



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

December 26, 2021

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

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 Friday after 9 AM Mass until
Noon and Wednesday from
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., December 25	Nativity of the Lord	
No 5:00 pm Mass		
Sun., December 26	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	
7:30 am	Ann Bauer †	
9:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>	
11:00 am	Janet D. Phillips †	Alfred & JoAnn Woisin
Mon., December 27	St. John	
9:00 am	Stefan Oliver †	Nebel Family
Tues., December 28	The Holy Innocents	
9:00 am	Aidan Sullivan †	Gwen McCann & Family
Wed., December 29	St. Thomas Beckett	
No Mass		
Thurs., December 30	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	
9:00 am	Aidan Sullivan †	Ricci Family
Fri., December 31	St. Sylvester	
9:00 am	Carmela Sabia †	Agnes & Steve Kelly
7:00 pm Vigil	Desiree Mullen †	Mullen Family
Sat., January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	
9:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>	
5:00 pm	Edward & Murial O'Neill †	Patricia Butler
Sun., January 2	Epiphany of the Lord	
7:30 am	Intentions of Our Lady's Guild	
9:00 am	Lydia Grima †	Charles Grima
11:00 am	Helen Mulvey †	Agnes & Steve Kelly

New Year's Mass Schedule



Friday, December 31st
7:00 pm Vigil

Saturday, January 1st
9:00 am

Please note that the Solemnity of Mary is **not** a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

We wish all our parish families a healthy and blessed New Year!

December 25th—31st

SANCTUARY LAMP
In Memory of
RICHARD WHITE



Requested by Fr. Crawford

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT STATE MANDATES, we request that all Mass attendees wear masks inside the church. As a courtesy to your fellow parishioners, anyone wishing to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, please come up at the end of the Communion line. Thank you for your cooperation.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

December 12, 2021

Regular Collection \$4,484
Retired Religious Fund \$1,637
WeShare \$3,391

Due to early printing deadlines, the collection information for December 19th and the Christmas Collection will be published in the next bulletin.

Thank you for your continued financial support.

To Heal the Eyes of the Heart

By Robert Royal



In the spring of 430 AD, the Vandals – a Germanic horde numbering in the tens of thousands – began a siege of Hippo Regius, an affluent and important city on the North African coast (modern Annaba in Algeria). Today, that might seem an obscure episode within the movements of various “barbarian” peoples in the waning days of the Roman Empire (which “fell” just fifty years later), if not for the fact that the bishop of the city at the time was the great St. Augustine.

Augustine was 75 by then, and died within a few months, no doubt partly from the stress produced by the siege. The Vandals subsequently ransacked the city but left standing Augustine’s cathedral and library. Still, they destroyed almost everything he had labored to build as a bishop for over three decades.

As a longtime resident now of the Washington D.C. area, I often think of this history as I see various forces encir-

cling the Church and the nation. So far, there’s enough resistance that there’s still hope. But sometimes history suggests some sharp lessons. Which is only one of many reasons why, at our moment, it’s still quite worthwhile to read and ponder the life of St. Augustine.

His *Confessions* is probably the first autobiography in the Latin West. But it’s not a mere catalogue of one person’s life. It’s a passionate account of an emotional struggle with early sins and errors; then Augustine’s brilliant rise through his studies in Carthage and Rome; and finally his entry into the circle around the great Archbishop of Milan, St. Ambrose, which led to Augustine’s conversion – the heart of the story – and his massive impact on the Church and the whole Western world.

We often see the problems of today as a unique threat to our religious and civic traditions. And in many ways, they are. But Augustine too confronted wayward Christians and troublesome politics. The Arian Vandals (like many “Christians” today), believed Jesus was not a Person of the Holy Trinity, but only a great man who had become in some sense “divine” by what he did and suffered.

As a young man, Augustine himself had briefly been a Manichean, a heresy that posited a cosmic struggle between a good God and an evil one.

As a bishop, he struggled with Donatists, a strict sect that (somewhat understandably) started in a controversy over Catholics who had apostatized under persecution by the Emperor Diocletian. Donatists did not believe that the apostates’ sins could be forgiven or that they could be re-admitted to the fold. And then there were the Pelagians. Several modern scholars claim Augustine got them wrong, but in some quarters it was thought that Pelagius, a British monk, taught that we could be saved purely by our own powers, by simply following the moral law. Augustine the great Doctor of Grace (*Doctor gratiae*), could not let such shallow optimism lead people astray. He produced a massive amount of material refuting heresies and explaining true religion, to “heal the eyes of the heart.”

But the intra-Church turmoil was just the half of it. Late Roman Antiquity, which had several similarities to our own unstable times, experienced various public shocks. Christianity had been tolerated in the empire since Constantine in the early fourth century. But under Julian “the Apostate” persecution returned in the 360s. And when Rome was sacked by the Visigoths in 410, some still-pagan Romans resorted to old slanders and blamed Christianity, with its non-martial ways and rejection of Rome’s traditional gods, for the disaster. Augustine reacted to this event by writing his massive and massively influential work, *The City of God*, which he did not finish until sixteen years later in 426. It laid out a view of the sacred and the secular that had immense consequences for all of subsequent Western history.

