



CORPUS CHRISTI
PARISH COMMUNITY

234 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD
CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY 07928

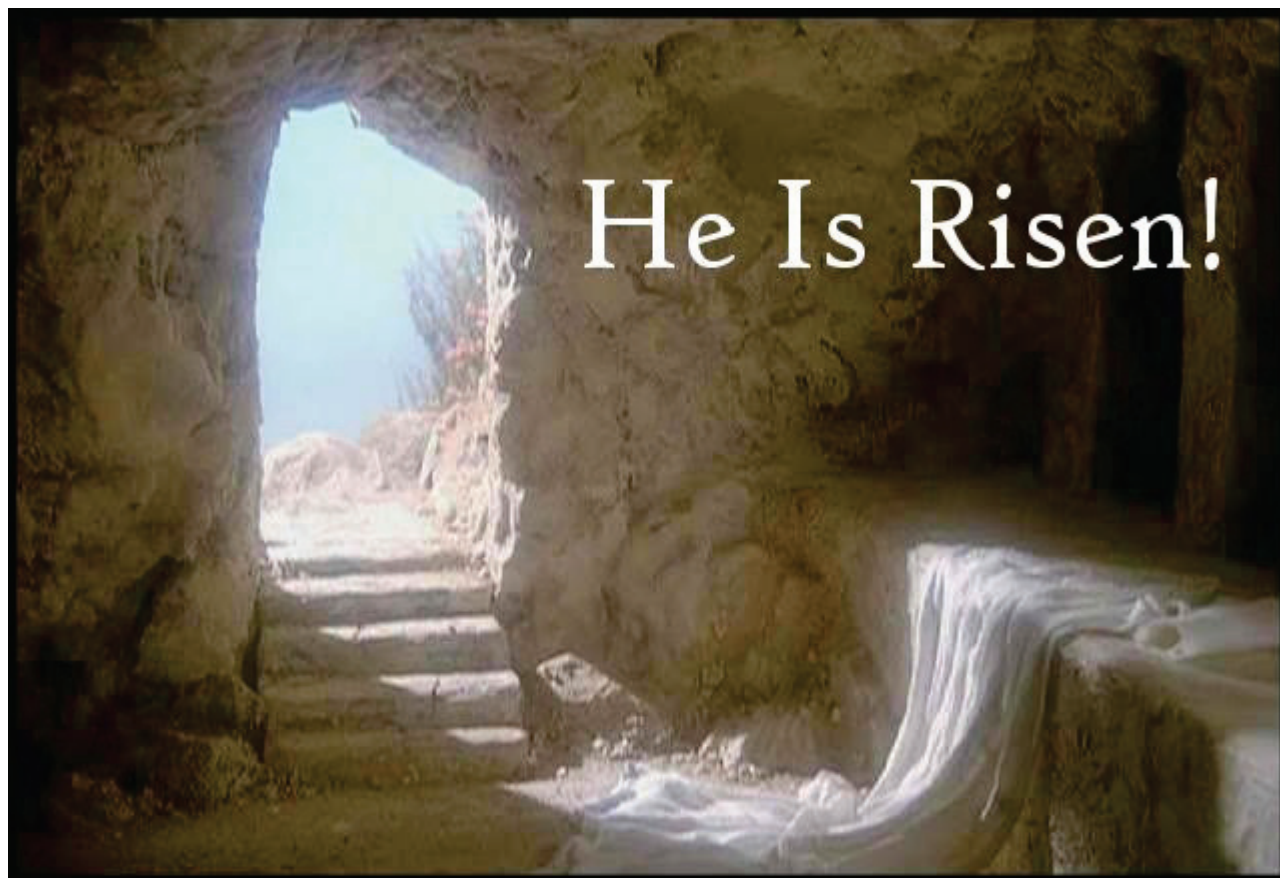
(973) 635-0070 • Fax (973) 635-5518
www.corpuschristi.org

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Ministry and Formation, ext.718, psomi@corpuschristi.org
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Maintenance Staff, ext.721, maintenance@corpuschristi.org

APRIL 1, 2018 EASTER SUNDAY

**Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!
Jesus Has Conquered Sin and Death—and So Will We!**



SACRAMENTS • PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

EUCCHARIST

WEEKEND LITURGIES:

Saturday—5:00 p.m.

Sunday—7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES: 7:30 a.m.—Monday to Friday

EUCCHARIST FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:

Every first Friday; other times upon request

FIRST EUCCHARIST:

Usually celebrated in 2nd grade for children.

