



Saint Christopher Church

1576 Curtner Avenue, San Jose, CA

Parish Office: 269-2226 Fax: 269-2784

Web Site: www.saintchris.com

Office Hours: 8:30—12:00; 1:00—4:00 M-F

PASTOR: Msgr. Wilfredo S. Manrique

PAROCHIAL VICARS:

Rev. David Mercer & Rev. Andrew Nguyen

Deacon Pedro Perez

PARISH SECRETARIES:

Gayle Blackford & Adrienne DiVittorio

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Chuck Blalock

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: 6:30 & 8:00 a.m.

Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Sundays: 6:30, 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.;

12:30 & 6 p.m.

Confessions: Saturdays 3:30-4:15 pm
& by appointment.

R.C.I.A.: 269-2226

Director: Sr. Sharon Skain, S.N.D.

LITURGY OFFICE: 269-6437

OUTREACH OFFICE: 269-3932

Director: Nancy Melander

Pantry Hours: 4:00-5:30pm Tuesday & Wednesday

Call for Saturday Hours

PARISH RECORDS: Sue Pershon

PASTORAL Ministry: 264-5114

Director: Loretta Pfaff

YOUTH MINISTRY: 265-3230

Director: Tim Melander

CATECHETICAL MINISTRY: 264-8764

Director: Sr. Felicia Gross, O.S.F.

Rel. Ed. Assistant: Diane Forst

Elementary Sacrament Coordinator: Gina Park

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL: 408-723-7223

School web site: www.stchris.us

Principal: Mrs. Anne Ivie; **Vice Principals:** Sr. Kieran O'Connor, P.B.V.M. and Mrs. Jutta Brassill

Business Manager: Mrs. Stephanie Houlihan **Finance Manager:** Mrs. Angie Thomas;

Development Director: Teresa Behan X204

MARRIAGE: Must be a Parishioner in the parish. Diocesan policy requires that parish couples contact a parish priest six (6) months prior to the date of marriage. Weddings are on Saturdays at 12:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.

BAPTISM: Registered parents (6 mo. minimum) may pick up a Baptism Registration form at the parish office or on line at www.saintchris.com. Baptismal Preparation will take at least 2 – 4 months upon receipt of the registration form. We suggest you begin Baptismal Preparation before the birth of your child.

Second Sunday of Advent December 4, 2011

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.— *Mark 1:3*

Advent Events

DECEMBER 8 – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Thursday, December 8 is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the national patroness of the United States. It is a holy day of obligation. Masses for the holy day are: Vigil Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8 – at 6:30, 8 and 9:30 a.m., and 7 p.m

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

St. Christopher Parish will be celebrating our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service with opportunity for individual confession will be on Tuesday, December 13 at 7p.m. This service is for both adults and children (3rd grade and up). All of us can benefit from God's forgiveness, mercy, and healing grace by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this holy season of Advent. We have invited guest priests to help us celebrate this wonderful sacrament of God's healing love.

Advent Reflection The Gift of Peace

On this second Sunday of Advent, we reflect upon the gift of peace that we receive through our Lord Jesus Christ. In these turbulent times when we can't turn on the television or pick up the newspaper without seeing images of conflict, it can seem that the world in which we live is anything but peaceful. How do we reconcile the Peace of Christ with the turmoil of our modern world? Most of us cannot directly impact global events, but on this Sunday as we reflect on peace we can pray more fervently than ever for world peace. But the gift of peace that we receive through Jesus Christ is a personal gift. That peace resides within each and every one of us and its best use is for sharing. This Sunday our community of St. Christopher is sharing peace with our neighbors in need with gifts for the elderly. This is one way that we can respond to the Peace of Christ.

In the first reading today and again in the Gospel, we hear of a voice crying out in the desert to "prepare the way of the Lord". How can we best prepare the way of the Lord? We can accept the Peace of Christ within our hearts by sharing it with others - not just today but throughout the year. We know that it is in giving that we receive, and this is certainly true when we share peace. As we reach out in the Peace of Christ to our neighbors, that peace grows within us, and it grows within our neighbors as well.

This Advent, as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us continue to reflect on the gift of peace. Let us pray for world peace and let us do all we can to bring about peace in our own community.

The Gifts of Advent We Receive and Share

This Advent, to reciprocate for the many gifts we have received by the grace of God, St. Christopher Parish will put our faith into action by sharing some of our surplus with the poor and marginalized of our community. By making our liturgical celebrations an extension of our Parish Outreach Office, we will both receive and share the Gifts of Advent.