Augustine drew a distinction that had been rare in the ancient world; rulers – including Roman emperors – were then usually thought of as “divinities” of some kind. Jesus spoke of rendering unto Caesar what was Caesar’s and to God what was God’s. That wasn’t the only recognition of a higher power than that of secular rulers in the ancient world, but it was the only one that set out such clear distinctions – and had real teeth.

continued on next page

UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION



St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of Saint Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

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.



JESUS IS CALLING YOU!

Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group meets every **Wednesday, from 7pm—8pm for Holy Hour in the church.** Rosary, silent meditation, and the Divine Mercy Chaplet before the Blessed Sacrament.

FORMED

Merry Christmas to all of our St. Christopher & St. Sylvia Parish families!

As a gift to all our parishioners, we have renewed our subscription to FORMED for another year! It is FREE and available to all our parish families. Be sure to check out all the wonderful movies, books, audio programs and children's content. Enjoy quality Catholic content with your family during the long winter months. There are also documentaries, daily reflections and Bible studies to help you explore your faith and enhance your spiritual growth. We hope you will enjoy FORMED!



The best Catholic content. All in one place.

It's EASY and FREE to register!

1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our parish zip or name
3. Enter your name and email
4. Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

After you sign up, download the free FORMED app from App Store or Google Play.

Learn more at formed.org

FORMED THE CATHOLIC WAY BY DESIGN

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

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

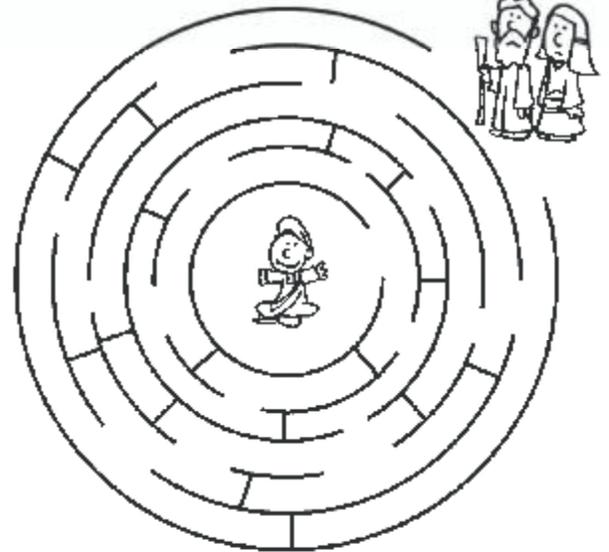
In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too. ©LPi



PUZZLE

Help Mary and Joseph find Jesus.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your prayers, please remember the sick, especially:

Kathleen Capozzi • Joseph Clements
Scott Clements • William Daniels • Veronica Ellis
Sylvia Ledenko • Kathleen Mahoney
Eleanor McMahan • Maryann Moul
Jimmy Wolfe

*To be added to the prayer list,
please complete the form below.
Thank you!*



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 return this form to the parish office. Thank you.*

Please include on the Parish Bulletin Sick List:

Name _____

Date _____

THIS SPACE IS
AVAILABLE

Red Hook Auto
Quality Service
Phone: 758-3000
151 Rte. 199
ASE Red Hook, NY 12571

All About Travel

Kim Koehler - 845-758-1001
allabouttravel@citlink.net
Red Hook, NY

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.

SNAPPER / STIHL / TORO / GENERAC / FERRIS
BRIGGS & STRATTON / KOHLER / KAWASAKI
SALES AND SERVICE

CONWAY'S
Lawn & Power Equipment, Inc.
Route 9, 7235 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571
"We want to be your power equipment dealer"
Mike Conway | John X. Conway
845.758.8134
www.conwayusa.com


Bogush & Grady
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS OF
JOHN A. GRADY, CPA
48 W. Market St., Rhinebeck
(845) 876-4911
www.bogushgradycpas.com


Bottini Fuel
We've got you covered.
845-876-3835
800-836-3835
7265 S. Broadway
Red Hook, NY 12571
www.bottinifuel.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

 Authorized Provider

SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

**AVAILABLE FOR
A LIMITED TIME!**
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Renee Puchalski**
to place an ad today!
rpuchalski@4LPi.com or
(800) 477-4574 x6453

WE'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES
BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

 Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**

\$29.95/MO PLUS SPECIAL OFFER
BILLED QUARTERLY

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL PARISH.**

 Buy a bulletin ad space today!


Mondello
Upstate Properties, LLC

7 West Market Street • Red Hook, NY 12571
Phone: 845.758.5555 • Fax: 845.758.5556
www.mondelloupstateproperties.com

We are a family owned and operated Real Estate firm located in the heart of Red Hook Village.
Our goal is to provide personal and professional service to our local community, as well as visitors from out of town.