Celebrated at the Easter Vigil for adults.

BAPTISM

Baptisms for registered parishioners are celebrated at 1:15 p.m. on Sundays: monthly during the summer, and twice a month during the rest of the year. A required orientation for first-time parents of babies being baptized is held one Sunday each month, 10:15—11:45 a.m. (July & August by appointment.) Please contact the parish office in advance to register for the orientation and to schedule the Baptism. No Baptisms are scheduled until after the baby has been born.

Adults: participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Through this process, the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation are received. For further information, contact the parish office.

CONFIRMATION

Parishioners of high school age are confirmed following a two-year preparation program, usually culminating with Confirmation in the beginning of junior year. Adult parishioners are usually confirmed at the Easter Vigil. For further information, contact the parish office.

PENANCE

For all parishioners: celebrated on Saturday from 4:15-4:45 p.m. in the Atrium Conference Room; outside of these times, upon request.

Communal Penance services are held in Advent and Lent.

First Penance: Usually celebrated in the 2nd grade.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office one year prior to the wedding. Preparation for Marriage includes: Pre-Cana or Marriage Encounter, as well as meetings with the priest who will witness the Marriage. Weddings may be scheduled any day Monday through Saturday. No weddings will be scheduled on Sundays, eves of holidays, holidays, or holiday weekends.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament may be celebrated with any person who is seriously ill. A communal celebration of this sacrament is held periodically. You may request this sacrament at any time, especially in case of emergency. Any parishioner who is in the hospital and wishes to see a member of the parish staff should notify the parish office.

ST. ANTHONY'S, OUR SISTER PARISH

Our parish is linked with our sister parish, Saint Anthony's in Passaic. Our Men's Society joins with Saint Anthony's in various projects. If you are interested in helping, please contact Fr. Lem Camacho at lcamacho@corpuschristi.org.

CYO BASKETBALL PROGRAM

See Corpus Christi website (www.corpuschristi.org) or call Jim LeMon at 973-701-1602 or email jlemon@lordabbett.com or Drew McKenzie at 973-635-1342 or email drewmckenza@aol.com.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Priscilla Ursino, Coordinator

Meets first Friday of month at 12:30 p.m. ~ Liturgy and Lunch
October – June

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SESSIONS

The parish offers a comprehensive program in religious education for pre-school, elementary school, middle school, and high school. These sessions are held on Sundays or Mondays. We also offer a program for students who are educationally challenged. Adult education programs are scheduled periodically and announced in the bulletin. For further information, contact the parish office, x711.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Coordinators: Kathleen Magill and Dorothy Shanahan

MEN'S SOCIETY

Meets second Tuesday of the month, 8:00 p.m.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

For those in their 20s and 30s, through social, spiritual and service activities, young adults meet at St. Paul Inside the Walls in Madison (www.insidethewalls.org) and volunteer with the youth here at Corpus Christi. Contact Psomi for further information.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Most youth entering high school become involved in Youth Ministry through a 2 year Confirmation Preparation Program which includes, service, education and retreats. In this three pronged approach, youth learn, experience and grow in their love for self, others and God. After Confirmation, young people are invited into deeper involvement or leadership which includes retreat teams, justice and service, teaching, music and more.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is an international fraternal, family and charitable organization. Locally, the Parcells Council of the Knights of Columbus jointly serves the parishes of Corpus Christi and Saint Patrick. Membership is open to all Catholic men over 18. Visit the Parcells Council on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parcellscouncil>

For further information contact Dan Otten at 973-335-1435.

AL-ANON MEETING

Al-Anon meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. This is open to any persons in the community who are family members or friends of those suffering from any type of chemical dependency, such as alcohol, etc. The meeting is held in the double classroom area. Enter the parish center through the main doors from the rear parking lot. This is not affiliated with the parish, but the facilities are offered as a service to the community. The participants are to maintain strict confidentiality and require anonymity.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil—For Our Parishioners

