

The Parish of

ST. CHRISTOPHER & ST. SYLVIA

Red Hook, New York

www.stchrisredhook.org

November 14, 2021

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome!

MASSES

Saturday 9:00 AM & 5:00 PM (Vigil) Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM (Family Mass), 11:00 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM

(No Wednesday Mass)

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:30—4:30 PM at the church or by appointment.

ADORATION

First Fridays after 9 AM Mass until Noon and Wednesday 7:00—8:00 PM

BAPTISM

Sundays at 1:00 PM. Contact the rectory to make arrangements, and go to our website for baptismal information and forms.

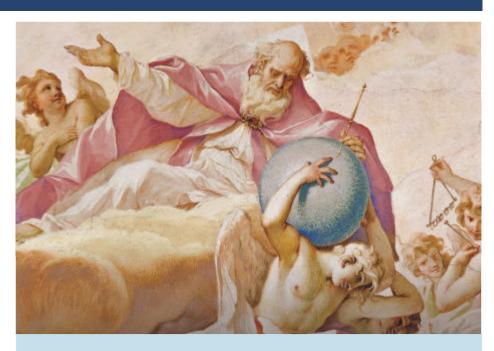
MARRIAGE

Contact the rectory at least six months in advance. Visit our website for information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Parishioners in need of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call the rectory.

Do not wait until the last moment.



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Douglas Crawford, *Pastor*Rev. David Kazzahchiyang Didam, *Parochial Vicar*Rev. William Woodruff, *In Residence*Rev. Mr. Raymond Ricci and Rev. Mr. Keith White, *Deacons*Rev. H. Thériault, *Pastor Emeritus*, *St. Sylvia Parish*, *Tivoli*

Ann Totten & Al Costello, Lay Trustees Joseph Soave, Finance Council Chairman Gwen McCann, Parish Council President

RECTORY OFFICE 9:00 AM — 4:00 PM

Lauren Kerzner, Assistant to the Pastor Maureen Terranova, Office Assistant 7411 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571 845-758-3732 ● Fax 845-758-1214 rectory@stchrisredhook.org

PARISH CENTER/MAINTENANCE

David Whelly, Buildings & Grounds Manager

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ellen Farina, CRE & Helen Moore, CRE Assistant 30 Benner Road • 845-758-5506 • education@stchrisredhook.org



Welcome to the Parish of St. Christopher & St. Sylvia! We hope that all new residents to the Red Hook area will feel at home in our Parish and strive to become an active member of our faith community. Please take a moment to stop by the rectory office to fill out a new parishioner form and meet a member of the Parish staff!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK				
	Intentions	Requested by:		
Sat., November 13	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini			
5:00pm	Deceased Members of St. Christopher Seniors †			
Sun., November 14	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time			
7:30am	All Souls' Novena†			
9:00am	John Ryan†	Salchert Family		
11:00am	Rita Dahl†	John and Mary O'Haire		
	Joseph Camo †	Jim and Linda Hart and Family		
Mon., November 15	St. Albert the Great			
9:00am	Jack Gilfeather†	Joan Swift		
Tues., November 16	St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gertrude			
9:00am	Hanna Ennis †	Vincent and Mary Gallagher		
Wed., November 17	St. Elizabeth of Hungry			
No Mass				
Thurs., November 18	Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne			
9:00am	Patricia Thayer †	Dave and Lynda Jutton		
Fri., November 19	Ordinary Time			
9:00am	Lydia Grima †	Charles Grima		
Sat., November 20	Ordinary Time			
9:00am	Dom, Dee, and Danny Parise †	Edward and Joan Mayone		
5:00pm	Intentions of the Holy Name Society			
Sun., November 21	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe			
7:30am	Robert Sochor †	Barb and Rick Rizzolo		
9:00am	Desiree Mullen†	Aunt Alice		
11:00am	Souls of the Deceased, Elliott and O'Haire Families †	John and Mary O'Haire		
	Intentions of Jeremy Kelly	From Grandmother		

MATCHING GIFT

WeShare, our online giving provider, is generously providing a donor match program to help us increase recurring giving. Online gifts help reduce costs and our time spent handling other forms of payment.

For every first gift from a new recurring donor that is added between now and December 31, 2021, WeShare will match that first gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000 for our church. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift must be transacted by December 31, 2021.

We appreciate your generosity and support of our church. We prayerfully ask that you consider helping us meet this goal by creating your recurring online gift today. Visit our parish website and click on WeShare or reach out to the WeShare Support team at 877-316-0260

BABY BOTTLE COLLECTION

All bottles must be returned this weekend-November 13th-14th,



in the basket at the back of the Church. All donations benefit the Alight Pregnancy Center in Hudson, NY.

