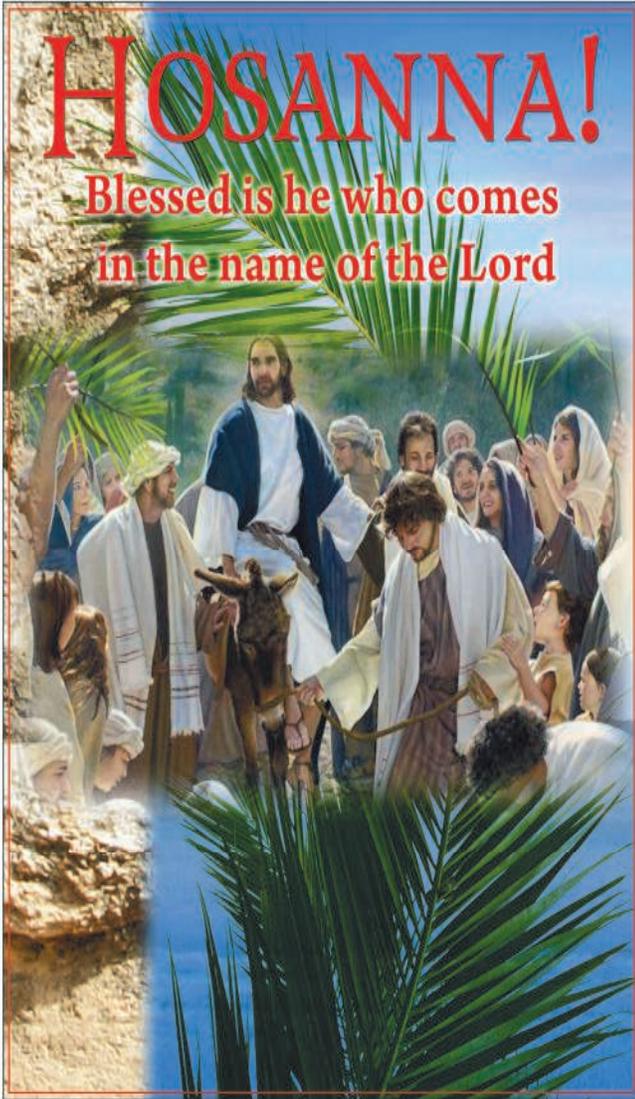


March 25, 2018



St. Christopher Church

950 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606



"Behold Saint Christopher...
... Go Thy Way
in Safety"

CONTACT US

Rectory: Phone 508-853-1492; FAX 508-853-4338

Religious Ed./Church Hall/Bingo: 508-853-3302

Email: parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Web Site: www.stchristopherworchester.org

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Office is closed on Friday.**

Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor
frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Deacon John N. Barton
Safe Environment Coordinator

Mrs. Diane Dadah
Administrator of Religious Education
508-853-3302
religioused@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Mrs. Sheila Slik
Coordinator for the
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
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James Joinville – Music Director

Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager
busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Cindy Barnaby
Administrative Assistant
adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.org

John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman



MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass (Saturday):	4:00 pm
Sunday Masses:	8:00 & 10:00 am
Weekday Masses	
(Mon., Thurs. & Fri.):	9:00 am
Holy Day Masses:	9:00 am & 5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION: Monday 7:00-8:00 p.m.

BAPTISM: By Appointment

Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.

Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

Baptism Preparation: **Mrs. Sheila Slik**
by appointment only.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Pastor to make an appointment
twelve months in advance before making
plans for reception and wedding date.

MASS INTENTIONS

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 24th

4:00pm **Mass**

Sunday, March 25th

8:00am **Mass**

10:00am **For Our Parish Family**

Monday, March 26th

9:00am **George Butler,**
by Brother

Tuesday, March 27th

No Mass

Wednesday, March 28th

No Mass

Thursday, March 29th (Holy Thursday)

NO Morning Mass

7:00pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper**

Friday, March 30th (Good Friday)

NO Morning Mass

7:00pm **Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion**



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Saturday, March 31st (Holy Saturday)

7:15pm **For our Parish Family**

Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday)

8:00am **For our Parish Family**

10:00am **For our Parish Family**

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB

Wednesday, April 18th at 1:00 p.m.



The Retired Club is open to all parishioners and their friends who are age 55 and older.

Call Phyllis Carrigan at 508-853-2649 for more information.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE

If you have a request for prayers, or know of someone who might, please call and leave a message for me.

All we need is the person's first name and the nature of the request (example: Annie - for successful operation).

I will contact those on the Prayer Line to add the intention to their list.

Also, if you want to join us in prayer, please call Janet Stank at 508-852-8117.



FAITH IN ACTION
Loving God by serving others

THANK YOU to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal.