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

6:45 a.m. Walter E. Taverna

7:30 a.m. Maureen Alexander

8:30 a.m. Pat Whelan

9:30 a.m. Marie & Leo Rudnick; Marylee Rudnick Ruerup

10:45 a.m. Dolores Dewling

12:00 p.m. Sam, Stella & Charles Kuchar; Gene Daquila

1:15 p.m. Fernando Nicolas

MONDAY, APRIL 2

7:30 a.m. Denise Sharon Ruiz

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

7:30 a.m. Maria Schoelen; Helen Bergen

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

7:30 a.m. Maureen Alexander; Todd Sahner

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

7:30 a.m. Pablo DeVera; Christine Trabulsi

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

7:30 p.m. Samuel Failla

12:30 p.m. Edith Miller

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

5:00 p.m. Peter Madsen

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

7:30 a.m. Gertrude McIntyre

9:00 a.m. Vincent Waters

11:00 a.m. Dolores Dewling

12:15 p.m. Arthur Icart

IN REMEMBRANCE

For the week of April 1, Sanctuary Lights burn for a Special Intention. Bread and Wine is offered in memory of Maureen Alexander. Blessed Sacrament Chapel flowers are in memory of Maureen Alexander.

FLOWER MEMORIALS

Remember a loved one or offer a Special Intention by having a flower arrangement placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The cost will be \$50 or more plus a \$10 offering. The Parish Office will coordinate the request with our florist, Carl Lemanski.

PRESIDER'S SCHEDULE

APRIL 7/8

5:00 p.m. Fr. Mahoney	9:00 a.m. Fr. Mahoney
7:30 a.m. Fr. Mahoney	11:00 a.m. Fr. Lem
	12:15 p.m. Fr. Lem

APRIL 1, 2018 EASTER SUNDAY



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

10:30 a.m. Praying the Rosary

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

8:00 a.m. First Friday Adoration

12:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Mass/Lunch

PRESIDER'S SCHEDULE

MARCH 31 (Easter Vigil)

8:00 p.m.—Fr. Mahoney

APRIL 1 (Easter Sunday)

6:45 a.m. Fr. Mahoney

7:30 a.m. Fr. Lem

8:30 a.m. Fr. Lem

9:30 a.m. Fr. Mahoney

10:45 a.m. Fr. Mahoney

12:00 p.m. Fr. Lem

1:15 p.m. Fr. Lem

WELCOME!

New parishioners are asked to register for the parish by going to our website at www.corpuschristi.org. Click on the **Parish Registration** tab at the top of the home page next to **Online Giving**. For more info, please call the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

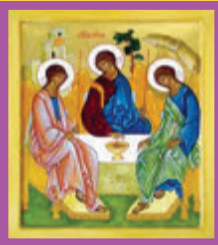
Patty Westerzelt, LaVerne Washburne, Brian Deasy, Mon Cassius, Pam Koch, Trish Dowling, David Natale, Donald de Castro, Megan O'Neil, Christopher Ciufo, Martin Dubel, James Mulvaney, Melina Hennigan, James Greendonner, Jeffrey Dowling, Donna Conforti, Carolyn Phalon, Wayne Parisi, Debby Conti, James J. Price, Pat Pierson, Florence and John Hefe, Hank Campbell, Amy Fitzgerald, Mary McHale, Father John O'Brien, Frances Primack, Dorothy M. Torick, Howard Daly, Katherine Brown, Conor Jennings, Barbara Layman, Peter Pietrucha, Craig Wisdo, John Petite, Raymond O'Connell, Joseph Doria, John Fleming, Donna Kugelman, Jeffrey Hodgeson, Kiran Kenney, Helen Dwyer, Margaret Pittaluga, Tina Errico, Nick McGann, John (Jack) Kaplan, Marie Orgo, Fr. Tony Duffy, Lucy Ryan, Joann Uibelhoer, Beth Abella, Hazel Townsend, Nicholas DeNunzio, Nicholas Ciufo, Peter Elder, Lori Abrams, Brandon Glynnyoung, David Carey, Marylou Perrini, Alan Fischer, Sarah Addison, Carol Murphy, Michelle Johnson, Adam Goodkind, Loree Goodkind, Likeu Lee, Susan Kosinski, Camille Moran, Michael Turinchak, Dorothy Norton, Sr. Barbara Takacs, Diane Allen, Al Carrier, Nora and Callum Lemanski, Lucas Reiling, Dominic Ursino, Andrew Jenkins, Debbie Dwyer, Bridget Noe, John Cunningham, Mary Beth Driscoll, Denise Phalon Cascio, Abigail Brady, Frances Smith, Claudia Fernandez, Tom Warren, Marty Erickson, Mary Beth Bonkowski, Carey Jenkins, Aurora Tremaroli, Aubrey Baumbach, Christopher Green Cunningham, John VanDam, Ethel Gasda, Patrick Ford, David Kelly, Patrick Murphy, Jr., Helen Huk, Cathy Caputo, Rui Boos, Joseph Todisco, Marie Skurka, Arianna Khelil, Sister Theresina Flannery, RSM, Dorothy Craig, Stephanie Quiroga, Sal Guidone, Judy Broyhill, Tony Rios, Lois McGuire, Gina Pagnotta, Helen Huddleston, Mary Ann Allen, Mary Ellen Wagner, Ed Lord, Gina Pelillo, Thomas Singer, Gregory Malzberg, Kristine Ryan, Luis Gallardo, Maria Caicedo, Susan McGeough, Marianne Conod, Mary McNiff, Joseph Cirella, Jeannette Robey, Gloria Comerford, Donna Gocking, Marti Sullivan, Lauren Gardner, Helen Marie Kravitz, Edward Cameron, Vivian Riley, Marie Viteri, Steven Hensle, Bob Whelan, William Cody, John Keelin, Richard Delaney, Mary Lou Carrier, Bill Kolb, Lydia Oldroyd, Mary Conforti, Charlie Roussel, Jay Conroy, Richard Pelillo, Christopher Crahan, Ryan Lowe, Dominick Canavaro, Larry Califano, Frank Intagliato, Clifford McGuire, Don Stauber, Marie Meister, Marlenes Teixeira, John Crisp, Don Spagnuolo, Mary Incardona, Maddie Niebanch, Anthony Careccia, Martine Errico, Henry Von See, Michelle Benaim, Parker Watson, Kevin and Dorothy Franken, Arnold Wainstein, Adriana Martins, Frances Psomas, Eugene Iannocelli, Ella McOsker, Peggy Cox, Eileen Matt.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE HOME TO THE LORD...

