

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH COMMUNITY (97

234 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY 07928

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

Rev. T. Kevin Corcoran, Pastor ext. 5, <u>frkevin@corpuschristi.org</u> Rev. Michael J. Szwarc, Parochial Vicar ext. 6, <u>frmichael@corpuschristi.org</u> Carol Scala, Business Manager ext. 725, <u>cscala@corpuschristi.org</u> Paul Carroll, Minister of Music ext. 716, <u>pcarroll@corpuschristi.org</u> Matt Cece, Information Technology ext. 717, <u>cecem@corpuschristi.org</u> Brigette Vohden, Director of Religious Education ext. 715, <u>bvohden@corpuschristi</u> Jim Murray, Youth Minister ext. 718, <u>corpuschristi@boldym.com</u>

 Rev. Msgr. James T. Mahoney, Ph.D., V.G., Pastor Emeritus jmahoney@corpuschristi.org Daily Blog: jmahoney.typepad.com
 Elizabeth Nowik, Handbell and Children's Choirs ext. 716, liz@corpuschristi.org
 Terri Janosik, Administrative Assistant ext. 710, tjanosik@corpuschristi.org
 Chris Medeiros, Administrative Assistant and Youth Protection/Safe Environment Coordinator ext. 711, medeiros@corpuschristi.o
 Ray Maybert & Bill Coe, Maintenance Staff ext. 721, maintenance@corpuschristi.org

JANUARY 8, 2023 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Mother Teresa once visited a poor man in Melbourne, Australia. He was living in a basement room, which was in a terrible state of neglect. There was no light in the room. He did not seem to have a friend in the world. She started to clean and tidy the room. At first, he protested, "Leave it alone. It is all right as it is." But she went ahead anyway. As she cleaned, she chatted with him. Under a pile of rubbish, she found an oil lamp covered with dust. She cleaned it and discovered that it was beautiful. And she said to him, "You have got a beautiful lamp here. How she said to him, "You have got a beautiful lamp here. How come you never lighted it?" "Why should I light it?" "No one ever comes to see me." Will you promise to light it if one of my sisters comes to see you?" "Yes," he replied. "If I hear a human voice, I will light the lamp." Two



of Mother Teresa's Sisters began to visit him regularly. Things gradually improved for him. Every time the Sisters came to visit him, he had the lamp lighted. Then one day he said to them: "Sisters, I will be able to manage myself from now on. Do me a favor. Tell the first Sister who came to see me that the light she lit in my life is still burning."

With all our technology, with all our affluence, with the power we have shown to dominate many forces of nature, we are convinced that we can find ways to ensure world peace and happiness for everyone – yet peace evades us! In the same way, each of us searches for peace and peace evades us. So often we look in the wrong places, like Herod who found security in his position, in what he had built up around him, and was willing to do whatever he needed to maintain it.

On Epiphany, the three wise men today show us in story form –the true path to peace in our world and in our lives. The wise men received peace because they were willing to leave behind their fears and all that they clung to. They were willing to reach out to go to those whom God sent them. They were willing to journey without completely understanding. They were willing to journey without knowing the way.

Peace comes to us when we can brag about how much we've given freely to others, not how much we stored for ourselves. Peace comes not when we rest our hope in our economy but when we rest securely in God's providence. Peace comes from ordering our lives around the Child Jesus, His teachings through the Scriptures and His Church, when we love the Way God loves and beat with the same Heart as God. The wise men show us that we cannot create true and lasting peace apart from leaving our comfort and our plans to follow where God leads us --- to reach out to those in need. Today, the wise still seek the child. The wise follow the signs and seek those in need!

Fr. Kevin

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 7 5:00 pm Ann Durnin; Jeanette Corcoran

Sunday, January 8

7:30 am	Kathryn Cocciolillo
9:00 am	Carol Zoni; Bill Kolb
11:00 am	Thomas Francis Ryan; Noreen Reilly;
	Charles E. Walsh
6:00 pm	Carol Zoni

Monday, January 9 7:30 am Walter Morrissey

Tuesday, January 10 7:30 am Marie & Walter Wos and Adrienne Szigety

Wednesday, January 11 7:30 am Jack Mullen

Thursday, January 12 7:30 am Patricia Donoghue; Clement Skurka

Friday, January 13

7:30 am Maureen Alexander; Nicholas Storms; Mary and Richard Nolan

Saturday, January 14

5:00 pm Maureen Pigott; Deanne Frances Dunne

Sunday, January 15

7:30 am Bernestine McNamara
9:00 am For Our Parishioners
11:00 am Ann Dubois; Michael Gaffney
6:00 pm Patricia Anne Smith (1st Anniversary)

IN REMEMBRANCE

For the week of January 8, Sanctuary Lights burn in memory of Charles E. Walsh. Bread and Wine are offered for Maureen Alexander. 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 \$60. The Parish will coordinate the request with our florist, Carl Lemanski.