Proudly serving the community for over 35 years.
Please call us for all your Real Estate needs. We are always happy to help!



**A MATTER OF TIME
CLOCKWORKS**
GWEN MCCANN, PROP.
 Member N.A.W.C.C.
 Clock Sales, Repair & Restoration
845 389-7788
 AMOTClockworks@gmail.com

**RED HOOK
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.**
 Commercial & Residential • Water Treatment
 Septic Systems & Excavation
 Well Pumps • Repairs & Maintenance
(845) 758-6000 | www.redhookplumbingandheating.com

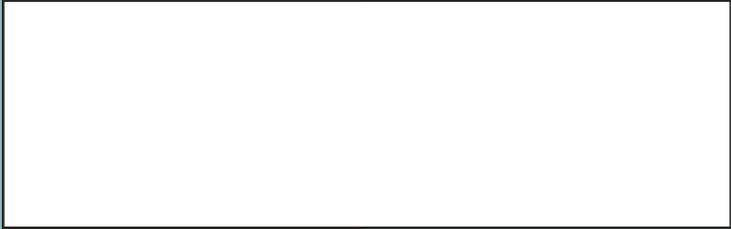
**BURNETT & WHITE
FUNERAL HOMES**
 Bruce J. Troy
 Kenneth Giek
www.Burnett-White.com
758-5042
 Red Hook
 & Rhinebeck

THE AWARD SHOP
 PLAQUES • TROPHIES
 ENGRAVING
www.the-award-shop.com
 62 E. MARKET ST., RED HOOK, NY 12571
845-758-2737
 awardshop@frontiernet.net
 Chris Leggett

**RHINEBECK
CJ's
PIZZA & PASTA**
 CJ's ITALIAN RISTORANTE & PIZZA
 353 Old Post Rd. (at Route 96) Rhinebeck
www.cjsrhinebeck.com
845-876-7711

Est. 1952 **KOL-ROCKLEA
MEMORIALS**
 Monuments~Mausoleums
 Cemetery Lettering ~ Monument Cleaning
 & Restoration ~ Cemetery Services
 DAVE COHEN - BRUCE TROY
 BILL WAMBACH, MANAGER
7370 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY
 Memorials@citlink.net

ELDER LAW
 Wills • Trusts
MICHEL P. HAGGERTY
876-3300
 haggertylawoffices.com

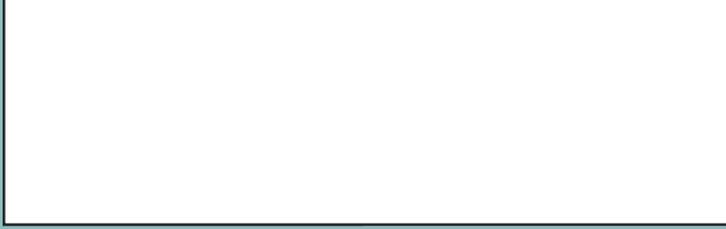


**BELLA FIORI
Floral Co.**
 We thank you for
 your continued
 floral support.
 FRESH | MODERN | TIMELESS

Ann M. Weaver, Esq.
 7466 S. BROADWAY, RED HOOK
(845) 758-4400
www.annweaverlaw.com
 annweaverlaw@yahoo.com
 Matrimonial
 & Family Law

**VILLAGE
PIZZA
III**
 7514 N. Broadway / Red Hook, NY 12571
(845) 758-5808
 EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT
 Open 7 Days

One call takes care of it all!
**ROYAL FLUSH
SEPTIC SERVICE**
 COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
 PUMPING • REPAIRS • INSTALLATION
 ROBIN DALEY
845-876-2691



**1040 RLF TAX
SERVICES**
 QUALITY TAX PREPARATION
 AT AFFORDABLE PRICES
 ROBERT L. FOWLER, AFSP
 845-430-6760 • RLFTAX@YAHOO.COM
 19 BIRCHWOOD DR., RHINEBECK, NY 12572

"A Great Place to Live, Laugh & Play"
BELL'S POND
 ADULT LIVING COMMUNITY IN THE HEART OF COLUMBIA COUNTY
 Energy efficient, cost conscious, manuf. homes
 3459 Route 9 • Hudson, NY 12534
518-851-9917 • alvarezsaleshj@gmail.com

WELLS FARGO Advisors
 Edward Mercier, AAMS®
 Senior Vice President – Branch Manager
 Accredited Asset Management Specialist
 6423 Montgomery Street, Suite 10
 Rhinebeck, NY 12572
 Direct: (845) 876-9710
 edward.mercier@wfa.com
 home.wellsfargoadvisors.com/edward.mercier

Investment and Insurance Products:
 > NOT FDIC Insured > NO Bank Guarantee > MAY Lose Value

Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member SIPC, a registered broker-dealer and non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. ©2020 Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC. All rights reserved. CAR-0121-03343

**support our
ADVERTISERS**

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!