Helen Kravitz, wife of Stanley



SPIRITUALITY—FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Contact:

Sister Margaret Dincher SCC
973-635-0070 x 714 (phone)
973-635 -5518 (fax)
Email: marga@corpuschristi.org

CONGRATULATIONS

Sacrament of Confirmation:

Jianna Lynne Braza

Catherine Ann Donahue

Sacrament of the Eucharist:

Isabella V. Fidler

Sara Emily Fidler-Meliarenne



PAUL, "APOSTLE TO THE NATIONS"

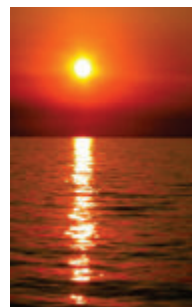
The Wednesday morning Bible Study continues its focus on **Paul, Apostle to the Nations**. The sessions combine contemplation of the Word of God in biblical study and practical application for living as a follower of Christ today. The sessions give time to explore, listen, and to grow as God speaks in the Word through St. Paul. **The study is held in the Atrium Conference Room from 9 am to 10 am.**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11th.

CENTERING PRAYER

"Enter God's Presence" by giving time to reflect upon God's Word as we seek to become a person of prayer. The time is spent on listening and applying God's Word to our everyday lives.

The prayer is held Tuesday Mornings - 9:00 to 9:30 am resuming on April 10th.



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Spiritual direction helps the person seeking direction to recognize and respond to God's ongoing invitation for a closer relationship. Learning how to be attentive or notice God's presence and action in our lives is a big part of what spiritual direction seeks to do.

If you are interested in knowing more about spiritual direction, call or email Sister Margaret

VISITING THE SICK

If you or someone you know is in the hospital or is homebound and wishes to receive Communion contact Sister Margaret. Because of the privacy laws we depend on family members to inform us when a parishioner is hospitalized or homebound.



Eucharistic Ministers who wish to become involved in the ministry of Communion to the sick contact Sister Margaret at marga@corpuschristi.org or call at 973-635-0070 x714.

ABIDE—KEEPING VIGIL WITH GOD'S WORD



**Breathe in the Word of God...
Wait before the Word...Walk
as a pilgrim through the Scriptures...**

ABIDE WITH GOD

**Monthly Meeting on the 2nd Tuesday
of the Month
April 11 and May 8**

Meeting in Upper Room—Second Floor—7 to 8:15 pm

Presenters: Diane Radwill & Sr. Margaret Dincher

CORPUS CHRISTI CHARGERS

April 22nd will be **Movie Night** for the Corpus Christi Chargers. Come and enjoy the movie and snacks with friends.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Come and bring a friend.