CONFESSION

Confessions are available in the Atrium Conference Room in the parish center on <u>Monday evenings from 6:30 pm to</u> 7:15 pm.

Confessions will also be available by appointment by contacting Fr. Kevin or Fr. Michael.

JANUARY 8, 2023 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

9 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
9 am Adult Bell Choir
<u>Faith Formation Classes</u>:
8 am & 10 am—PreK – 6
4:30 pm Confirmation Classes
6:00 pm Family Mass

Monday, January 9

1—3 pm Eucharistic Adoration 4:15 pm Formation Classes Grades 1-6 6:30 pm Confessions

Wednesday, January 11 1—3 pm Eucharistic Adoration 7 pm Bold Discipleship Night

Friday, January 13 4:15 pm Teen Bells



The collection for the month of November was \$105.654

The breakdown is as follows:Sunday Collections\$46,209Online Giving\$59,445Total\$105,654

\$40,209 <u>\$59,445</u> **\$105.654 (monthly)**

Budgeted:

\$127,083

We thank you for your generosity and support of your parish home here at Corpus Christi. It is through your generosity that we are able to share our parish vision of Christ's Joy, Hope and Healing Received and Shared.

Presider's Schedule

January 7/8

Saturday 5:00 pm	Fr. Kevin (livestreamed)
Sunday 7:30 am	Msgr. Mahoney
Sunday 9:00 am	Fr. Michael
Sunday 11:00 am	Fr. Kevin (livestreamed)
Sunday 6:00 pm	Fr. Michael

January 14/15

Saturday 5:00 pm	Fr. Kevin (livestreamed)
Sunday 7:30 am	Fr. Michael
Sunday 9:00 am	Fr. Michael
Sunday 11:00 am	Msgr. Mahoney (livestreamed)
Sunday 6:00 pm	Fr. Kevin
	Sunday 7:30 am Sunday 9:00 am





Staunchly Pro-life

Rooted in Church teachings, the Knights of Columbus are staunchly pro-life. We defend the sanctity of human life in all stages, from conception through natural death.

At the annual March for Life in Washington, DC later this month will be thousands of signs provided free by the Knights and hundreds of Knights serving as March Marshals, as well as the Council banners and brothers present from around the country.

Knights of Columbus councils have donated over 1,500 ultrasound machines so that mothers can see their babies in the womb. We also support crisis pregnancy centers and maternity homes for women choosing to keep their babies.

K of C Life programs include partnering with Special Olympics, supporting persecuted Christians facing genocide, and visiting the sick and veterans in hospitals.

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus in the Chathams, call John Kelly 201-213-6967. To become a Knight, visit <u>www.kofc.com/joinus</u>.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Kevin Franken, Sr. Adriana Martins, Eugene Iannocelli, Everett Farren, Connie McNamara, Ann Zerga, Cheryl Maiorini, Alfri Rundio, Barbara Marvin, Beth Cintron, Andrew White, Adeline Lombardi, Caitlin Murray, Giovanna Tagliaferri, Nancy Merola Ann Gilroy, Stephanie Windsor, Rosemarie Moeller, Miller. Connie Prince, Bud Jeannette, Anna West, Patti Mahoney, Robert Bruce, Richard Terranova, Diana Nazelli, Elizabeth Yanis, Peter Paul Perla, Timothy Finnegan, Mary Mulhall, Jim Tsakonos, Denis Schreiber, Carmela Mino, Ron Leonardis, Jonathan Schwanwede, Angie Dincher, Virginia Lutz, Keith Thomas, Max Leyn, Victor Rispoli, JoAnne Feliciti, Christine Marinello, John Dory, Margaret DiPopolo, John Savarese, Richard Pigott, Edna Torsiglieri, Jade Navarro, Carol Lovelock, Betty Ann and Ron Henning; Nancy McKiernan, Maire O'Donnell, Amy Hefele, Brian Carpenter, Amy Wert, Arlene Winsch, Steve Karasoulis, Terry Stephen, Louis Panello, John Cristofano George E. Blake, Peter Newell, Ken McCaffrey, Ruth White, Heather Nicole McGuire, Valeria Capurro, James O'Connell, Ann Ross, Gina McCarthy, David Prael, Josephine Dymowski, Eileen O'Boyle, Cathy Hansen, Owen Moran, Jim Haggerty, Jan Kerr, Vince Di Roberto, Kathleen Bekiaris.