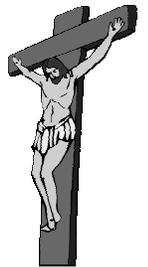
St. Christopher's Parish has raised \$7,200

from 32 gifts so far, and we are 21.3% toward our goal of \$33,800!

If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the pews. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Whatever you can do to donate or pledge to Partners in Charity will be very much appreciated.

Thoughts for Holy Week . . .

In the Gospel of Matthew and Mark, after the Last Supper, Jesus goes with his disciples to Gethsemane. He tells them to "sit over here while I go and pray ..." After a while, Jesus asks the apostles why they couldn't stay awake and pray with Him/keep watch with Him for one hour?



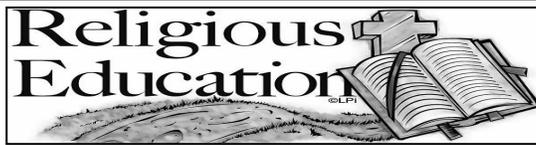
In his book "Pope Francis Speaks to Our Hearts" there is an excerpt entitled: "Give God Space in Prayer". He writes that Mary and Joseph accompany and nurture the growth of the Son of God made man for us with commitment and tenderness reflecting on everything that has happened...and the attitude of Mary who "kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19, 51).

"To listen to the Lord, we must learn to contemplate, feel His constant presence in our lives, and we must stop and converse with Him, give Him space in prayer. Each of us...should ask ourselves, 'How much space do I give to the Lord? Do I stop and talk with Him?'"

"Are we busy with a thousand things considered more important than faith, or because we have a view of life that is solely horizontal?" (Pope Francis—The Resurrection Opens Us to Hope)

"Ever since we were children, our parents have taught us to start and end the day with prayer, to teach us to feel that the friendship and the love of God accompany us. Let us remember the Lord more in our daily life!"(Pope Francis)

Even in our 'busy-ness' throughout this Holy Week, may we make some time for that prayer...for that space...for that time to talk to the Lord and listen to the Lord, reflecting especially on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord; on Holy Thursday and the Last Supper; on Good Friday and the Crucifixion; on the Resurrection and New Life.



Sunday, March 25th

Grade 9 only will meet from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. in the church hall.

Grades 1-6 will meet from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the church hall.

Confirmation Candidates & Sponsors will meet from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the church.

NOTE: The Religious Education Office will be closed during Holy Week (3/26-3/30).

Sunday, April 1st

No Religious Education Classes.

We wish all our Religious Education students & their families a blessed Easter!

****All students should be attending Mass each weekend****



Dear Jesus,
in this Holy Week,
we remember the time
from your triumphal entry
as a king in Jerusalem
to your tragic death as a
criminal on Golgotha.
In this week, give us
the grace to imitate you
in our everyday lives.

As you washed the feet of your apostles,
help us to serve others
without thought of ourselves.
As you forgave Peter for his denial of you,
help us to forgive those
who have wronged us.
As your apostles were faced
with their own weaknesses,
help us know our own limits,
and our need for your aid.
Most of all, give us the grace to remember
that you died for love of us. Amen.

How do we get the date for Easter?

The short answer is that Easter is the Sunday
after the first full moon, after the spring equinox.
If the first full moon occurs ON the equinox,
Easter is the following Sunday—thus, Easter can
fall anywhere between March 22nd and April 25th.

For longer answers explaining
the church & other calendars,
search online under
“determining the date for Easter.”



To donate online, visit www.partners-charity.net.

All are urged to watch a
short 8 1/2 minute video at
<https://vimeo.com/255598536>
to learn how others rely so
greatly on your donations.

**Please place Holy Land-Good Friday offerings
into any weekend collection basket.**
(There will be no collection on Good Friday.)

Pope Francis has asked our parish to
support the Pontifical Good Friday
Collection, which helps
Christians in the Holy Land.
Your support helps the church
minister in parishes, provide Catholic
schools and offer religious education.
The Pontifical Good Friday Collection
also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.
The wars, unrest and instability have
been especially hard on Christians.
In these times of crisis, the Pontifical
Good Friday Collection provides
humanitarian aid to refugees.



Visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday for more
information about Christians in the Holy Land.



The following activities will not
be held at the church during
Holy Week (March 26th--30th):
Wachusett Community Band Practice
Boy Scout Troop 9 Meeting
Bingo

Offertory Collection

Weekly Goal:	\$3,551
Last Weekend:	<u>\$3,209</u>
Deficit:	(\$ 342)
Number of Envelopes:	111
Loose Money:	\$290
Catholic Relief Services:	\$ 538
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$8,873

Year-to-Date Budget:	\$102,979
Year-to-Date Collections:	84,534
<u>Year-to-Date Electronic Payments:</u>	<u>11,045</u>
Year-to-Date Deficit:	(\$ 7,400)

This weekend's second collection is for
Easter Flowers.
Next weekend's second collection is for
Easter Offerings.
**Thank you for your continued support
of St. Christopher Church!**

COMMUNION VISITS

We have Communion Ministers who visit parishioners who are unable to attend Mass. If you know someone who is homebound or recovering from illness and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call Mary Sullivan at 508-853-5787.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship is offered to any individuals pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited college or vocational trade school in the United States.