May 20th Family Dinner Dance, 6 pm—8 pm

This is the last meeting until September. Come and enjoy the evening. Family members are invited



**RSVP to Chris Medeiros
973-635-0070 x711 with the number attending.**

FAMILY/MARRIAGE MINISTRY



Contact: Linda Wass
973-635-0070 x720 (phone)
973-635-5518 (fax)
email: lindawass@corpuschristi.org

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Congratulations! As soon as you have your date set on the parish calendar, please contact Linda Wass to schedule an appointment to begin your preparation for the sacrament of Marriage [8-12 months before your wedding].



PRE-CANA

Corpus Christi Parish provides a Pre-Cana Program each year in the Spring and Fall, one of many facets of marriage preparation. Facilitated by our team of married couples, the program helps the engaged to build a strong foundation for a lasting, loving marriage. Fall 2018 date TBA.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

April 20-22

Somerset, NJ

CONTACT: Ruth & Tom De Falco 732-904-9636

On a **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** weekend, married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other to deepen, enrich, and grow in their relationship. www.wwme.org



Retrouvaille Weekend: A Marriage Lifeline

RETROUVAILLE is a weekend program with follow-up sessions to help couples with marriage problems to heal and renew their relationship.

For locations, dates, and information, visit

www.retrouvaille.org



BAPTISM PREPARATION

April 15

10:15—11:45

for first-time parents

To register, please contact parish office at
973-635-0070 x 710



Take Out Magazine

Family Faith on the Go



Get your **APRIL** issue at the Family Ministry Table in the Atrium—with great Ideas and family activities for **Living Easter Joy**, and a helpful article: *Bridging the Digital Divide*



Family Activities — Easter Theme: **NEW LIFE**

GOSPEL SHARING: John 20:1-19. On Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene arrives at Jesus' tomb and sees the stone rolled away. She runs to her friends, Simon Peter and the other disciple, who came to help her. They find the tomb empty and know Jesus is risen!

Family Discussion:

- If you had found the empty tomb, how would you have felt? What would you have done?
- Easter is about new life. Where is there "new life" in your life? Where is new life needed around you?

FAMILY PRAYER: Risen Lord, we thank you for the gift of new life. Bless us, our family, and friends, and help us to celebrate the springtime in our hearts as we rejoice in the good news of your resurrection. Alleluia! Amen.

LOOK FOR THESE SIGNS OF NEW LIFE:

AT CHURCH

Look around the church for these signs of new life:

- ⇒ **COLOR WHITE:** flowers, garments, candles...White represents Christ's resurrection
- ⇒ **PASCHAL CANDLE** is a symbol that Christ is the Light of the world, and through his death and resurrection, we all experience new life.
- ⇒ **BAPTISMAL FONT** is filled with newly blessed water, sign that we're born to new life in Christ through Baptism.

IN NATURE Be on the lookout for and talk about these signs of new life in nature:

- ⇒ **SPRING SHOWERS**
- ⇒ **BLOSSOMING FRUIT TREES**
- ⇒ **FLOWERS**
- ⇒ **GENTLE BREEZES**
- ⇒ **ANIMAL BABIES**

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



*May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace as you trust in him.*

ROMANS 15:13

A MARRIAGE MOMENT

To celebrate Easter joy, try treating each other to some favor today. Looking for the opportunity is half the favor.



A PARENTING POINTER

If you want someone to change, encouragement is more effective than criticism. Look for one thing about your child's behavior that you can praise today, then watch for that praise to sprout into new life. www.SusanVogt.net



9:30-11:00 **April 26**

moms of all ages & stages
are invited to get together once a month to

CONNECT & REFRESH

Moms meet in the Resurrection Meeting Room
Babysitting in the Atrium Conference Room ([RSVP](#))

RSVP: lindawass@corpuschristi.org

Caring for Aging Parents



April 11

7:30-9 PM

Atrium Conference Room
(hallway near Baptism Font)

Join us for support, encouragement, resources.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

RSVP: lindawass@corpuschristi.org

Family Sunday Fun Day **APRIL 29**



9:45 A.M. in the GYM

Join us in the GYM after
**9:00 Mass for Refreshments and an
Easter-time Family Fun Activity.**

Hosted by the Family Ministry Committee

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Contact: Kay Hetherington 973-635-0070 x715 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: kay@corpuschristi.org for PreK—Grade 5.
Contact: Brian Duemling 973-635-0070 x740 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: bduemling@corpuschristi.org for Middle School (6-8)
Contact: Psomi 973-635-0070 x718 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax) or email: Psomi@corpuschristi.org for Confirmation Prep (9-10)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

April 1/2	NO CLASSES
April 8/9	NO CLASSES
April 15/16	PreK—Grade 5
April 22/23	PreK—Grade 5
April 29/30	PreK—Grade 5 (Last Class)

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS

Very soon 94 children from our parish will join us at the Eucharistic Table for the first time. The First Communion Liturgies will take place on Saturday, May 5th at 10 am and 12 pm and on Saturday, May 12th at 10 am and 12 pm.

