



The Parish of
ST. CHRISTOPHER & ST. SYLVIA
Red Hook, New York www.stchrisredhook.org

November 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 27	Ordinary Time	
5:00pm	Sarah Damico †	Debbie Barton
Sun., November 28	First Sunday of Advent	
7:30am	Michael Gerald † Yannette †	Rick and Barb Rizzolo
9:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>	
11:00am	Adam Munderbach † Jack Gilfeather †	Salchert Family Mangiamele Family
Mon., November 29	Advent	
9:00am	Sandra Appel †	Marsh Family
Tues., November 30	St. Andrew	
9:00am	Mary Marsh †	Marsh Family
Wed., December 1	Advent	
No Mass		
Thurs., December 2	Advent	
9:00am	Jeanne De Benedictus †	Otto DeVito
Fri., December 3	St. Francis Xavier	
9:00am	Desiree Mullen †	Aunt Alice
Sat., December 4	St. John Damascene	
9:00am	Sister Patricia Brennan †	Ed Tobin
5:00pm	Jack Gilfeather †	William and Margaret Fitzmaurice
Sun., December 5	Second Sunday of Advent	
7:30am	Intentions of Our Lady's Guild	
9:00am	Lydia Grima †	Charles Grima
11:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i> Jack Gilfeather †	Jim and Linda Hart

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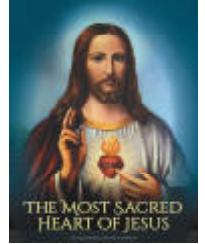
FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

On Friday, December 3rd

Adoration will take place after the 9:00 am Mass until Noon.

Please come participate in this special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Sign up is in the back of the church.



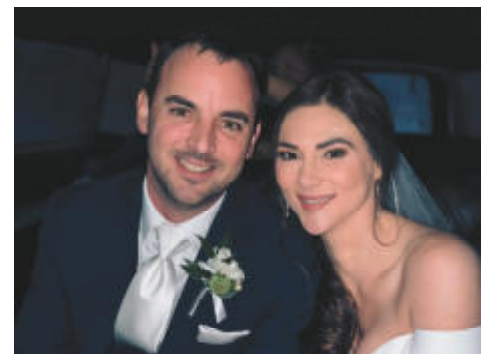
WEDDING

*Congratulations to
Lauren Seibelli*



Benjamin Day,

*who were joined in Holy Matrimony
at Good Shepherd Church
on November 13th,
Fr. Crawford officiating.*



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

November 14, 2021

Regular Collection \$4,362.

WeShare—\$2,424.

Thanksgiving for the Poor—\$1,649.

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financial support.*

To Love the Church

by Fr. Thomas G. Weinandy, OFM, Cap.

Sometimes it's difficult to love the Roman Catholic Church. With her seemingly never-ending sexual and financial scandals, we not only can become disheartened by and cynical about the Church's present state; we can also become angry at her apparent inability to reform. But there's a deeper reason for concern. Many Catholics today give the impression that they do not *love* the Church, not because of her sinful members, but because they do not like the Church as she has traditionally been.

They find her doctrines antiquated – dead dogmas from the past, whose suffocating presence stifles authentic renewal. Likewise, they find the Church's traditional moral teaching – especially concerning marriage and sexuality – rigid, merciless laws and inflexible canons that do not allow people to be “who they truly are.”

Such laws, they believe, shackle men's and women's freedom, and their inherent right to choose what is best for them. To them, the Church's moral tenets simply foster a guilt-ridden, unhappy life. Such a Church cannot be loved. To be loved, they believe, the Church must change at the deepest levels of her being. And those who are awake in the Spirit are called to use their political and financial might to ensure that such change is enacted.



When praying in the derelict church of San Damiano, St. Francis of Assisi heard the crucified Jesus speak to him: “Francis, go, repair my house which, as you see, is falling into ruins.” Francis, in his simple innocence, began to pick up stones and rebuild this church and others. Only later did he realize that it was the Church itself, the Body of Christ, that needed spiritual rebuilding.

So, what did Francis do? Did he set out to change the Church's doctrinal and moral teaching, culminating in the rejection of the Church herself? This is, after all, what some “renewal movements” within the Church of his day were proposing. No. Francis, as a faithful son of the Church, knew that she could be repaired only if the life-giving truth of her doctrines once more became the stones upon which she is built. Thus, Francis, in word and deed, brought to life within the Church these mysteries of faith.