The 3rd Week of Advent

The Advent Gift We Receive: **JOY**

The Advent Gifts We Share: **For Babies:** Diapers, Blankets, Sleeper Sets, Clothing; or Food
Please remember to bring your Advent Gifts to Share to Mass next weekend and to place them in the baskets in front of the altar before Mass begins.

Religious Education Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs: 8:30am-Noon and 1:00pm-4:00pm

JUNIOR HIGH PROGRAM: The Rel. Ed. Junior Program meets this Sun. Dec. 4th from 4:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Next Jr. Hi. meeting is Jan. 8, 2012.

REL. ED ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS: All parents are invited to the Sunday Rel. Ed. Christmas Program on Dec. 11th in Healy Hall at 8:50 a.m. The Tuesday Rel. Ed. Christmas Program will be on Tuesday Dec. 13th at 4:15 p.m. in the Church.

LITURGY OF THE WORD PROGRAM: The Liturgy of the Word for children is open to all children of the parish, who are in grades 1st through 4th. This program takes place each Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

COOP BABYSITTING DURING THE 9:30 A.M. MASS: This service is for children 3 years old (too young for the ECE program) and younger. Tiffany Harridine-Sinn is the

Coordinator for this service. If you are interested in your child/ren participating and are willing to be a COOP parent, please email Tiffany at tiffanysinn@yahoo.com or call Tiffany at (408) 265-7273. Diocesan regulations require that you be finger printed before you can work or volunteer to be with children. Please contact Sr. Felicia 264-8764 for further information on requirements for volunteers.

CHRISTMAS BREAK FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

The Sunday Rel. Ed., the ECE Pre-School, the COOP Babysitting and the Liturgy of the Word have a break from Dec. 18th- Jan. 1st. All programs resume on Jan. 8, 2012. The Tuesday Rel. Ed. Program has a break from Dec. 20th-Dec. 27th, classes resume on Jan. 3, 2012.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP BUDGET REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 28, 2011

**GOAL: \$21,682.08 PER WEEK
FISCAL Y.T.D. AVG. \$18,307.40**

Under the current economic conditions we have fallen short by over **\$3,374.68 per week.** If we all work together to increase our weekly offertory by \$3-5 dollars, we should have no difficulty meeting our budgeted weekly goal.

I thank those that have increased your weekly offertory and for your continued support

God bless,
Msgr. Wilfredo S. Manrique

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 3

4:30 Wayman Gus Banker, Isabel Costa, Greg Glass, Vicente Martinez, Manuel Gutierrez,

Sunday, December 4

6:30 Helen Boshell, Pro Populo, Angelo Ferrero,

8:00 Michael Giammona, Frank Bozzo, Phillip Benevento, Carmen Borrelli, Brendan Maguire

9:30 Donald Dupies, Phillip Benevinto Lawrence DeSorbo

11:00 Duilio Masini, Anna Green Jean Trznadel (sp int), Anna Masetti, Mary Volkman, Nick Lagattuta

12:30 Florinio Ramos, Arlene Burnham Joe Piazza

6:00

Next week the second collection benefits the **Retirement Fund for Religious.** More than 37,000 women and men religious are now past age 70 and their institutes struggle daily with the spiraling costs of health care.

Please give generously

2011

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY
December 8th, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30&7:00pm

PARISH RECONCILIATION
December 13 @ 7:00 pm

EVENING OF MEDITATION
December 15, @ 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY, DEC 24
4:00 pm – Church
4:00 pm – Healy Hall (Children's mass)
6:00 pm in Church. 9:00 pm
Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY, DEC 25
6:30am, 8:00am, 9:30am, &
11:00am 12:30pm in Church

NEW YEAR'S EVE, SATURDAY,
December 31st @ 4:30pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY, SUNDAY, JAN 1
6:30am, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am,
12:30pm, 6:00pm

PFC Youth Ministry News:
Tim Melander (408)-265-3230
scyouth@yahoo.com or parish website
www.saintchris.com—Select youth link

PFC YOUTH MINISTRY

Our Christmas Meeting and Cultural Potluck is next **Sun., Dec. 11th, from 3:45 – 5:45 pm. in the Marian Room. (Note extended time).** Please bring a cultural food item to share, a copy of the flag of your ethnic background, and your Adopt-A-Family item(s). Be prepared to share something interesting about your cultural background.

YOUTH RETREAT

Information about our St. Christopher Youth Retreat, **Jan 6-8th** at YMCA Camp Campbell has been emailed to Youth Ministry and Confirmation youth. All High School youth are welcome and encouraged to attend. For a retreat packet, please contact the PFC Youth Ministry office.

NEEDING SACRAMENTS?