Please continue to keep our children and their families in your prayers.

BE A CATECHIST!

We are looking for a few good men and women who love children, challenges and a change of perspective! BE A CATECHIST! Share your faith with little ones who will think that you are a genius!

Pre-K through 5th grade kids are fun, energetic and surprisingly enlightening. Volunteer to teach a class or to assist with our Religious Education Program and learn along with the little ones! If God has been nudging you to get more involved, take this opportunity to offer your gifts and talents to our young ones. If you are a little nervous about stepping up...the book of Jeremiah says: "Be not afraid, I am with you. I will put my words in your mouth." (Jer. 1:8-9)

Contact Kay at 973-635-0070 ext.715 or email kay@corpuschristi.org

LOOKING FOR CATECHISTS FOR 2018/19 — GRADES 6,7,8

Any adults 18+ years of age interested in being a catechist for 2018/2019 should contact Brian Duemling directly at bduemling@corpuschristi.org or by phone at 973-635-0070 x740.

There are volunteer opportunities in 6th, 7th and 8th Grades on Sunday evenings at 5 pm and 7 pm. The school year consists of 14 classes which can be split with a partner if you and a friend want to team up. Thanks for your consideration!



MUSIC MINISTRY

Contact: Robert Long, 973-635-0070 x716 (phone); 973-635-5518 (fax); email: rlong@corpuschristi.org

CORPUS CHRISTI CHOIRS SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS ARE WELCOME!

ADULT CHOIRS

Corpus Christi Adult Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Emmaus Room.

Corpus Christi Handbell Choir rehearses on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Room.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Angel Chime Choir (Grades 1+2) - Thurs., 4:00 - 4:25 p.m.

Cherub Choir (Grades K-2) - Thurs., 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.

Joyful Noise Choir (Grades 3-8+) - Tues., 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

Junior Bell Choir (Grades 3+) - Tues., 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Orchestra (Grades 3+) - some Tuesdays 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

DRIVERS FOR EVA'S KITCHEN

Eva's Kitchen needs drivers for the upcoming months to drive frozen pans of our homemade chili casseroles to Paterson. The driving falls on the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Please Help!

Call Anna Quinn at 973-635-5490 if you are able to help.

St. Patrick's Basket Bonanza "Night at the Museum"

April 21st in the St. Patrick Parish Center

Daytime event: 11 am—3 pm— Free Admission

Evening event: 7—11 pm— \$75 pp if purchased by 3/29

Instant Win Games for the Kiddos

Fellowship, Food & Open Bar

**Join us in supporting a strong tradition of
Catholic school education**

**Check out our website www.st-pats-school.org
or email basketbonanza@gmail.com
for information**



Contact M. A. "Psomi" Psomas-Jackloski;
973-507-8718(desk); 201-572-1608 (cell) 973-635-5518 (fax);
email: psomi@corpuschristi.org; www.corpuschristi.org
www.facebook/chathamouthministry

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Please contact Psomi if you have any questions regarding Confirmation.



EXTREME FAITH



We need singers, and we welcome people any time. Please contact any of the following: Sarah Bottazzi sarahbottazzi@gmail.com)

Jade Navarro

jnav6457@gmail.com , Tom Flanagan (tflanagan1335@gmail.com), or Stephen Giordano (giordanost@njsdnj.org) or Psomi.



RETREAT ADULTS NEEDED

2018-2019



We need two adults to help with the Confirmation retreats. Each adult would be needed to be on board for 3 Friday night retreats, and the team meetings. We begin with the start of the school year, and end in February. All that is needed is a willingness to

support and affirm teenagers in leadership and in their faith quest. Please contact Psomi for more information.

BRIDGES RUN

The Bridges Runs for this school year are now finished. Many great thanks to all who participated, and especially to the leaders, Will Hayward and Declan Maroney, who tirelessly led these trips to feed the hungry on the streets of Newark, NYC, and Irvington. Kudos to all!



