



## 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](mailto:parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

Web Site: [www.stchristopherworchester.org](http://www.stchristopherworchester.org)

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

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**Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor**  
[frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Deacon Van Nguyen**

**Religious Education Office**  
**Kim Fitzpatrick - Coordinator**  
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**James Joinville – Music Director**

**Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager**  
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**Cindy Barnaby**  
Administrative Assistant  
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**John Slik - Building & Maintenance**

**Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman**

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm**  
**Sunday Mass: 8:00 am (livestreamed)**  
**and 10:00 am**

**Weekday Masses**  
**(Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am**  
**Holy Day Masses: As announced**

**RECONCILIATION:** As announced

**BAPTISM:** By Appointment Only  
Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.  
Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

Please contact/talk to the Pastor after Mass to make an appointment **twelve months in advance**, before making plans for reception and wedding date.

*We thank you for visiting us!*

If you wish to become a parishioner of St. Christopher's, please see Fr. Stanley after Mass for a parish registration form.





## 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm **Robert Triggs, 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,**  
by wife, Donna

Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

8:00am **For All Deceased Members of**  
**The Nguyen & Tran Families, by Family**

10:00am **Peter Tran Van Ban,**  
by Family

Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

**No Mass**

Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

**No Mass**

Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

## 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm **Tran Van Hao & Phung Thi Thong,**  
by Family

Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

8:00am **For Safe Travels for Family Members**  
**of Maria Tran Thi Hai, by Family**

10:00am **Phyllis Carrigan, Birthday Remembrance,**  
by Family

### **ATTENTION: SCOUTS & PARENTS!**

**Catholic Scouting Religious Emblem Program**  
**Information Session to be held at**  
**St. Christopher's Church Hall on**  
**Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m.**

See church bulletin boards for more info.,  
or email John Atlas, Diocesan Catholic Committee  
on Scouting, at [JKARL1958@gmail.com](mailto:JKARL1958@gmail.com).



### **HELP WANTED—MANY OPENINGS!** **ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE**

**TIME REQUIRED—NOT MUCH,**  
**AND VERY FLEXIBLE.**  
**COMPENSATION—"OUT OF THIS WORLD"**

Help enlarge our prayer line. Are you willing  
to take private time in prayer for others in need?  
Call Ken Butler at 508-852-0127 for more information.

Please consider joining.  
Also, do you know of someone  
in need of prayers? We just  
need the person's first name  
and the nature of the problem.



**Remember, someday YOU may be the one in need!**

**Question:**  
***Why do we celebrate***  
***Catechetical Sunday?***



**Answer:**

The mission of the church reflects the mission of Jesus to teach, preach, heal, and forgive. Through these acts, Jesus shares the good news of salvation and invites all people to share in the life and love of God. The church continues this mission in all its ministries, but especially, and perhaps most importantly, through catechesis.

Catechetical Sunday is celebrated on the third Sunday of September. The task of handing on the Gospel is entrusted to the whole community, who by word and example, form young and new members in the way of the Gospel. Parish programs assist parents in teaching the basics of faith through liturgical experience, instruction, and faith formation. This ministry is essential for the parish to grow, for individuals to develop as believers, and for the ongoing spiritual formation of the whole community. It reminds the church that preaching the Gospel and growing in faith are essential to our sacramental practice and our liturgical prayer. ~LPi

### **Calling for Vendors for Troop 9 Scouts** **Flea Market at St. Christopher Church**

**Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**



This event will support  
Worcester Troop 9 Scouts  
Outdoor Program.

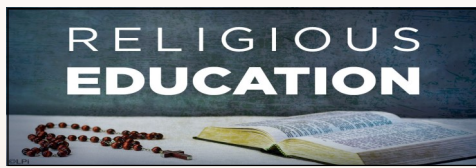
Tables are only \$25.

Email [Troop9Events@gmail.com](mailto:Troop9Events@gmail.com)  
to reserve a table or for more info.  
Limited tables so reserve ASAP!