H.S. youth, if you need to prepare for the Sacrament (s) of Baptism, First Communion or Reconciliation, please contact Tim at the PFC youth ministry office. Small group sessions will begin in January.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER – FOR CHRISTMAS– Make a great gift

Our Parish PFC Youth Ministry is selling Entertainment Books to raise money for special youth events during the year. Entertainment Books for only \$30 each, make great Christmas gifts! Save 50% on dining, travel, dry cleaning, movie tickets and more! Stop by the parish office to purchase a book. You can also order online by going to www.entertainment.com/support and entering our group ID# 112793. Thanks in advance for your support of our fundraiser.



Sponsors Needed

S.O.S. 3 women are still waiting sponsor to accompany them on Tuesdays 7:15pm in Walsh Hall. Dec. 10 Saturday Retreat. Come Holy Spirit, rekindle the heats of the Faith Full. Sr. Sharon 269-2226 ext 137

Outreach

OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

Due to the increase in people needing food this year, the Food Pantry is getting an early start in their collection of items for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets.

The items needed are: turkeys, hams, canned vegetables and fruit, mash potatoes, pasta, pasta sauce, home made cookies, chili, tuna, macaroni and cheese, and soup. Scrip for grocery store is also appreciated. Donations may be brought to Msgr Allen Center during office hours. For information email nancy_melander@yahoo.com

PLANNING TO REPLACE YOUR COMPUTER FOR CHRISTMAS?

Planning to purchase a new computer for Christmas? If your old one isn't ancient and still running well, it could be put to good use to help our seminarians. Many of them are in need of a computer or laptop to write papers for their academic studies. Many, especially those who have just recently arrived from another country, are unable to purchase one for themselves and they have to rely on shared computer resources at the local libraries. So, if you would like to help out, please bring your old well running computers or laptops to the Msgr. Allen Center to Fr. Andrew, Msgr. Willie or Loretta. For more info, please call 408 264-5114.

What Really Happened in Bethlehem?

~ Christmas Infancy Stories

Presenter: Fr. Dave Mercer

Location: St. Christopher Church

Today: Sunday, December 4, 7-8:30pm (follows the 6pm mass), or, Repeated:

Monday, December 5, 8:45-10:15am

Every Christmas, we tell the story of Jesus' birth, complete with shepherds, angels, and visiting magi. However, there's a meaning to those story that we miss if we treat it simply as a children's story. Fr. Dave will look at what the story meant to the earliest Christian and what it means to us today. All are welcomed – invite a friend.



CHRISTMAS ALTAR & FLOWER FUND

To share in decorating the altar for Christmas, you may donate to the Christmas Altar and Flower Fund in memory of a loved one or as a sign of raise and worship. Special envelopes are available in the vestibule of the Church or you may use a plain envelope. Enclose the names of those you would like remembered with your donation and either drop in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Announcements



St. Christopher School

2278 Booksin Ave. San Jose CA 95125
408-723-7223 www.stchris.us



Open House

December 7th

Tours 9am-12pm

Kindergarten Program
Classroom Visit 6:30pm-6:50pm
Presentation 7pm in the Church

Application available online or at the school office
Due January 13th 2012



Thank you for your concern and prayers during our recent illness. We are so blest to be part of St. Christopher's loving community. We hold you in our heart and prayer. Lovingly, Sister Kieran, Sister Rosemary and Sister Carmel

The Men of the Holy Name Society Present:
Christmas Under the Stars 2011
Dinner in a Winter Wonderland

December 14, 2011 - Healy Hall
Doors Open at 6:00 pm

Champagne, hors d'oeuvres and dinner
Tickets are \$20 in Advance, \$25 at the Door

To purchase tickets please mail a check to:
1947 Bernice Way, San Jose, CA 95124
payable to St. Christopher Ladies' Guild

Please Include your: Name, Phone, Email, Number
of Tickets, Total Due

Ticket orders received will be held at the door

For additional Questions
Please Contact Jodie Lissner
jodieliissner@mac.com | 408.307.0019

Christian Meditation

As taught by Father John Main O.S.B.

Thursday December 15, at 7pm

You are warmly invited to participate in the tradition and practice of silent Christian meditation, in the Church, on Thursday, December 15 at 7pm. Meditation brings us to that place of inner silence where "we are simply being with God who is in us in the Holy Spirit whom Jesus has given us" (John Main). Christian meditation is a prayer of faith. "It is more important to experience its power in our lives than to try to understand or explain it" (John Main), so let us deepen our spiritual life by joining together to meditate during the third week of the beautiful Season of Advent.

The format for our meetings is very simple and will consist of gathering together, followed by a prayer and a reading. We will listen to a recording of John Main for 10 minutes then a minute or two of gentle music, before meditating together for 20 minutes. We will conclude with some more gentle music and candlelight prayers, after which you are free to leave, or to stay for a discussion about meditation. This invitation is extended with much love to those who came to previous meditations during Advent, Lent and Pentecost and also to anyone who has never meditated before.