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

John B. Lazzari, father of Michael Lazzari





Welcome to Our New Minister of Music

For the past two months, we have been going through a lengthy process to identify a new Minister of Music for our parish. The committee met many times to narrow the field of candidates. I want to thank the search committee, Trish Joyce, Liz Nowik, Donna Fico, Fr. Michael, and the choir for their help in this process. Special thanks to Trish Joyce for acting as our interim Director of Music. She did this with professionalism, diligence, and great care!

I am happy to welcome <u>Mr. Paul Carroll</u> to our parish as our new Minister of Music. His tentative start date is January 5^{th} , 2023.

Paul's biography

Paul J. Carroll is looking forward to becoming part of the Corpus Christi community in the days ahead. For the past 9 years he has been the Director of Music at St. Pius X Church in Montville and he teaches at Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark. Together with his wife, Alexandra, Paul created Musical Collaborations, which provides music educational programs in the form of weekly instruction for children and adults in New Jersey and educational tours around the world.

Paul made his European solo debut in Italy in 2001 with Assisi Performing Arts and has performed over 100 concerts with the festival throughout Italy over the last 20 years. Paul holds Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University.

MEN'S RETREAT Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown January 23, 2023

Savor the silence of a weekend retreat after the busy Christmas season. All men of the parish are invited to a unique experience at Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown.

Come share fellowship and the opportunity to grow closer to Jesus with other men from Corpus Christi and surrounding parishes.

The retreat begins with dinner on Friday, January 13 and concludes at noon on Sunday, January 15.

Registrations take place at: <u>www.Loyola.org</u>. Call Marc Gironda 862-251-0691 with questions.

Faith Formation

Grades Pre-K to 6 Contact: Brigette Vohden email: bvohden@corpuschristi.org

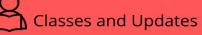
<u>Grades 7—10</u> Contact: Jim Murray email: corpuschristi@boldym.com

High School Service Coordinator Contact: Jim Murray email: corpuschristi@boldym.com

Faith Formation at Corpus Christi Parish

GRADES PREK-6 "CHRIST'S JOY, HOPE, & HEALING RECEIVED AND SHARED" BRIGETTE VOHDEN BVOHDEN@CORPUSCHRISTI.ORG





Our next classes for grades PreK-6 is on January 8th & 9th.



Scenes from the classroom





Community Christmas Pageant

Thank you to all who participated in this special event! The children did a lovely job helping us tell the story of the Nativity. Thank you to our Family Ministry, our Teen Bell Choir and our PCCT neighbors - Merry Christmas!



Upcoming Events!

Discipleship Night! When: Wednesday Jan. 11 from 7-8:30pm Where: Corpus Christi Who: All High Schoolers are Welcome! Why: To Grow in Faith and Friendship and Lead Upcoming Events.



BOLD

Ginger Bread Competition!



Next BOLD Middle: Jan. 27th Questions? Contact Jim Murray at CorpusChristi@boldym.com or 973-370-2532

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REFLECTION...

by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The first thought I had after thinking of today's ensemble of Readings was that of an eclipse of the moon. It's a picture of a slowly creeping darkness overcoming brilliance completely, at least for a brief time. The familiar conflict of virtue against sin that we experience almost daily comes to the birth story of Jesus, and the present day life of His Church, our Church too.

The extended Christmas story easily conjures up the struggle we all have against negative powers. Almost as soon as the last notes of the beloved Christmas carols fade from our hearing, we got the jolt of St. Stephen's cruel martyrdom on December 26. That was followed up with the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, with an easy application to modern day abortion.

In all of that, we are taught by the Holy Spirit, speaking through the Scriptures, not to give in to any Pollyanna outlook on life. Or about the process of our redemption. It involves crisis and the Cross before any rejoicing over the Resurrection.

We professed followers of the true Messiah, Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, have to be ready for repeats, in substance, of all the pain and setbacks recorded in Church history over the centuries.

Another image, like that of an eclipse that entered my mind is that of an imaginary "Gloomy Gus Association" at its annual convention. All members must dine on cold pea soup with bland crackers for three days and learn what to do with the fresh pin cushions distributed to them with an assortment of newly minted pins. Each pin represents a potential negativity they can introduce into any-thing positive in the coming year. King Herod would of course be a charter member of the group.

Returning to reality, I'd like to ask my fellow optimists to celebrate today this outbreak of the Good News of Christ. To free it from any confinement to a past time and place. This news came via the Magi visit to the vastly wide world of the Gentile nations. That should elicit an "Alleluia" from us all. That leads me to this easy depiction of the problem out there in Secular City:

Once upon a time an optimist invited a pessimist to go duck hunting. The optimist wanted to show off his newly registered hunting dog that could do things no other dog could. The pessimist looked at the dog and said, "Looks like a mutt to me."