### **Worcester Public Schools Sex Education**

In the Spring of 2021, the Worcester School Committee adopted a very problematic K-12 sex education curriculum for the Worcester Public Schools. The curriculum, *Rights, Respect, Responsibility*, is explicit, age-inappropriate, and without moral grounding. It will be taught in all grades beginning with kindergarten again this Fall. Under Massachusetts law, parents have the right to opt their children out of sex-ed programs. Bishop McManus is urging parents of Worcester Public School students to review the *Rights, Respect, Responsibility* curriculum at the website <https://www.3rs.org/3rs-curric-search> in order to familiarize themselves with this explicit, age-inappropriate program and to consider opting their children out. **NEW OPT-OUT FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED EACH YEAR.** Opt-out forms are available in the church entrances. Please share this information with friends and neighbors who may be unaware of the content of this program or of their rights as parents to opt their child out. Thank you.





### **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

All grades will meet in the church hall  
from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

A Parent Meeting for grade 2 will be held  
in the church hall beginning at 11:00 a.m.

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### **Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

All grades will meet in the church hall  
from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.



The sympathies of our parish  
are extended to the family of

**MaryAnne Josephson**

who recently passed away.

### **St. Christopher's Retired Club**

**Our first meeting of 2022-23 season  
will be held in the church hall on  
Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 p.m.**

With a handful of members and a vote to continue our  
mission of giving, the Retired Club of St. Christopher's  
looks back on the accomplishments of our 2021-22 year:

- \* Indoor Yard Sale
- \* Donations to Nazareth Home,  
Problem Pregnancy and Visitation House
- \* Fr. Stanley's Anniversary Reception

We are looking forward to another successful year  
and we encourage you to join us.

We meet once a month and  
**you** are very welcome—  
retired or not, younger or older.  
(attendance is not mandatory)

Dues are \$5.00 per year  
(subject to a minor increase).

Looking forward to having you join us!

Call Liz Knott 508-852-2348 for more information.



*My dear friends in Christ,*

As we welcome students back to school this fall, I invite you  
to learn why supporting Catholic schools is part of the mission  
of every Catholic, not just that of parents with children in our  
schools. We are called to be instruments of evangelization in  
society by being witnesses to the love of God for all people.  
Your support of Catholic education, in whatever way you can,  
will help today's students become tomorrow's leaders in both  
society and the Church.

So many community and business leaders in Central  
Massachusetts are products of Catholic schools. Their alma  
maters did not boast the fanciest buildings, or the most  
expansive after-school programs, or even the flexibility to  
express one's individuality in daily attire. What they did offer  
and continue to offer to this day, is attention to the individual  
student, sound academic and social formation, and, most  
importantly, learning what true success in life really means  
beyond how to make money. That was all possible because  
of the simple sign that hangs in every Catholic school:  
"Jesus is the reason for this school."

Religion is not just one topic among others in Catholic  
Schools. The relevance of our faith can be discussed in the  
context of every single topic taught in our classrooms,  
including science, math, history, literature and languages.  
It is also prevalent in after-school programs, sports and the  
arts. The Catholic school student learns that to live the good  
life is to live a life filled with meaning, which is not the same  
as living an easy life or a life focused on consumerism.

Today it is difficult for parents to pay tuition while also  
paying taxes that support public schools, but they know they  
are investing in their child's future, both temporal and eternal.  
For many families, especially today's immigrant families, that  
is not an option. Increasing access to financial aid takes every-  
one sharing in solidarity with our Catholic school families.

There are ways to support Catholic schools beyond financial  
assistance as well. Talk to family and friends about the value  
of the Catholic school option in our communities.  
Support their decision to choose a Catholic School. And never  
forget the power of prayer to support the work of our teachers,  
administrators and staff who are dedicated to the ministry of  
Catholic School education, a ministry which makes tangible  
the love of Jesus in the life of each student they encounter.