EVA'S CASSEROLES

We will be making casseroles for Eva's Soup Kitchen on two Sunday afternoons: April 8 and 22nd. Stay tuned for the exact time. Contact Elizabeth Parker (elizparkerp@gmail.com), Alyssa Hogarth (abh2020@yahoo.com) or Psomi

APRIL 8 & 22



SUMMER SERVICE TRIP

JUNE 24-30

Our Summer Service trip to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains is full. At this time we are looking for chaperones. Grateful for the 12 that we have, we still need 4 more adults over the age of 25 to go on this trip as drivers and work site chaperones. It's a memorable experience for parents and other adults. Please contact Psomi.



Our next All-In meeting will be Wednesday, April 11th, at 8:00 PM in the Resurrection Room.

U.S. SISTERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING

By Sr. Bernadette Mary Reis, fsp

On the forefront of awareness and action against human trafficking is Sr. Gabriella Bottani, coordinator of Talitha Kum, and head of the committee organizing the World Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking.

Sr. Gabriella tells us that the [World Day of Prayer](#) began because of the inspiration of the life of St Josephine Bakhita, herself a slave, who was canonized in 2007. St. Josephine's experience caused "some religious women—Italian religious women—to ask Pope Francis to have this international day of prayer for the whole Church." As a result, Pope Francis entrusted this task in 2014 to the Unions of Superiors General asking them to promote this day.

The theme for the 2018 World Day of prayer is "Migration without trafficking. Say yes to Freedom and No to slavery." Sr. Gabriella tells us that according to statistics released last year by the International Organization for Migration "around 75% of the people that were crossing the Mediterranean Sea (...) said and declared to have experienced trafficking.

"The voice of Pope Francis is a prophetic voice supporting the whole Church, and all people of good will working in this field." She sees his influence in the increased commitment on the part of Catholic organizations, and the support of Bishops Conferences which is growing. The participation of the Holy See in the United Nation's sponsored global compact for migration, she says, is also very important. Her hope is that "they will be able also to promote a good international policy to protect migrants against trafficking."

The contribution of women religious in the work against human trafficking is fundamental because there are 22 networks in 76 countries "and sisters are really very active in prevention and assisting victims." They live among the people and can access remote areas where people are recruited by traffickers that makes their presence in this effort so valuable. "The trust relationship that sisters have worldwide are very important also. The sisters are close with families, and are also able to alert local authorities when a student has stopped going to school. "In many cases we... give the right information to allow the governmental organization to rescue these people from trafficking." She also tells us of a new initiative of women religious working with Talitha Kum in Thailand. "They started a very interesting work with Buddhist nuns.... The religious sisters will train the Buddhist nuns, and the Buddhist nuns will get involved with us in anti-trafficking."

To read the full article by Sister Bernadette Mary Reis, FSP on *Vatican News*: [Click Here](#)



REFLECTION BY REV. LEONARD N. PETERSON...

The moon and stars align this year to place Easter on the same day as the secular world calls “April Fools’ Day.” It is not intentional on anyone’s part to be disrespectful of this greatest of all Christian feasts. In this context it would be unjust and uncharitable to assert that anyone who denies that Jesus rose from the dead is simply a fool. When all is said and done, to believe that He did rise is a gift in itself. That gift we call “Faith.” Plainly speaking, one either has the gift or does not. The reason for this is one of those perplexing facts that God does not bestow His gifts according to any rationale of ours. He has His reasons. As Cardinal Newman observed, “He is most sure in all His ways.”

Then again, for those who simply doubt that Jesus rose, one can only hope and pray that someday their minds will be convinced and their hearts will follow in order to usher in a peace they deserve.

But for those of us who do believe, this Easter day is the “day of days.” Its juxtaposition with April Fools’ Day can serve as a reminder of how foolish we become whenever we forget the facts of the gospel, and live as if they were fiction.

If Christ is risen, then He is truly God. And if He is God, then everything He said or did represent not only human nature at its best, but also the divine nature as loving us beyond imagination. In fact, He endured Good Friday just for you and me. Truly astounding! That we would ever choose to sin against Him is foolish in the extreme. Truly despicable!

But to believe that our poor expressions of contrition restore His love is humbling beyond words. Truly incredible! Indeed, “This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice in it!”