The Incarnation was the foundational doctrine of his preaching. The Son of God actually came to exist as man within the womb of Mary. He became poor in our humanity so that we might become rich in his divinity. And what better

way to manifest this awesome truth than to enact it? And so he did. He re-enacted the manger scene in the hill-town of Greccio. Surrounded by sheep, cows, and donkeys, the Incarnation came alive. For the infant Jesus, the son of Mary and the eternal Son of the Father, is said to have appeared in Francis's arms.

Peoples' lives were transformed. They heeded the call to repentance of sin and to faith in their Savior. Once more they became living stones in Christ's Church.

If the Incarnation was foundational to Francis's enterprise of rebuilding the Church, his love for Jesus crucified became the capstone. On the Cross, the poor Jesus offered up his holy and sinless life for the forgiveness of sin, and so merited his glorious resurrection. In this twofold act, Jesus, through the blood and water that poured forth from his pierced side, gave birth to his holy and pure bride – the Church.

Francis, for the sake of this same bride, the same Church, laid down his life, to make her holy once more. The stigmata, the physical marks of nails and spear, is not simply a sign that Francis was the living likeness of the crucified Jesus, but more so that he, in imitation of Jesus, completely offered up himself for the sake of the Church's renewal. As Christ is the everlasting, loving, crucified-spouse of his Church, so Francis was the loving crucified-spouse of the Church in his day.

While the false claimants of renewal despised the fleshly sacraments, Francis gloried in their materiality. For matter manifested the glory of God: Brother sun and sister moon, brother fire and sister water. The Eucharist, the most material of all of the sacraments, was Francis's greatest joy. The bread itself and the wine itself were changed into the risen-flesh and risen-blood of the bodily-risen-Jesus.

Thus, one came into living bodily communion with living bodily-Jesus himself. The poverty of our flesh is enriched by Jesus' risen-flesh – a mutual abiding unto eternal life. For Francis, the Eucharist was not an obsolete doctrine, but the source and summit of the Church's life.

Con'd on page 6

THIS WEEK AT ST. CHRISTOPHER-ST. SYLVIA

Sunday, November 28

RCIA	9am	Parish Center, 30 Benner
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Monday, November 29

Bible and the Virgin Mary	6:30pm	Parish Center, 30 Benner
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Tuesday, November 30

Prayers for Life	9:30am	Church
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Our Lady's Guild Mass (followed by dinner)	5:00pm	Church
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Wednesday, December 1

Prison Ministry Meeting	3:30pm	Parish Center, 30 Benner Rd.
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Our Lady Queen of Peace Holy Hour	7:00pm	Church
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Thursday, December 2

Choir Practice	7:00pm	Church
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Friday, December 3

Adoration	9:30pm-12noon	Church
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Saturday, December 4

Confession	3:30pm	Church
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Sunday, December 5

RCIA Meeting	9am	Parish Center
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St. Christopher and Good Shepherd Holiday Social	2:00pm-5:00pm	Gym, 30 Benner Rd.
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"CHRIST-LOCK: IDENTITY THEFT NO MORE!"— MISSION

December 5-7, 7:00pm at Good Shepherd, Rhinebeck

The *Christ-Lock* mission is a unique, grace-filled evangelical moment in the life of our parish which aims to help us enter more deeply into the life of the theological virtues of faith, hope and love during the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. It is run by Fr. Bill Garrott, OP. The mission talk Sunday and Monday will start at 7 pm. The mission talk Tuesday evening will be the homily during the Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mass Tuesday evening is at 7 PM. For those who wish to arrive early, Fr. Bill will lead the Holy Rosary at 6:30 PM each evening."

AN ADVENT INVITATION: LEARNING TO PRAY

Would you like to learn more about prayer? Different ways to pray? More about what we mean by the "spiritual journey" How you can grow in your relationship with God? Join us for An Advent Day of Prayer on Wednesday, Dec. 1st, after the 9am Mass, at the Good Shepherd Church Hall, 3 Mulberry St. Please register for this program by calling—845-876-4583

Our presenter is Sister Elizabeth Anne DiPippo, SU; she is one of the Sisters on the staff of Linwood Spiritual Center in Rhinebeck. Coffee will be served.



GRADES 1-6

NEXT CLASS:

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Thursday, December 2, 2021

YOUTH ALIVE

Grades 7 & 8

NEXT CLASS:

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Thursday, December 2, 2021

**All 7th & 8th Grade Students
attend class!**




*God of Love,
Your son, Jesus,
is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during
the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for His
coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our
Savior.*

Amen



UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

THANK YOU!

 Teen Fusion would like to thank all who helped make the Veterans Dinner a success, most especially our fantastic chef, Deron Ross, Rich Rose, Rick Wert, members of Troops 42 and 442, Teen Fusion volunteers and, of course, our veterans and their guests. Thank you for attending and for your service.



