



**The Parish of St Christopher
& Good Shepherd**

Merry Christmas to you & our parish family from our priests, deacons & dedicated lay staff here at church!

Recently, one of the towns had a bit of a kerfuffle regarding a “Holiday Tree” in town and without getting into it I can say I was actually kind of happy about it. Christmas trees are relatively recent, even the Nativity was first made an object of devotion by St Francis of Assisi in the 13th century, which is still new to the Catholic Church

However, I thought both of our parish churches have both and more. Both of our “Trees” and Nativity sets lead people to the open door of the Church which is actually where Jesus is: in the Tabernacle. It is this sacrament where we really

find the full presence of Christ. A tree might remind us of the season, a Nativity recalls His Birth but only the Eucharist makes Him truly present to us so we can be truly present to Him.

I pray that those who visit still see and experience Jesus after the trees have been sent to the woodchipper and the Nativity has been packed away. That is the gift of our Catholic Faith: the permanent presence of Christ all year round.

May you and I say “Yes, there’s room here” and open the doors of our daily prayer and daily lives to God through the lived reality of our Catholic Faith! That will be the greatest present of all to us.

Finally, there is still time to choose a gift for God. We do well with Sunday Mass attendance, but I would really like to go deeper and invite folks to volunteer. Whether it’s joining a Bible study, whether it’s serving as helpers in CCD class or doing a little extra work at a fish fry, breakfast or coffee hour.

Like many churches, we have a steady core of volunteers, but they are consistently serving and often aging. I’d like Christmas to be a consideration of going deeper than just Sundays. Pray about it whether it’s daily Mass, the Food Pantry, Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays or simply stepping forward to help with a collection or serving in some way. Merry Christmas—tree or not.





Christmas EVE & DAY Masses

EVE 330pm Mass SC GYM

EVE 5pm Mass Good Shepherd

**EVE 10pm Candlelight Mass
SC GYM**

DAY 730am Mass at SC Church

DAY 9am Mass at Good Shepherd

DAY 1045am Mass SC GYM



Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

**Saturday 4pm Mass at Good Shepherd
with Confessions til 530pm**

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Sunday 730am Mass St Christopher's Church

Sunday 9am Good Shepherd Church

Sunday 1045am held at both Churches

Sunday 6pm St Christopher's Church



I'm very excited to let you know that a set of High Mass vestments with matching chasuble & 2 diaconal tunics has finally arrived. Originally the date was in time for the 100th Anniversary Mass of Saint Christopher's but you know how that goes. The other day the email arrived that it would be here by Christmas. We will use them on Christmas, Easter, Corpus Christi, Communions and Confirmations as well as the 125th Anniversary of Good Shepherd. God deserves our best and this was a important step in having our "Big Events" made consistent and noble in the service of God in the Sacred Liturgy.

The New2U Thrift Shop

30 Benner Road—Red Hook

is currently swamped & cannot accept new donations until after new years...thanks for understanding.

Mass Intentions For December 20 & 21st

GS Lamp in Mem of Joseph Kennedy

by Kathleen Kennedy

SC Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Dorothy Wengler

by The Renneman Family

Robert Bartollotta by His Family

Solomon, Schmidt & Notine Families by Joan Grady

Scholldorf Family by Julia Staub

Tom Gilbert by Nancy Rogers & Family

Thomas Crean by Tom & Sharon Sullivan

Elizabeth Kennedy by Deacon Richard & Pat Santana

Tuesday

8am-Frederick & Christian Wood by The Wood Fam.

9am-Margaret & Jim Brennan by The Brennan Fam.

Wednesday— Christmas Eve

3:30-William & Esther Oliveras by Charles Grima

5pm-John Grady by Joan Grady GS

10pm-Mass For The People GYM

Thursday— Christmas Day

7:30- Intentions of the Priests of our Parish

SC CHURCH

9-Sabo,Resko,Kozloski & Stranz Fam by Sabo Family

GS CHURCH

10:45-Phyllis Palumbo by The Das Family Friday

SC GYM

Friday

NO 8am MASS AT GOOD SHEPHERD

9am-Msgr Coen by Donna & Bill McGann

Mass Intentions for December 27 & 28th

Carmella Roberts by Ed Roberts

The Lutz Family by Dana & Erin

Venaida Del Rosario by Bart Del Rosario

Elizabeth Kennedy by Dave & Lynda Jutton

John Odendahl by Joseph Scala & Family

Mass For The People Of The Parish

**Rev. Jeffrey Maurer,
Pastor**

**Rev Giorgio Thoman,
Asst**

**Raymond Ricci,
Anthony Silvestro,
Permanent Deacons**

**Maureen Terranova &
Frances Remenek,
Office Assistants**

**Lori Pociask,
Bookkeeper**

David Whelley, Facilities

**Hillary Gaddis-Clegg,
Rel. Ed. Director**

845-758-5506 •

Education

@stchrisredhook.org

Main Parish Office

30 Benner Road,

Red Hook, NY 12571 -

845-758-3732 •

Rectory

@stchrisredhook.org

PARISH OFFICES

CLOSED ON

FRIDAY SAT SUN