

University Parish of St. Christopher
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Sunday, April 7, 2019

5th Sunday of Lent

In today's first reading the Lord, through the prophet Isaiah, says: "**Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!**" St. Paul knew the newness of God very well. After encountering Jesus, he went from being a persecutor of Christians to their most ardent defender. The ultimate proof that God wants to do something new is Jesus' resurrection. He transformed suffering and death into new life. In a world in which we often hear "No way." God wants to open new doors for His people. When we hit a wall, with Jesus, He opens a new door. Jesus is able to take us past death to a new life. Even now He wants to take us past sin, through confession, to freedom, joy and peace. By taking advantage, this Lent, of the opportunity to go to confession we can begin to experience now the new life the Lord desires for us.

LENTEN HEALING MASS & PRAYER SERVICE – On this **Thursday, April 11, there will be a Healing Mass followed by a prayer service.** Leading these services will be Fr. Tom Reilly, a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, who has been the Lord's instrument through which many people have experienced physical and other healings. Flyers with a schedule for the evening and more information about the services are available in the church. Feel free to contact the rectory if you have any questions. Plan to attend and experience the healing power of Jesus.

EXPOSITION/STATIONS OF THE CROSS: **There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, April 12, following the 12:05 Mass. At the entrance of the Church is a sign-up sheet for all those who are interested in participating. Following benediction, at 3:00, there will be Stations of the Cross.**

ORDINARY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday - 4:00 PM,

Sunday - 10:00 AM (Spanish) 12:00 (English)

Monday thru Friday - 12:05PM

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday, April 6, 4:00 PM – For the repose of Fr. Stephen Opera

Sunday, April 7, 10:00 AM – For the University Parish of St. Christopher

Sunday, April 7, 12:00 PM – For the repose of Jody Sullivan, 1st year anniversary

Monday, April 8, 12:05 PM – For the repose of Josephine Davulis, Month Memorial, requested by the Davulis Family

Tuesday, April 9, 12:05 PM – For the repose of Fr. Denis Sheridan, 7th anniversary

Wednesday, April 10, 12:05 PM – For the repose of Fr. Joseph LaPorte

Thursday, April 11, 12:05 PM – For the repose of Stephen Opera, Sr.

Friday, April 12, 12:05 PM – For the repose of John Thompson, requested by Hank Cammack

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 PM – For the University Parish of St. Christopher

CONFESSIONS – Saturday 3:15-3:45, ordinarily after the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass, and by request.

2019 CATHOLIC APPEAL – The 2019 Catholic Appeal Goal for St. Christopher is \$9,298. **To date \$3,390** has been contributed by parishioners. Thank you to all who have contributed. If you have not yet had the opportunity to donate there are forms in the back of the Church or you can do so at bostoncatholicappeal.org. You can view the Appeal's 5-minute video at their website, or at the Parish website. Thank you!

SECOND COLLECTION – This week's Second Collection is the Easter Flower Offering which can be given by parishioners in honor, or in memory of, those they wish remembered. Please place your offering in an envelope with the name of the person to be remembered. Your support is greatly appreciated.

BIENVENIDO PADRE ERIC VELASQUEZ: Una cálida bienvenida extendemos al p. Eric Velasquez de la Arquidiócesis de Boston, quien es el celebrante de la misa en español esta semana. P. Eric fue ordenado para el servicio de la Arquidiócesis de Boston en 2018 y actualmente vive en la parroquia de Immaculate Conception en Revere. Gracias P. Eric por estar con nosotros!

LENTEN OBSERVANCES – Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence. Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years old and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, together they should not equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are. Abstinence is observed by all 14 years old and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed but when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted. Fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

SPECIAL EASTER COLLECTION - Our priests in good standing, especially our senior priests, have always answered our calls. Like us, they are troubled by the current events taking place in the Church, yet they are still there for us. For decades our senior priests have baptized our children, celebrated our marriages and blessed our loved ones as they were called home to God. They have always been available for us. Help us care for the health and well-being of our senior priests in good standing by graciously supporting them in our annual Easter collection. Boston priests answer the call. Thank you in advance for your prayers and support.

RECEIVING COMMUNION – If one receives communion in the hand after receiving the consecrated host immediately **consume the host in the presence of the minister**. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

CARDINAL O'MALLEY LENTEN LETTER – Cardinal Sean has issued a Lenten Letter which offers his reflection on the recently completed Rome summit on the protection of children and minors. A copy of this Letter, in English and in Spanish, is available at the entrance to the Church. Please take one with you.

CADA JUEVES: ROSARIO & GRUPO DE ORACIÓN CARISMÁTICO (ESPAÑOL): El Rosario a las 6:00 PM y el Grupo de Oración de 7:00 - 8:30 PM - Oraciones al Espíritu Santo, Perdón, Sanación peticiones y cantos de alabanzas. Si desea hacer el Rosario en su casa, comuníquese con Jose Villalta (617) 749-6144. Para obtener información sobre el grupo de oración carismático, llame a Mercedes Vasquez al 857-237-2991 o Regla Soto al 617-319-2719.

BAPTISM PREPARATION – Jesus said: “Let the little children come to me.” The next scheduled date for the Baptism of children is **Saturday, April 27**. If you are interested in having a child baptized please contact Regla Soto, at 617-319-2719 to make the necessary arrangements.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION – There are four parish email addresses. To contact Fr. Paul, please use **pastor@stchristopherchurch.org**. For Parish Office items please use **office@stchristopherchurch.org**. For Megan Haile, the administrative assistant, please use **admin@stchristopherchurch.org**. For UMass Boston Catholic Campus Ministry please use: **campusministry@stchristopherchurch.org**.

RELIC PILGRIMAGE - The Relic Pilgrimage of Saint John Vianney's Heart has been entrusted to the Knights of Columbus for a national tour in the U.S., from November 2018 through early June 2019. Saint John Vianney's Heart will visit Boston in April and at various times in May. For dates, times, and locations, visit bit.ly/Vianney19. For more information, visit KOFC.org/Vianney.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Thank you to those who use offertory envelopes and/or who give a weekly sacrificial offering. If for some reason you do not receive the envelopes or if you are new to the parish, please let us know. If you have moved, please provide us with your new address. If you are not here on a weekend, please return your donation by mail or on the following weekend. Your weekly offertory is critical to the parish.

OFFERTORY: \$711.22