You can make a difference in the lives of Catholic school  
students today to be great leaders for tomorrow.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Most Reverend Robert J. McManus*  
Bishop of Worcester

### **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Classes (All grades)

Religious Education Parent Meeting (Grade 2)

Religious Education Office Hours

### **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

Wachusett Community Band Practice

### **Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Retired Club Meeting

Catholic Scouting Emblem Program Information Session

### **Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Religious Education Office Hours

Scout Troop 9 Meeting

### **Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Classes (All grades)

Religious Education Office Hours



11am-12:15pm

Church Hall

11am

Church Hall

12:30-1:30pm

Religious Ed. Office

6:30-8:30pm

Church Hall

1:00pm

Church Hall

7:00-8:00pm

Church Hall

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Religious Ed. Office

7:00-9:00pm

Church Hall

11am-12:15pm

Church Hall

12:30-1:30pm

Religious Ed. Office



Weekly Goal: \$ 3,438  
 Weekend of September 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>: \$ 2,149  
 Deficit: (\$ 1,289)

Parish Renovation & Maintenance: \$ 1,328  
 Air Conditioning (to date): \$ 22,024

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/22-8/31/23): \$3,438  
 Year-to Date Collections: \$2,149  
 Year-to Date Electronic Payments: - - -  
 Year-to Date Deficit: (\$1,289)  
 Forwarded deficit from 2021-2022: (\$34,073)

Next weekend's special collection is the  
*Annual Catholic Schools Appeal.*

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## STEWARDSHIP

***"No servant can serve two masters.  
 He will hate one and love the other,  
 or be devoted to one and despise the other.  
 You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)."***

*~Luke 16:13*

Jesus knows that for many of us, God and money run "neck and neck" as top priority. Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from becoming a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

### **"Life in the Eucharist"**

**Pro-Life Morning of Reflection and Enrichment  
 Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High Street, Worcester  
 Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

This free event will include Mass & a light lunch.

To register, send your name, parish & email address to [aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org) or call the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311.



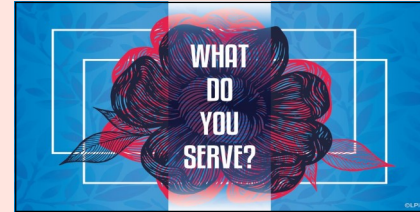
**The winner for week 9 (9/5/22):  
 #40 - Kathy Murphy**

**The winner for week 10 (9/12/22):  
 #58 - Paul & Elaine King**

Our new session begins this Monday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>!

Would you like to join in on Monday's drawing?  
 Would you like to choose an extra number to play in Monday's drawing? Just call or email the Parish Office to choose a number . . . and Good Luck!

***"You cannot serve both God and mammon."***



Merriam-Webster defines mammon as material wealth or possessions, especially having a debasing influence. While God does not take issue with our need to use money for the business of our lives, there can be a problem with the attitudes we bring to it. We can easily become so preoccupied and obsessed with money that it becomes the real "god" we worship. Do we serve mammon instead of God? In their book, *Wealth, Riches and Money*, Craig Hill and Earl Pitts outline symptoms of mammon's influence in our lives. Some of these are worry and anxiety over money, money mismanagement, fear over "never having enough," an "I can't afford it" mentality, impulse buying, stinginess, greed, debt, and discontent.

Many of the things on that list can consume us to the point that we are distracted from what we really need to be doing. Many people spend an inordinate amount of time worrying about money and it becomes the source of their worst fears. If we are honest with ourselves, we need to admit that we place far more emphasis on our material securities than we ought. In fact, we have actually convinced ourselves that we cannot live without it. Are we that certain about the presence of God? Many of the world's problems, especially those involving inequity and injustice, result from conflicts about money. Many equate money with happiness. Those successful in accumulating large amounts of it quickly realize just how wrong they are.