Any residents of Worcester or the contiguous communities are eligible to apply. Scholarships for the academic year beginning September, 2018 will be awarded in the amount of \$500-\$1,500.

Application deadline is April 6, 2018.

Applications are available at the church office, at area high schools or by contacting Selina Boria at 508-854-4368 or at sboria@qcc.mass.edu.

50-50 CLUB

Due to the Easter holiday, the winner for week 7 (March 19, 2018) will be reported in next week bulletin.



*“Pilate again said to them,
‘Then what shall I do with the
man whom you call the King of
the Jews?’ And they cried out
again, ‘Crucify him!’”*

~Mark 15:12-13

Jesus told us “whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me.” Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others.

Pray for the strength and courage to stand up
for those in need of our help.

Plumbing Repairs & Plowing Finance News

Just to let you know that so far this winter, our snowplowing costs are approximately \$16,000. And, since the Fall, repairs to the leaking steam heating pipes in the hall, and just last week to the stage (with asbestos removal) and in the ladies room, we will incur costs of approximately \$4,100.

Also, we're still working on replacing the four sanctuary lights with new LED fixtures. A new proposal has been made but right now there is some discrepancy on light output of the fixtures compared to what we currently have in place.



SPRING LUNCHEON FASHION SHOW

Wachusett Country Club, West Boylston

Saturday, April 14th



All are invited to this annual event sponsored by The Guild of Our Lady of Providence.

Fashions from “Adore” in Worcester will be modeled and available for purchase.

Tickets are \$40/person. Tables of eight can be reserved until March 28th.

Cash bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch at noon. Call Jo-Anne Cronin at 508-842-1569 for tickets.

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

425 Salisbury St., Worcester

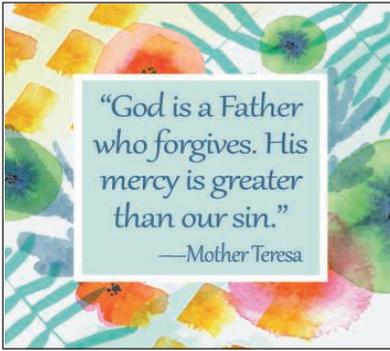
Sunday, March 25th ~ 2:00-4:00 PM

All female students currently in grades 5-8 are encouraged to attend. Visit www.nda-worc.org to register.



**Thank you for your generous support of
The Catholic Relief Services Collection
and for helping Jesus in disguise.**

Your contributions will make a difference for the poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click on the “How to Give” link on the left.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be made available in the church on Monday evening, March 26th, from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on Good Friday, March 30th, at 12:00 noon.

Make time for prayer and reflection while walking in Jesus Christ's footsteps during his final day on earth which led up to his crucifixion.



 **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE** ©LPI

PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD

Saturday, March 24th: Confessions from 10:00-11:00 a.m.
NO Confessions before 4:00 p.m. Mass.
Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 25th: Mass at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Coffee Shop following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.



MONDAY of HOLY WEEK—March 26th: Daily Mass at 9:00 a.m.
Confessions Monday evening from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY of HOLY WEEK—March 27th: NO Morning Mass.

Chrism Mass at St. Paul Cathedral, 15 Chatham Street, Worcester at 10:30am

The Chrism Mass is the Blessing of the Holy Oils by the Bishop and Priests. The Oil of the Sick is used to anoint the sick. The Oil of Catechumens & Sacred Chrism is used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Orders. The Holy Oils are presented by the people and placed in the Ambry at the Holy Thursday Mass.

WEDNESDAY of HOLY WEEK—March 28th: NO Morning Mass.

HOLY THURSDAY, March 29th: NO Morning Mass.
MASS of the LORD'S SUPPER at 7:00pm
Solemn Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass.
The church remains open for Prayer/Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, March 30th: NO Morning Mass.
The church is open throughout the day for prayer.

STATIONS of the CROSS at 12:00noon
SOLEMN CELEBRATON of the LORD'S PASSION - 7:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY, March 31st: NO afternoon confessions.
NO 4:00 p.m. Mass.
EASTER VIGIL at 7:15pm



EASTER SUNDAY, April 1st: **EASTER SUNDAY MASSES at 8:00am & 10:00am**
NO Coffee Shop following 8:00 a.m. Mass.

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