

## The Parish of

# ST. CHRISTOPHER & ST. SYLVIA

Red Hook, New York

www.stchrisredhook.org

MARCH 27, 2022

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

# 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 9:00 AM Mass until Noon and Wednesdays 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. Jeffrey Maurer, *Parochial Vicar*Rev. William Woodruff, *In Residence*Rev. Mr. Raymond Ricci and Rev. Mr. Keith White, *Deacons* 

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!

	Intentions	Requested by:
Sat., March 26	Lenten Weekday	
9:00 am	Pro Populo	
5:00 pm	Patrick O'Connor †	Mangiamele Family
Sun., March 27	Fourth Sunday of Lent	
7:30 am	John Cayea †	Rick & Barbara Rizzolo
9:00 am	Pro Populo	
11:00 am	John Connolly †	Raymond & Yvonne Sicignano
Mon., March 28	Lenten Weekday	
9:00 am	Patrick O'Connor†	Betty Bader
Tues., March 29	Lenten Weekday	
9:00 am	Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Putorti†	Ricci Family
Wed., March 30	Lenten Weekday	
No Mass		
Thurs., March 31	Lenten Weekday	
9:00 am	Kevin McClure†	Ricci Family
Fri., April 1	Lenten Weekday	
9:00 am	Olga Sopchak †	Korb Family
Sat., April 2	St. Francis of Paola	
9:00 am	Marjorie Reilly †	Sipperley Family
5:00 pm	Judith Scaffidi†	Scaffidi Family
Sun., April 3	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
7:30 am	Intentions of Our Lady's Guild	
9:00 am	John Cayea†	Boyd Family
11:00 am	Pro Populo	

# FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

will take place after the 9:00 am Mass until Noon on Friday, April 1st. Sign up in back of the church.





# EASTER SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS

Easter Spiritual Bouquet cards are available in

back of the church. Please return the offering envelope to the parish office or in the collection basket before Holy Week to have your loved one remembered in the Easter Triduum of Masses.



For anyone who missed our Cardinal's Appeal In-pew Collection.....Please drop your pledge envelope in the collection basket or bring to the parish office. You can also make your pledge online. We need your participation to meet our parish goal of \$78,000.

Thank you!

Visit cardinalsappeal.org/donate to make your gift today!

This weekend

# COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Thank you for your participation.

#### STEWARDSHIP REPORT

March 20, 2022

Weekly Collection \$ 4,274 WeShare \$ 2,819 Relief in Ukraine \$ 2,794

Our parish greatly depends on your consistent financial support. Thank you!

# The incredible life of Samuel Henderson, protector of the Memphis Dominicans

By Morris Butcher

A formerly enslaved Black Catholic convert, Henderson served the Memphis parish as a groundskeeper, a hero, and, possibly a saint.



Photo Courtesy of St. Peter's Catholic Church

The parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church (commonly called St. Peter's) in Memphis knew Samuel Henderson in life as "Uncle Sam."

However, he was more widely known—and is remembered today—by the name that tops his monument in what used to be the 'Free Negro Section' of Calvary Cemetery: "St. Peter's Sam."

A formerly enslaved Black Catholic convert, Henderson served the Church as a groundskeeper, a hero, and — in my opinion — a saint.

## From slavery to a Solemn Requiem Mass

Sam's life began around 1822 in slavery, and ended in 1907 with a full church and a Solemn Requiem Mass celebrated at the high altar of St. Peter's—after which he was carried to his grave by 8 friars from the Order of Preachers (aka the Dominicans).

What happened within those 85 years to cause such a man to be granted the highest solemnity, and the devotion of a parish composed of Irish Catholics in the American South?

Sam's relationship with the Church began in the first decade after the Civil War and with his arrival in Memphis, though how and when he arrived are unclear. During this period, Henderson, a recently freed slave, ministered to a small Baptist congregation just down the road from St. Peter's.

He was known to come to the parish and listen to the early Sunday Mass, where he would hear homilies from the Dominicans. Taking them as his inspiration, would then return to his own flock and preach the Gospel. Perhaps as a result of the friendship and preaching of the friars, Henderson and his wife eventually converted to Catholicism, and he joined the parish as their handyman—a position he held for over 30 years.