***"Your ultimate allegiance is not to the government, not to the state, not to nation, not to any man-made institution. The Christian owes his ultimate allegiance to God, and if any earthly institution conflicts with God's will it is your Christian duty to take a stand against it. You must never allow the transitory evanescent demands of man-made institutions to take precedence over the eternal demands of the Almighty God"*** *~Martin Luther King, Jr.*

This is the point Jesus is trying to make. Unfortunately, when we look around our man-made kingdoms are far more prevalent than God's kingdom. When we start seeing greater evidence of justice, equity, dignity, respect, opportunity, gentleness, holiness, solidarity, honesty, simplicity, care for creation, and a decrease in ambition, then we will know that God's kingdom is being served. We will be doing what we are supposed to do.

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# SUNDAY'S READINGS

## FIRST READING:

Hear this, you who trample upon the needy  
and destroy the poor of the land! (Am 8:4)

## PSALM:

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor. (Ps 113)  
Or Alleluia.

## SECOND READING:

This is good and pleasing to God our savior,  
who wills everyone to be saved  
and to come to knowledge of the truth. (1 Tm 2:3-4)

## GOSPEL:

"No servant can serve two masters.  
He will either hate one and love the other,  
or be devoted to one and despise the other.  
You cannot serve both God and mammon." (Lk 16:13)

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## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

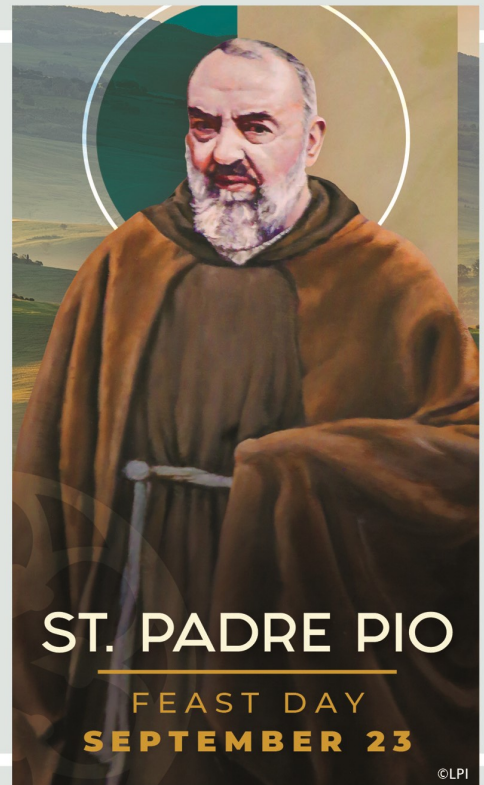
Sunday:	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday
Monday:	St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
Tuesday:	Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs
Wednesday:	St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Friday:	St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Next Sunday:	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time; National Migration Week



"CATECHISTS ARE  
PEOPLE WHO KEEP  
THE MEMORY  
OF GOD ALIVE;  
THEY KEEP IT ALIVE  
IN THEMSELVES  
AND THEY ARE  
ABLE TO REVIVE  
IT IN OTHERS."

- POPE FRANCIS

©LPi



## Saint of the Week

Best known as Padre Pio, St. Pius was born Francesco Forgione in 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. As a young boy he suffered many illnesses including typhoid. He joined Capuchin Franciscans at 15 and took the name of Pius or "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I. He was ordained in 1910, and at this time he received the marks of stigmata, the wounds of Christ, but they eventually healed. Frequent illnesses continued to plague him as a young man. Padre Pio served in the Italian Medical Corps during World War I, but he was discharged early because of illness, which was likely tuberculosis. He was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo. In 1918, while continuing to serve at the friary, the stigmata appeared again, and this time remained until his death. Many faithful came to see him at the friary, his days were long, beginning with Mass at 5 a.m. then hearing confessions all day with breaks to bless the sick. A simple man, content to do God's will on earth and with the ardent desire to serve the sick and poor in whom he saw Christ, he urged a hospital, Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza (House for the Relief of Suffering), to be built in San Giovanni Rotondo. It opened in 1956. Padre Pio died at the age of eighty-one in 1968 and in 2002 Pope John Paul II proclaimed him "St. Pio of Pietrelcina."