2ND COLLECTION

Today's Thanksgiving collection for the poor stays in our parish to help those in need.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WeShare-October 31, 2021-\$1,943.

All Saints Collection-\$1,222.

November 7, 2021-\$4,743.

WeShare- \$2,444.

Thank you for your continued financial support.

THE POPE AND THE PRESIDENT

by Robert Royal

I've been critical— on this page and via the Papal Posse at EWTN, among other venues — of many things Pope Francis has said and done. With a proper respect, I believe. But more than everything else — more than the indirect infidelities in Amoris Laetitia; the cringe-making chumminess with McCarrick, Zanchetta, Battista Ricca, and many other abusers; the harsh measures against the TLM; even the outrage of Pachamama — he's done nothing more outrageous than telling Joe Biden — if the story's true — that he's a "good Catholic" and should "continue receiving Communion."

Biden has demonstrated a very casual relationship with the truth over many years. And we may yet find out that something different was said behind closed doors. The Vatican was evidently nervous about this meeting, which is why it took the unusual step of not allowing any live filming. The Vatican press office has not denied Biden's account and has only said that it was a private conversation. And that it doesn't comment on private conversations.

This already is close to an outright lie. The president of the United States of America, claiming to be a Catholic, at a time when he is pushing the most extreme measures on abortion and the funding thereof, as well as other unnecessarily radical policies, is facing a rebuke, perhaps even condemnation, from the American bishops at their annual November meeting in Baltimore. Under the circumstances, a meeting with the pope in Rome is not a "private conversation." It – like the earlier meeting with Nancy Pelosi – is essentially a public declaration.

The press office is noticeably maladroit in handling controversies like this one. During the Amazon Synod, for instance, press officials were repeatedly asked to clarify what the Pachamama was doing there. All they did was mumble that symbols have different uses in different cultures. Of course, but that was exactly the point at issue. Here you had a pagan fertility goddess being celebrated in a Christian context, when – as anyone who takes the Faith seriously knows – from Old Testament times on, Jews and Christians were warned sharply about idols. So why was a figurine from a polytheistic system so important to a synod of Catholic bishops?

The pope even apologized – to the Pachamama worshippers – when a young Austrian took things into his own hands and threw the idol in the Tiber River.

The Vatican press office has also been feckless when the pope has met with Eugenio Scalfari, the legendary editor of the Italian socialist newspaper *La Repubblica*. Scalfari has emerged from those meetings with notorious claims about the Eucharist, souls being annihilated rather than going to Hell, etc. It's a further indication of papal recklessness that despite repeated problems of that kind, the meetings have gone on – usually followed by some weak communiqué claiming Scalfari's accounts are not completely accurate.

We haven't even got that much after the Biden visit. There's some evidence that Biden is lying. He claims that abortion was not discussed. If true, that would reflect a remarkable dereliction of duty by a pope who has called procuring an abortion like hiring a hitman. But is that what happened? Why would the pope tell Biden that he's a "good Catholic" and should "continue taking Communion" unless there was some doubt about those propositions?

The trouble with telling lies, especially big ones – at least for the liar – is that they invite scrutiny. As you look at this enormity – and realize no one on either side is likely to be more forthcoming – it's clear that some shenanigans have taken place on at least one, and maybe both sides.

The biggest problem in all of this is that Francis even met with Biden at this precise moment. It not only undercut our American bishops – by a pope who otherwise has been seeking to devolve power away from Rome and talks incessantly now about "walking together" – i.e. synodality. Pope Francis has also sent a message, whether he knows it or not, that in America, where there is still a very live opposition to legal abortion, and where the Supreme Court may this year abrogate the Federal legalization of abortion, if you're "good" on climate, illegal immigration, poverty programs, the "hitman" stuff doesn't really count.

The pope and his close advisers know little about America. And it seems that what little they do know they do not much like. That hasn't stopped them from weighing in recklessly on all sorts of things.

For example, anyone who takes the trouble to look into the most basic facts about a movement like Black Lives Matter will immediately discover that its founders openly assert their commitment to Marxism, intention to destroy the "patriarchal" family, etc., all things that would raise red flags for a pope who takes seriously what people say and believe. Instead, the superficial fact that BLM is trying to deal with racism earns it the praise of Pope Francis. When he spoke to the World Meeting of Popular Movements recently, he compared BLM to the Good Samaritan in the Gospel and called such groups "social poets." He says he doesn't watch television so maybe his advisers didn't tell him about the burning and looting at the "mostly peaceful" BLM protests.