## The Memphis fever

Henderson worked with the friars through the darkest decade in Memphis history, the 1870s, and won the undying love of the order and the city's Irish population. Yellow fever burned through the city in the outbreaks of 1873, 1878, and 1879, killing 7,500 Memphians and causing the collapse of civic life.

In the wildfire-like fever season of 1878, an estimated 25,000 individuals—mostly White, wealthy, and Protestant—fled before the city found itself blockaded by federal troops. Civil government collapsed throughout Memphis, as municipal officials fell sick or abandoned their posts. Only 7 of the city's 41 police officers were capable of mustering for duty, and the rest were overwhelmed. As the state legislature revoked the city charter, refugee camps dotted the countryside and schools quickly became hospitals, orphanages, and later, morgues.

When the Memphians of means fled, only the poor and those who cared for them, body and soul, remained. The poor were composed of the recently emancipated, the small Jewish population, and the Irish immigrants of the "Pinch District." The ministers who stayed included the rabbis, the Episcopalian Sisters, and the Catholics, who worked together in a feat of ecumenical cooperation.

For example, when a dying Catholic was encountered, a rabbi ran at once to St. Peter's to fetch a priest, and then accompanied him as he brought the dying person Viaticum and the comfort of the sacraments.

All told, 45 priests, religious brothers, and women religious died doing their duty alongside their brothers and sisters from other faith traditions.

#### Protecting the friars with his life

Henderson appointed himself protector of the Dominican friars, whom he would accompany as they saw to the care of the orphans, made sick calls, and brought Jesus to the dying. Due to the civic collapse, the city had also become more dangerous and Henderson worried for the safety of the priests. As night fell, he always escorted them by the light of his lamp.

This dedication came in spite of the threat to Henderson's own safety, as he was a Black man in a city rife with violence, that had seen and would see race riots and lynchings. He was also a Catholic and a known friend to the Irish in a part of the country where anti-Catholic bigotry and anti-immigrant violence served as additional sources of segregation. (continued on last page)

THIS WEEK	AT ST. CHRISTOF	PHER-ST. S	SYLVIA
Sunday, March 27			
OCIA	10:20 am	DBH	
CYO games	2:00—6:00 pm	gym	
Monday, March 28			
CYO practice	5:00-8:00 pm	gym	
Tuesday, March 29			
Prayers for Life	9:30 am	church	
CYO practice	6:00 pm	gym	
Wed., March 30			
CYO practice	5:00 pm	gym	Ni.
Holy Hour	7:00 pm	church	
Thursday, March 31			
CYO practice	5:00 pm	gym	
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	church	
Friday, April 1			Ó
First Friday Adoration	9:30 am until Noon	church	STATIONS
Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm	church	OF THE CROSS
Saturday, April 2			
CYO games	8:00 am	gym	
Sunday, April 3			
OCIA	10:20 am	DBH	
CYO games	2:00—6:00 pm	gym	

## 44 SUNDAY OF LENT







#### **GRADES 1-6**

Next Class: Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Thursday, March 31, 2022

#### YOUTH ALIVE

Grades 7 & 8

**Next Class:** 

Tuesday, March 29, 2022 Thursday, March 31, 2022

All 7th & 8th Grade Students attend class!

\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### CONFIRMATION

Sponsor Form Due: April 5-7 Family Time Hrs. due: April 19-21 Service Hours Due: April 19-21





#### Parish Events & Information

## A LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Saturday, April 2nd from 10:00 am—3:00 pm at Good Shepherd Church, 3 Mulberry St., Rhinebeck. Fr. Arthur Rojas will be our retreat master. The Day will include Mass, Confession, Holy Hour and two conferences, "Singing Our Way to Contrition: A Meditation on Attende Domine" and "Hanging on a String? A Lenten look at the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help". A free will offering will be taken up. Bring your own lunch. All are invited!

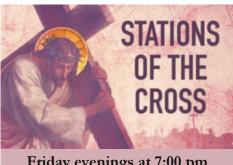




If you are interested in helping with this exciting fundraising endeavor for our parish, please contact Gina at 845-399-0058. There will be additional donation drop-off dates. Check the parish website and upcoming bulletins for updates and announcements.

# "Summer with the Shepherd"

Vacation Bible School for children will be held June 27th through July 1st from 9:00 am — 12:30 pm at St. Christopher School. Pre-K through 6th grade can register starting April 1st. Adult and teen volunteers are needed for the success of the program. Call Kitty Ghee at 845-876-6798.