All are welcome – no experience required.



The San Jose Comitium of the Legion of Mary invites you to follow our Blessed Mother, by joining to the Legion of Mary in continuing Her Son's work of charity, love, and evangelization.

The San Jose Comitium is setting up a Table of Mary at Saint Christopher Parish during all Masses, this weekend, December 10-11, where you will find religious materials such as: rosaries, scapulars, and pamphlets, which will give you information about the Legion of Mary.

For further information, contact either Alberto Lutgardo at (408) 661-9844 or Rosel Jarvis (408) 693-4456.

Please Pray For Us



We continue to pray for all the men and women serving our country in this time of war:

Tom G. Holman, Greg Cook, Connor McDonald, Christian Dietz, Connor Quinn, Adam Christopher Madewell, Keith Lewis, Richard Stayskal, Larry Chartier, Andrew Morgan, Derek Carroll, Allen Ellerbee, Obadiyah Petteway, Eric Gentrup, Michael Arnone, David Wells, John Prieto, Ryan Trapani, Rafi Miranda, Spencer Fishman, Ryan A. Johnson, David Ryan, Benjamin Owens-Filice, Christopher Healy, and Christine Doudell

Pray for the ill in our Parish

Maureen Morgan, Andes, Ike & Louise, Miranda Aduddell, Joseph Walter, Tony Jones, Carmen Filice, Sr. Carmel Silva, Marco Salsiccia, Dave Oliverio, Fr. Bill Leininger, Kathy Fiato, Kathleen Folan, Margret Gaffaney, Louise Re, Mary O'Toole, Charles & Rachel Pori, Ann Monaco, Marcus Espinoza, Al & Jean Trznadel, and Janet Brunsman



ILL OR HOMEBOUND?

Would you or someone you know like to have Eucharist brought to their home because they are ill or homebound and unable to get to Church? We have Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick who are ready to bring Eucharist to anyone in the Parish who is unable to attend Church, whether for a short period of time or on a permanent basis. Please call Loretta Pfaff at in the Office of Pastoral Care at 264-5114.

*Presentation Center is offering private holiday luncheons from Monday, November 28 to Saturday, December 17! Celebrate the season with delicious entrees and homemade desserts with your family and friends on our beautiful property. Reservations are required and space is limited- BOOK NOW! For more information contact Sitara at(408)354-2346 x207 or ssiverls@presentationcenter.org. For event updates please visit our Facebook page or our website at www.presentationcenter.org.



Due to a direct cost increase from our vender our candles cost is increasing. As of July 1st the cost of votive candles will increase to \$2.50

Miscellaneous

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL AND PARISH CHILDREN'S MUSIC GROUP (Grades 3-8)

The children of St. Christopher School and Parish (Grades 3-8) are invited to join a music group that will sing and play musical instruments once a month at the 9:30am Sunday Mass. The commitment would be two afternoon practices before each scheduled Mass and the Mass itself. The dates are listed below:
Practice Mass

- Sunday, December 4th @ 9:30
- Friday, Dec. 16th @ 3:30-4:30
- Thursday, Dec. 22nd @ 3:30-4:30
- Saturday, December 24th @ 4:00
(Children's Christmas Eve Mass/Healy Hall)
- Friday, Jan. 20th @ 3:30-4:30
- Friday, Jan. 27th @ 3:30-4:30
- Sunday, January 29th @ 9:30
(Catholic Schools Week Mass)
- Friday, Feb. 24th @ 3:30-4:30
- Friday, Mar. 2nd @ 3:30-4:30
- Sunday, March 4th @ 9:30
- Monday, April 16th @ 3:30-4:30
- Friday, April 20th @ 3:30-4:30
- Sunday, April 22nd @ 9:30

If your child(ren) plays an instrument or is interested in singing with the choir please contact me by email: dcarey@stchris.us with their name/grade level and contact information or call me at 723-7223 x 208

Thank You!

Debbie Carey (St. Christopher School/Music Teacher/Children's Liturgist)



IN REMEMBRANCE *Let us pray for all who have died, that they may rejoice with the Risen Lord, especially:*
Victor Canestrino, Helen Cabeceiras



Fresh & Easy supports local schools. By submitting receipts that are dated September 15, 2011 through December 31, 2011 Fresh & Easy will give St. Christopher School one dollar for every \$20 spent. Please drop off your receipts at the parish office attn: Development or mail to St. Christopher School 2278 Booksin Ave SJ CA 95125 attn Development. Thank you for your support