At that moment, a flock of ducks flew over. The optimist shot one of the ducks and it fell into the middle of the lake. He snapped his fingers and his new dog ran out on the water, picked up the duck, and ran back on the water. The optimist took the duck from the dog's mouth, turned to the pessimist and said, "What do you think of the dog now?" The pessimist replied, "Dumb dog—can't even swim."

God love you and give you His peace.

Sunday, Jan 08, 2023

Bless this mess

Do a perimeter walk of your home. What do you see? Each room tells a story, every corner contains a chapter about who lives here and what happens between these walls. *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* recommends we bless our homes annually on Epiphany in imitation of the wise ones who once followed the divine presence to a humble dwelling. What sort of blessing might each area need? What requires a blessing: the kitchen table, living room sofa, or home office desk? A child's room or elder's sickbed? Don't forget the front door—the passageway to every other story that involves us.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12 (20). *"Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come."*

Monday, Jan 09, 2023

Be a carrier of peace

Pigeons and doves are different species within the same family of birds. The homing pigeon, also called the mail or carrier pigeon, is a variety bred for its ability to find its way home over extremely long distances of up to 1,000 miles or more. Because of this skill, they were used to carry messages throughout history. The dove, of course, is a symbol of peace and hope, and famously carried an olive branch to Noah on the Ark after the great flood. If you want to send a similar message, you don't have to go nearly as far. Just extend peace and hope across the dinner table or over the neighbor's fence.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17 (21). *"He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him."*

Tuesday, Jan 10, 2023

Give peace every chance

On this day in 1920, the Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I. On this same day in 1946—following World War II—the UN General Assembly met for the very first time, gathering on church property at the Methodist Central Hall in London. And on January 10, 1984 the United States and Vatican City re-established full diplomatic relations after 117 years. It's not enough for Christians to worship the Prince of Peace. "We must work tirelessly to avoid war between nations and peoples," writes Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendship). "There is a need to ensure ... tireless recourse to negotiation, mediation, and arbitration." Learn more at Pax Christi USA.

FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28 (306). "The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes."

Wednesday, Jan 11, 2023

Measure with mercy

On this day in 314—or the day before; the history is unclear— Pope Saint Miltiades died after a life of historic twists and turns that would help define the Early Church. Born to North African parents, Miltiades was the second of the Catholic Church's three African popes and was elected pope in 311, shortly after the end of the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian. As pope, Miltiades was most famous for rejecting the Donatists, who argued that apostates who repent needed to be re-baptized (and re-ordained, if priests). In an age of manifestly imperfect priests, may we model Pope Miltiades' mercy and forgiveness for all the fallen—starting with ourselves!

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39 (307). "They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up."

Thursday, Jan 12, 2023

Pull back the curtain with contemplative prayer

Fans of *The Wizard of Oz* relish the moment when a curtain is drawn and the Great and Terrible Oz is shown to be an ordinary man. In a way, the tradition of contemplative prayer is an attempt to pull back the curtain but with reverse results. Instead of seeing the wonderous as ordinary, contemplation is meant to move people to see the depth and intricacy and wonder *of* the ordinary. In other words, contemplative prayer wants us to see God's face everywhere. Consider the times when God's presence became tangible for you. Build a time into today to seek that presence.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45 (308). "Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched the leper, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.'"

Friday, Jan 13, 2023

The word is out

Saint Hilary, born in Poitiers in southwest France in 315, had a learned education but was not raised Christian. Able to read the biblical languages, however, he was drawn to Christianity by the beauty and power of the prologue of the Gospel of John (John 1:1-18) and spent his life in strong defense of the divinity of Jesus, a controversial subject at the time. Recognition of his tireless efforts eventually earned him the high title of doctor of the church. Perhaps John's prologue has a word to speak to you as well. Why not dip into its powerful language today?

MEMORIAL OF HILARY, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12 (309) "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'?"

Saturday, Jan 14, 2023

Accepted unconditionally

Levi was an outcast of his people. Because of his position at the Roman customs post, not only he but his family was held in distain. His alliance with the Romans was considered treasonous and his wealth ill-gotten. Levi had many character flaws, yet Jesus chose him as a disciple, and he accepted. This is good news for the outcasts of our generation, the people our society and sometimes our church counts as unacceptable. It's good news for all of us, to be honest, as we all fall short in one way or another. Thankfully, Jesus sees past our shortcomings. Imitate Jesus before judging others.

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17 (310). *"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."*



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

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