Here is a touching Easter poem by Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) entitled “There is a Green Hill Far Away.”

“There is a green hill far away,
Beyond the city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains he had to bear;
We believe it was for us,
He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven;
He died to make us good,
That we might go to heaven,
Saved by His precious blood.

There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin,
He only could unlock the gate,
Of heaven and let us in.

O dearly, dearly, He has loved,
We must love Him too,
Trust in His redeeming blood,
And try His works to do.”



Sunday, Apr 01, 2018

SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

This is the day

Easter isn't a footnote, as the first disciples demonstrate. It doesn't matter when you come to faith, whether you were baptized as an infant or just last night. You don't win points for what you understand at the mouth of the empty tomb, whether you've studied 20 centuries of dogma about it or just rely on a gut feeling that this event changes everything. Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the beloved disciple each perceive the tomb and its significance from different angles—yet they all spend their lives as witnesses. Go and live like Easter makes a difference!

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 (42, 41) or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35 (46). *"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."*

Monday, Apr 02, 2018

MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

Time stands still

A young monk chided his novice master for having prayed at the Easter Monday Mass, "On this Easter day . . ." "Certainly, you should have sung 'in this Easter season,' " the novice explained. "After all, Easter is over." The wise older priest pointed out—much more gently than deserved—that Easter Day itself lasts eight days, a full week, and only then do we move into the Easter season. Like the obliteration of the reign of death that Easter is, time itself is set on its head. Like the wedding day that, in many cultures, is simply too overflowing with joy to be contained in a single 24 hours, the spirit of hope that is Easter will not be confined. May it rise in your heart *this Easter Day!*

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15 (261). *"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."*

Tuesday, Apr 03, 2018

TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

A place in the heart

Sometimes, in the least suspecting places, we can find miracles. For Mary Magdalene it was a tomb where she had gone to weep and grieve the death of Jesus. But instead she found life. She experienced the risen Jesus and became the first person to proclaim that to the world. Somehow in the midst of her grief and sense of loss, Mary left a tiny space for hope that allowed her to recognize the voice of Jesus as he called her name. The possibility for miracles great and small is with us every day. Leave open a space within your heart—you just may hear your name being called.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18 (262). *"Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord.' "*

Wednesday, Apr 04, 2018

WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

What do you expect?

The disciples walking the road to Emmaus after Jesus' death were disappointed—they had expected from him something other than what they saw, and they assumed his mission had failed with his death. There is a lesson in that, taught by Jesus later in the same story when he breaks the bread and opens their eyes: Our expectations can blind us to the blessings right in front of us.

Keep your expectations in check and you might find all you could ever hope for, and much more, right in front of your eyes.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35 (263). *"We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel."*

Thursday, Apr 05, 2018

THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

Be brave

The Acts of the Apostles, which we read throughout the season of Easter, is a riveting account of faith, courage, healings, conversions, and a miraculous escape from prison. It is the story of how God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, intervened in the lives of Jesus' disciples to ensure the spread of his word throughout the world. The courage of the first followers of Jesus is truly inspirational. Take some time to read Acts this month. Then consider: "In what ways is God inviting me to live more courageously? What is keeping me from responding to that invitation?"

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48 (264). *"To this we are witnesses."*

Friday, Apr 06, 2018

FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

Breakfast anyone?

Meeting friends for breakfast is such a delight. There's something about the morning meal together that makes life feel good. The story of the risen Jesus inviting his friends to breakfast strikes that familiar note of unity and peace. Yet the disciples named in the story were all characters that had crossed Jesus in one way or another: Peter the denier, Thomas the doubter, Nathanael the cynic, and the Zebedee brothers, who persisted in their childish sibling rivalry. The morning repast was a reconciliation service—and a nice way to start the day. Let that same spirit of unity and reconciliation begin your day today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14 (265). *"When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread."*

Saturday, Apr 07, 2018

SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

Do the right thing

Sometimes you have to do what's right even in the face of opposition. Whether it's no reward at best or open hostility at worst, the world around you doesn't always approve of what you know to be the best thing. The apostles ran into the same problem—in fact, they were on both sides of it. When the religious authorities ordered them not to speak or teach in Jesus' name, they refused to obey. On the other hand, when Mary Magdalene came to some of these same disciples with news of the risen Jesus, they did not believe her. Of course it's unwise to always reject what others think of you. But when faced with a difficult situation, ask God for the wisdom and the strength to do what is right and good.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15 (266). *"Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time

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