Scouts with Dan Pullaro leading the ceremony.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The next Holy Name Breakfast will be Sunday, December 19th, 8am—11am. See you there!



PRAYER SHAWLS

Are you or someone you know going through a difficult time, and feel that you would like a Prayer Shawl? Call Celine Turchetti at **845-758-8083**.

If you feel that you would like a little extra spiritual support to place in your pocket, **Prayer Squares** are located in back of the church.



LIGHTHOUSE KIOSK

Have you checked out the Lighthouse Kiosk lately? There are many religious publications, videos, and CDs for children and adults that would make great gifts. The kiosk has been relocated to the Don Bosco Hall. (lower church) To view what is available, take a look after Sunday Masses.

SAVE THE DATE—HOLIDAY SOCIAL—NEXT SUNDAY!

Please join us on Sunday, **December 5th from 2-5pm** for a **Holiday Social!**



We intend this to be the first of many events between St. Christopher and Good Shepherd parishioners. Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

Join us for beverages and canapé's, at St. Christopher's Gym, 30 Benner Rd.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—CHRIST TREE

Our **Christ Tree angels** are available 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.



Please return all angels and cards no later than December 12.

They may also be dropped off in the rectory.

PRISON MINISTRY MEETING



The Prison Ministry Group will meet on Wednesday, December 1 at 3:30 in the Parish Center. We will stamp and send out the Christmas cards we have written. We will also be writing birthday cards to January birthdays.

We have been sending birthday and holiday cards to Kim since 2014. For the very first time, he has written back to say: *"Thank you for the...birthday card and the wonderful message. Capital Punishment...must be abolished in this country. Would you add this to your prayers?"*

SOCIETIES & CONTACTS

Adult Faith Formation, Barbara Totman.....olqop07@yahoo.com
Baptismal Coordinator, Wendy Wajda MacHugh.....845-758-3732
Parish Music Director, Rich Nuzzo.....845-758-3732
CYO Coordinator, Dan Totman.....CYO@stchrisredhook.org
Holy Name Society President, Rich Rose.....holyname@stchrisredhook.org
Knights of Columbus GK, Bob Lawless.....845-758-3732
Our Lady's Guild President, Cynthia Fildes.....ladysguild@stchrisredhook.org
Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group.....845-758-3732
Respect Life Committee, Barbara Totman.....845-758-8628
St. Christopher Food Pantry, Dave & Lynda Jutton.....845-758-3732
.....svdp@stchrisredhook.org
Senior Citizens President, Betty Bader.....845-758-3732
RCIA, Maggie Burud.....RCIA@stchrisredhook.org
Teen Fusion, Dan & Lisa Pullaro.....teenfusion@stchrisredhook.org
Youth Choir Leader, Rich Nuzzo.....845-758-3732
Prison Ministry, Rosemary Molloy.....845-758-3732
H2O (Helping Hands for Others), Rick & Barbara Rizzolo.....845-235-5985.....H2O@stchrisredhook.org



Con'd from page 3

Within the context of these truth-bearing and life-giving doctrines, Francis would exhort the people of his day to repent of their sins and live holy lives. Francis did not see the Church's moral teaching as rigid decrees that were impossible to keep. Rather, as he experienced in his own life, Francis knew that believing in the Lord Jesus and keeping his commandments, as professed by the Church, leads to Spirit-filled freedom, holiness, and happiness.

Francis recognized, in the light of his youthful folly, that to argue that the Church's moral teaching must change is to offer the world death – a life of torment here on earth and everlasting agony in Hell. Francis, in his sacrificial love, desired to repair Jesus' Church, to make her a sanctuary of light and life in a world darkened by sin and death.

It's hard to love today's shabby Church. Nonetheless, the words that the crucified Jesus spoke to Francis echo in our ears: "Repair my Church, which, as you see, has fallen into ruins." Francis and all the saints are our examples. We are not to build a "new church" founded upon the deceitful lies of Satan. Rather, we are to rebuild Jesus' ancient yet ever new Church, a temple built with the living stones of true apostolic doctrine, the mysteries of faith that foster holiness of life.

To do so is to love the bride of Christ – Jesus' espoused Church.

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Fr. Thomas G. Weinandy, OFM, Cap. is a prolific writer and one of the most prominent living theologians, serves as a member of the Vatican's International Theological Commission.

Image: *Legend of St. Francis: 4. Miracle of the Crucifix* by Giotto (di Bondone)

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!



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