The editor of any publication these days knows in advance that anything you publish will result in a flurry of emotional reactions in the Inbox. Readers accuse you and all of your writers – who were chosen to present a variety of

THIS WEEK AT ST. CHRISTOPHER-ST. SYLVIA			
Sunday, November 14			
RCIA	9am	Parish Center, 30 Benner	
Veterans Dinner	3:00pm	School, 30 Benner Rd.	
Monday, November 15			
Bible and the Virgin Mary	6:30pm	Parish Center, 30 Benner	
Tuesday, November 16			
Prayers for Life	9:30am	Church	
Wednesday, Nov. 17			
Our Lady Queen of Peace Holy Hour	7:00pm	Church	
Thursday, November 18			
Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm	Church	
Friday, November 19			
Saturday, November 20			
Christmas Fair	10:00am	Gym, 30 Benner Rd.	
Confession	3:30pm	Church	
Sunday, November 21			
Holy Name Breakfast	8:00am-11:00am	Gym, 30 Benner Rd.	
RCIA Meeting	9am	Parish Center	

Con'd from previous page

perspectives, some not your own - of all believing the same outrageously wrong thing. Or maybe the opposite wrong thing. The reactions are not always based on a close reading of the original text. Real engagement with the arguments does happen, but is rare.

Until this week, I'd never received so many outraged messages about something not immediately connected to this site – namely, President Biden's self-reporting that the pope confirmed in private conversation that he was a "good Catholic." I can see why many readers are furious. Because I find that I am too.

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SICK LIST FOR PARISH BULLETIN

Requests for the bulletin sick list are accepted only from the sick person or an immediate family member and remains for 6 weeks. To repeat, please resubmit.

Please include my name in the Parish Bulletin Sick List and give my permission to do so.

Name	
Date	Return to parish office.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your prayers, please remember the sick, especially:

Elizabeth Bellini • William Daniels Veronica Ellis • Sylvia Ledenko Kathleen Mahoney Eleanor McMahon • Jimmy Wolfe

Please complete the request form to the left in order to be added to it. Thank you!





GRADES 1-6 NEXT CLASS: Wednesday, November 17 Thursday, November 18

YOUTH ALIVE Grades 7 & 8 NEXT CLASS: Tuesday, November 16 Thursday, November 18

All 7th & 8th Grade Students attend class!



St. Albert the Great ca. 1193 - 1280 Memorial - 15 November Doctor of the Church

St. Albert was a
Dominican priest and
later consecrated a bishop.
He was also a teacher of
St. Thomas Aquinas and is
remembered as one of the most
brilliant minds in the history of the
Church.

It is by the path of love, which is charity,
that God draws near to man,
and man to God.
If then, we possess God,
for "God is
Charity."
~ St. Albert the Great

UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

USHERS' MEETING

A meeting for all ushers is scheduled for Monday, November 15, at 7pm in the Church.

THE HOLY NAME BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 21st 8:00am-11:00pm School Gym, 30 Benner Rd.

Stay and eat or take-out

\$8-adults \$6-children-ages 5-12 Under the age of 5-free Made to Order Omelets * Pancakes Home Fries * Sausage French Toast * Scrambled Eggs Coffee * Orange Juice

12TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, November 25th
Without a Fee! Take-Out and
Limited Delivery
Reservations are required,
please call 845-640-4788

or **redhookresponds.org** by November 22nd between the hours of 9am-5pm

Take-Out Meals are to be picked up at the Red Hook Firehouse, Firehouse Lane at your assigned time. Red Hook Responds will deliver some meals.

PRISON MINISTRY MEETING

The Prison Ministry Group will meet on Wednesday, December 1st at 3:30 in the Parish Center.

SOCIETIES, PLEASE NOTE

For the next two months,
November and December, there
are early publication deadlines for
the bulletin. Please have any
material for the bulletin into the
office at least 2 weeks prior to
when it would be printed.
Thank you for your cooperation.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—CHRIST TREE

Thank you so much for your generosity to the Thanksgiving gift card program. With your help, we were able to provide Thanksgiving meals for 50 needy families. We sincerely thank you and wish you and your family a very happy and peaceful Thanksgiving.

Our **Christ Tree angels** are available starting this weekend at the back of church. The angels are sorted in baskets by gift card amount. Please tape the gift card to the angel and return in the collection. If you prefer not to take an angel but still want to donate, please put your donation in an envelope marked for the Christ Tree. Any donation amount is appreciated. We would like to collect them as early as possible so the recipients will have time to shop for their families.

<u>Please return all angels and cards no later than December 12.</u>
They may also be dropped off in the rectory.

BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped with the blood drive last Saturday. Whether you donated blood or helped with cooking and serving breakfast sandwiches or both - thank you for your help and support! Your efforts helped collect 43 pints of blood!!

OUR LADY'S GUILD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR!

NEXT Saturday, November 20th 10am-4pm at St. Christopher's School, 30 Benner Rd.

Shop for gifts 9think Christmas), decorations, at Auction with great items, photos with Sente and taken

Silent Auction with great items, photos with Santa and take a delicious break at The Holly Café!

Join the fun!



SOCIETIES & CONTACTS

Adult Faith Formation, Barbara Totmanolqop07@yahoo.com
Baptismal Coordinator, Wendy Wajda MacHugh845-758-3732
Parish Music Director, Rich Nuzzo845-758-3732
CYO Coordinator, Dan TotmanCYO@stchrisredhook.org
Holy Name Society President, Rich Rose
holyname@stchrisredhook.org
Knights of Columbus GK, Bob Lawless845-758-3732
Our Lady's Guild President, Cynthia Fildes
ladysguild@stchrisredhook.org
Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group845-758-3732
Respect Life Committee, Barbara Totman845-758-8628
St. Christopher Food Pantry, Dave & Lynda Jutton845-758-3732
svdp@stchrisredhook.org
Senior Citizens President, Betty Bader845-758-3732
RCIA, Maggie BurudRCIA@stchrisredhook.org
Teen Fusion, Dan & Lisa Pullaroteenfusion@stchrisredhook.org
Youth Choir Leader, Rich Nuzzo845-758-3732
Prison Ministry, Rosemary Molloy845-758-3732
H2O (Helping Hands for Others), Rick & Barbara Rizzolo

DID CONTROVERSAL CHESS LEGEND BOBBY FISCHER DIE A CATHOLIC?

by Lauriane Vofo Kana

Mystery swirls around the chess prodigy, but we know that he had a Catholic funeral.

It was the summer of 1972 in Reykjavík. Bobby Fischer faced off against Boris Spassky: the bald eagle against the hammer and sickle. **This famous match saw the United States take on the Soviet Union on a chessboard.** Fischer was the youngest winner of the U.S. Chess Championship, the youngest international grandmaster, and, in 1972, the first American to win the World Championship: his talent was undeniable. Films, documentaries and articles have told the story of this champion. Although his various exploits and his change of nationality are often described, his spiritual journey remains widely unknown. Child prodigy and a loner

Robert John Fischer was born in Chicago into a single-parent household. His mother, Regina Wender, of Swiss origin, was of Jewish descent; however, faith had no real place in the family.

When Bobby was 6 years old, Joan, his older sister, gave him a chessboard. Two years later, he was enrolled in a Brooklyn chess club. He read, played, and took refuge in the game, far from a monotonous daily life marked by the absence of his mother. At the age of 12, no one in his state was able to beat the prodigy. He continued his meteoric rise until the "Game of the Century" in July 1972.

At nearly 30 years of age, Fischer was at the height of his fame. Yet, he chose to get away from the spotlight to take care of his soul. He joined a sect that purported to be Christian, the Worldwide Church of God (which has since reinvented itself and changed its name). There he studied biblical texts and was obliged to make financial contributions like any member.

In 1977, he left the group abruptly, no longer believing in the millenarian prophecies of the founder, some of which had already failed to come true. A long period of wandering followed. Eventually he lost his mother and then his sister.

Although he won his last major chess match in 1992, he did not return to the fame and prominence he had before. His actions surrounding the game put him in conflict with the US government, and his repeated antisemitic comments and controversial political opinions didn't help his position. Indeed, his troubled behavior has marked his legacy, and the debate about his psychological health will likely never be resolved. In search of meaning

When he went into exile in Iceland in 2005, he was a shadow of his former self. After declaring himself an atheist, Bobby turned to the works of Indian guru Rajneesh, and then to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

It was in the small Nordic country that his quest finally seemed to end. A friend, Gardar Sverrisson, a Catholic, helped to answer the chess genius' questions about faith.

According to the chess player's biographer, Bobby Fischer bought Gardar a catechism as material for their conversations. Knowing he was ill, the former star entrusted his last wishes to his good friend. Among them, he asked to be buried with a Catholic funeral.

Was this a sign of a deathbed conversion? One thing is sure: on January 21, 2008, Fr. Father Jakob Rolland — from the diocese of Reykjavik — celebrated a Mass for the last farewell of the Mozart of chess.

Have you noticed the new awnings on the school building? And take a look at the newly restored doors to our Church.









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