolo@stchrissj.org
Deacon Richard Noack, ext. 316
Email: deacon.richard@stchrissj.org

RCIA

Edward Dantes, ext. 317
Email: edward.dantes@stchrissj.org

Parish Secretaries / Infant Baptism

Adrienne DiVittorio, ext. 309
Email: Adrienne.divittorio@stchrissj.org

Dennis Volkman, ext. 301
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Business & Facilities Manager

Frank Cetani, ext. 304
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Administrative Assistant / ADA

Gayle Blackford, ext. 319
Email: gbstchris@yahoo.com

Safe Environment

Sherry Riordan, ext. 313
Email: sherry.riordan@dsj.org

Pastoral Ministry

Loretta Pfaff, ext. 303
Email: Loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org

Youth & Young Adult Ministry
TBD

Outreach Office

Nancy Melander, ext. 310
Email: nancymelander@gmail.com

Faith Formation

Catechetical Ministry (408) 264-8764

Director: Edward Dantes, ext. 317
Email: edward.dantes@stchrissj.org

Diane Forst—Faith Formation Assistant ext. 315
Email: diane.forst@stchrissj.org

Irene Jacobs—Sacrament Coordinator, ext. 314
Email: irene.jacobs@stchrissj.org



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Principal

Mr. Andrew Armann
Email: aarmann@stchris.us



Office Administration

Mrs. Arlene Fukawa
Email: afukawa@stchris.us



Angela Duncan
Email: aduncan@stchris.us



OUR COMMUNITY

PRAY FOR THE ILL IN OUR PARISH



Veronica Lopez

Dona New

Susan Lorson

Peter Arnone

Tiffani Pratali

Dave Allen

Michael Anderson

Larry Dudley

Jack Nicca

Sr. Sharon Skain S.N.D

Pat DeMarlo

Jo Bertaccini



FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



Darlene Chickos



Robert Avila



Donna Trumpf



Loretta Palla



Robert Martin



Shirley Dalle-Molle



Leonre Luedemann



Frank Pignataro



Shirley Arnone



Michael Yang

Altar Servers



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Altar Server Training

Boys and girls currently in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grades who are interested in becoming an altar server are invited to attend the training to be held on Tuesday, September 26th from 5:30 to 7pm and repeated on Tuesday, October 10th from 5:30-7pm. **Your child only needs to attend one of the dates** so you have a choice as to which works better for you.

We ask that a parent attend the first 15 minutes of the training session (if at all possible) to help them understand the responsibilities of altar serving, scheduling, and the practical aspects of serving our parish as an Altar Server. **Please sign up by sending an email to lorettapfaff@stchrissj.org or call 408-264-5114.** Let us know your child's name, grade, and your email and phone number and which date your child can attend.

Join us for Donut Sunday!



COFFEE - COMMUNITY - DONUTS

Donut Sunday

When: Sunday, September 17th

6:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11 Masses

**Where: Outside classrooms
near church entrance**

**Join us for donuts,
coffee and community**

We can't wait to see you there!

WE NEED YOU!

JOIN the NEW BELL CHOIR!



at St. Christopher Parish
No experience necessary! Kids age 10 & up welcome!

1st Rehearsal:

Sunday, September 17th

11am - Noon in Kindergarten Courtyard

Our director is Mrs. Mindy Dickens, music teacher and choir director.

Please email Loretta at loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org.

Communion to the Sick

If you or someone close to you in our parish, is unable to attend church due to age, illness or injury, please call Loretta in the Pastoral Care office at 408-264-5114 or email, loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org. We have ministers to the sick and homebound who are available and happy to come once a week to pray with and bring Communion to those individuals who are unable to attend Church anymore

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

St. Christopher's Grief Ministry is offering a 6 week grief support group in the Marian Rm. of the Msgr. Allen Center starting on Mondays, October 2nd through November 6th from 1:15pm-2:30pm. The group is open to anyone going through loss, such as a death, divorce, or having to put a partner in care facility from Alzheimer's. Call Sandy at 408-807-0503 or email her at: tyedyesandy@gmail.com to sign up or if you have questions.



Rosary Group

The Rosary group will be reciting the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Church immediately following the 9:30 Mass to be followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Join us in these beautiful and powerful prayers. Contact Debbie Kearney at debkearney@att.net for more information.



St. Christopher Parish Children's Choir

All children from **2nd grade through 8th grade** are welcome to join our Parish Children's Choir. The children's choir sings once a month at the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass. Our First Sunday this year will be **September 17, 2023. This is a wonderful experience for children both fun and prayerful.**

This choir is led Mrs. Mindy Dickens-Flatow who is both a very experienced and talented director and music teacher.

Rehearsals will be held at 8:00 a.m. in the Kindergarten Courtyard the same morning as the monthly Mass and there will be one additional rehearsal

during the month on Sunday, Morning: **First Rehearsal: Sunday, September 10th, in Kindergarten Courtyard** This will help the children be prepared for their first mass singing in choir.

If your child is interested in being part of the choir, please email Loretta with the Name of Child, Grade, Parent Name, and Email to loretta.pfaff@stchrissj.org. Also, feel free to call Loretta at 408-264-5114 with any questions you may have

PARISH RESTORATION UPDATE

Dear Parishioners,

I want to thank you all for your generous donations to the Parish Restoration Fund. Due to your generosity, we will be able to move forward with the project. We are presently ready to start the renovations but unfortunately, we are still waiting for the permits from the City of San Jose. Once we receive the permits, construction will be begin.

Please keep us in your prayers as we undertake the restoration of our beloved Church. I will do my best to keep you informed about when it will begin and how we will proceed.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Chris



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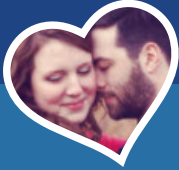


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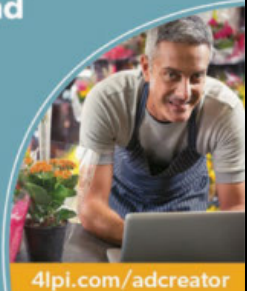
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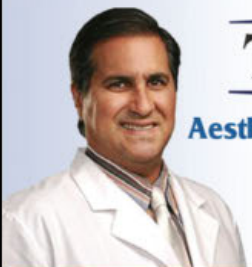
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