

# St. Christopher's

**2016 – 2017 Confirmation Class**

**Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 2016**

# Opening Prayer

Lord, give us the ability to listen, the desire to learn and the understanding when to apply this knowledge that comes to us today. Help us to always be faithful to our vocation and desire all that is good, while rejecting all that can harm and confuse us. Lord give us Your Love and help us to Love You, above all things in our lives. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

# Beatitudes

## **What are the Beatitudes?**

- Describe Blesses we can expect for acting in a certain manor
- Jesus gave the Beatitudes at the Sermon on the Mount.
- Eight Beatitudes in total
- In the bible: Matt 5: 1-12 and Luke 6: 20-26

# The Beatitudes

Matthew 5 1:12

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
8. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

# The Beatitudes

Luke 6: 20-26

1. Blessed be the poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.
2. Blessed are you that hunger now: for the shall be filled.
3. Blessed are you that weep now: for the shall laugh.
4. Blessed are you, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. "Rejoice the in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets."
5. Woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.
6. Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.
7. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.
8. Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

# The Beatitudes



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NY4jbJI7sA>



# The Beatitude

- Jesus was the New Moses.
  - First word from Jesus in his sermon was “Happy”: Blessed, Joy
- Freedom:
  - Our view:
    - Freedom is to do what we want
  - Bible View:
    - Freedom to be excellent
    - Discipline for Desire
- Laws for capacity for Joy

# Beatitudes Broken Down

Matthew 5:1-12

- **4 Positive Formulated Beatitudes**
  - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
    - Gods most distinctive characteristic
  - Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
    - Happy with no ambiguity, (a lack of decisiveness)
  - Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
    - Fundamental Needs: Will and purpose of God
  - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
    - One who orders his life to God becomes the, “Peacemaker”
    - He becomes Happy



# Beatitudes Broken Down

St. Thomas Aquinas 4 classical substitutes: **“Addictions”**

- Wealth: money,
- Pleasure: pornography, sexual relationships
- Power: Ruling over others
- Honor: Looking to be praised up in the things we do.

We turn to addictions in trying to fill our lives with what is lacking, God!

What are some of the addictions we turn to?

Video Continued (4 Min)

# Beatitudes Broken Down

- **4 Negative Formulated Beatitudes**

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
  - Detachment to “Material Things”
  - Not center of our concern: Then we can use them for God purposes
- Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
  - Detachment to “Good Feelings”
- Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
  - Detachment to “Power”
  - Become a conduit to Divine Power
- Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
  - Detachment to Honor:
  - Unleash the Divine Life

# The Beatitudes



# Christ Crucified

- On the Cross, Jesus is detached from the things we seek for our Joy
  - Wealth: He's stripped naked
  - Pleasure: He's in Pain and anguish
  - Power: He can't move
  - Honor: They mock him as he is publicly displayed
- What did he Love on the Cross
  - Loved doing the will of His Father
  - Single Hearted One
  - The one who, Hungers for Righteousness
  - Ultimate Peace maker
  - Bearer of Divine Mercy



# The Beatitudes

- **Main Point is Detachment: Not How but What**
  - God can use your wealth, Your abilities, your power to do His will
  - **Practice** Letting Go
    - Give
      - Alms
      - Our talent
      - Our time
    - Seek His will in the things we do. The people we meet or work with.

# Challenge of the Week

- Continue Praying nightly
  - Our Father
  - Hail Mary
  - Glory Be
- Read the Bible: Read (1) bible verse each night before bed
  - Food for the soul
- Passport Challenge: Complete one passport stamp!

**Closing Prayer (Next Page)**



# Closing Prayer

Loving and Merciful Lord, You taught us to pray and in doing so You asked us to be attentive to Your will and to forgive. Now we ask You to put into our hearts the love for others, so that we may spread Your mercy to all mankind. Give us the grace to never turn our backs on our fellow man but to embrace the challenge of showing Mercy to all. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



Have a Mercy Filled Week!