Friday evenings at 7:00 pm

#### DON'T MISS OUR NEXT FISH FRY-DAY ON APRIL 8TH

at St. Christopher School Gym, 30 Benner Road from 5:00 — 7:00 pm.



#### **MENU**

Choice of Fried Cod, Fried Clams, or Fried **Shrimp with Fresh Cut French Fries** \*\*Combos available\*\*

Baked cod dinner option with baked potato (pre-order only)

Includes house-made coleslaw, dinner roll, tartar sauce, cocktail sauce, brownie dessert \$15 per person, combos \$18, everything combo \$20, \$9 children under 12

Call ahead for take-out orders at 845-758-3732 or order online at: st-christophers-fish-fry.square.site

#### VENDORS NEEDED FOR APPLE BLOSSOM DAY

Apple Blossom Day in the Village of Red Hook will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 10-4. Once again we will be renting out space on the lawn of St. Christopher's Church for vendors who wish to sell crafts or other items. If you are interested please contact Barb at 845-235-5985 for info.

# 2022 Red Hook Area Council of Churches Mid-Week Lenten Services

Services will continue to begin at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings: March 30th • St. John's Reformed Church • Br. Randy Greve preaching April 6th • Christ Church • Rev. Steve Ernst preaching

## SOCIETIES & CONTACTS

Adult Faith Formation, Barbara Totmanolqop07@yahoo.com				
<b>Baptismal Coordinator</b> , 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				

Henderson continued

If that wasn't enough, Henderson chose again and again to go into the homes of those dying from a disease that was incredibly contagious and deadly, in an age before there was modern PPE to protect him. The friars, who saw Henderson's devotion but worried for his safety, would plead for him to return to the parish—but he always refused.

Out of love, Henderson continued to go, guarding and protecting his beloved friars in life and in death as, one by one, the friars who had pleaded for Henderson to stay safe succumbed to the fever themselves. Henderson, always a friend to the priests, nursed and cared for each one of them as they slipped into final sleep.

Ultimately, he cleaned the bodies of 9 priests, and vested 8 of them in the habit of St. Dominic one final time.

#### A saint-to-be?

After the last of the fevers receded, Henderson lived another 30 years as a beloved member of the parish, where he was adopted by the Irish parishioners who never forgot his service during the dark days of the epidemic.

He died on February 13, 1907, at the age of 80. The Dominicans also never forgot Henderson, burying him with full honors and leading the parish in paying for his burial and memorial. Friars of the province who reside outside of the city have also maintained a tradition of praying at Henderson's grave when they pass through Memphis.

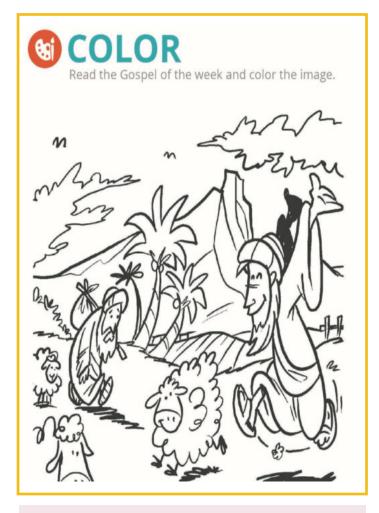
The only known photo of Henderson remains in the Crystal Room at St. Peter's to this day.

Fr. John Vidmar, OP, has written extensively on Henderson's era in *Bury Me in the Sunshine: The Yellow Fever Epidemics of Memphis*, a book released in 2020 concerning the role Catholics played in the crisis. This article is indebted to his research.

Fr. Vidmar has called Henderson "indomitable" and believes (along with many of his fellow Dominicans) that he should have a sainthood cause opened—like the now-canonized St, Martin de Porres, the legendary Black Dominican friar whose national shrine has graced St. Peter's since 2001.

As a parishioner at St. Peter's, I believe that Henderson can be seen as nothing but a saint, who lived his life with heroic virtue by repeatedly choosing to walk into what seemed like certain death countless times. Why? Simply because he is, like Christ his master, a light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot comprehend it.

This article was printed with permission from Aleteia (from Black Catholic Messenger)



#### 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 McMahon • Fred Miller • Maryann Moul Salvatore Sorrentino • 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 1	liet

Name	
Date	



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