



NOVEMBER 28, 2021 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Tues., Nov. 30th 9:00 am Weekday Mass (*St. Andrew the Apostle*)
 6:00 pm R.C.I.A. (*in Rectory Meeting Room*)
 Wed., Dec. 1st 9:00 am Weekday Mass
 Thurs., Dec. 2nd 9:00 am Weekday Mass
 Fri., Dec. 3rd 9:00 am First Friday Mass (*St. Francis Xavier*)
 9:30 am Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
 Sat., Dec. 4th 5:00 pm Vigil Mass of Second Sunday of Advent
 Sun., Dec. 5th 2ND Sunday of Advent (*8:30 & 10:30 am*)

WELCOME, WAYNE!



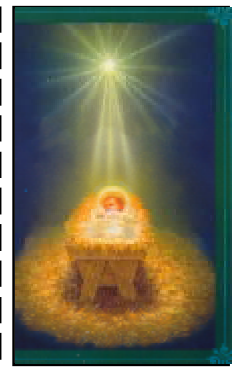
Of course, Wayne and the Murphy Family need no welcome to our Parish because they have always been active members here. Wayne is also a very active member of the Knights of Columbus and is currently the Faithful Navigator of the Fr. Baxter Assembly. What is new, though, is that, after his retirement and since last summer, Wayne agreed to work as our Part/Time Church Custodian. As a result, our Church has never been this clean before! We thank Wayne for accepting this position, for his good work and especially for being a true Custodian of the Church of which we are all proud!

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE OF HEALING
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9TH AT 7 PM**



**BISHOP'S SCHEDULE
 DECEMBER 11 & 12
 MASSES IN CATHEDRAL**

Throughout our Diocese, Parishes will be celebrating "Masses and Services of Healing" each month for their parishioners and especially for those who have experienced struggles and difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic. Together with them, our Cathedral will celebrate our own special Advent Penitential Service of Healing (with General Absolution) on Thursday, December 9th in the Cathedral at 7:00 pm. in preparation for the Solemn Feast of Christmas. Please plan to attend. Of course, Individual Confessions are also heard every Saturday from 4 to 4:45 pm.



CHRISTMAS: 2021- MASS TIMES

- CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES**
- ◆ **5:00 pm** (2 Masses, 1 upstairs, in the Cathedral and 1 downstairs, in the Auditorium);
 - ◆ **8:00 pm** (1 Mass, upstairs in the Cathedral);
 - ◆ **11:00 pm** (1 Mass, upstairs in the Cathedral).
- MASSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY**
- ◆ **10:30 am** - (1 Mass, upstairs in the Cathedral).

PLEASE NOTE: THIS YEAR, CHRISTMAS DAY FALLS ON A SATURDAY, SO MASS WILL NOT BE CELEBRATED AT 5:00 PM THAT EVENING (FOR SUNDAY).
MASSES ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26TH: 8:30 & 10:30 AM

LAST WEEK'S DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

November 21 st Collection	\$3, 595.68
Online Donations (<i>Nov. 14-21</i>)	280.00
Votive Candles & Missals Purchased....	380.00
St. Anthony's Poor Fund.....	14.75
Donations for Funerals/Sacraments.....	40.00

BISHOP'S MINISTRY CAMPAIGN

2021 Parish Goal	\$ 34, 000.
This past week's donations ...	435.
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Total to date	\$ 22, 442.
% of Parish Goal	66%



Q. Some years ago it was reported in our local newspaper that the Church had “demoted” St. Christopher and several other Saints. What does that mean? Is St. Christopher still a Saint? *Anonymous*

A. It is unfortunate that the media sometimes reports news in very dramatic and inaccurate ways. Like you, I also read this misleading headline many years ago, that Pope, Paul VI (1963-1978) decreed this so-called “demotion”! Of course, this is absolute nonsense. Saints who have lived exemplary lives and who are enjoying eternal life can never be “demoted” by anyone.

The Real Story behind the headline

What is true is that in 1969, Pope Paul VI officially removed St. Christopher’s Feastday (July 25) and a number of others like his, from the Church calendar. By doing so, the Pope did not “demote” them nor did he deny their existence in history. Instead he simply acknowledged a fact that had been known for centuries by historians, that there



was little or no authentic documentary evidence about the lives of some popular Saints and that stories about them may have been developed only in legends or in popular devotions. A few of the others included in this list were Expeditus, Liberata, and even, St. Valentine. In contrast, we have many historical documents about the lives of Saints like Rita, Francis, Benedict, Anthony, Mother Teresa, and many others.

St. Christopher’s Popular Story

One of the most well known stories told about Christopher and for

which the Church has no reliable historical evidence is that he was a pagan giant named ‘*Reprobus*’, who converted to Christianity in the 3rd century. Since Christopher was tall and strong, the hermit who converted him suggested that he could practise his newly found Faith by helping townspeople cross a raging river by carrying them to safety on his back. As the story goes; one day he was asked by a child to carry him

to the other side. When the giant asked the child why he felt so incredibly heavy, he was told by the boy that it was because, “He was carrying all the sins of the world on His back”! Of course, this meant that the child was the infant Jesus Himself, who had appeared to him. So, “*Reprobus*” became known by the people as, “*Christopher*”, which

means “Christ-bearer” in Latin. Since then, he has been and continues to be venerated and invoked as the Patron of safe travel and we place his images in our vehicles.

The “Take-Away” from all this

Does this mean that there never was a St. Christopher, and that we must not honour him or name children after him. Of course not. Christopher most likely did exist and, as mentioned above, the name “Christopher” means bearer of Christ and there can never be a loftier name for a Christian to have than this one!



MEETING NEXT SUNDAY

We will meet on December 5th after the 10:30 am Mass to reconnect and to chart a course for the coming year .

~ For those who have access to a computer, information regarding the notices of motions that will be presented is found on our Parish website under the C.W.L. Page.

~ For those who do not have online access, pick up the printed copies available at the Cathedral front entrance.

DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

Access the November edition on our Parish Website.



Knights of Columbus



CHRISTMAS CHEER UPDATE

FOR VOLUNTEERS ...

~ Please arrive 10 minutes before your set time starts.

~ Enter at the volunteer entrance for the COVID screening and then to your station.

~ You must all be fully vaccinated and provide proof.

~ You must wear a mask.

~ If you have questions, please email them to Joe Salini.

WEDDING BANNS

Upcoming Marriage between:

Brett Allan Fucile,

son of Todd Fucile and the late Sharon (McCarthy) Fucile and

Meghan Kaitlin Slongo,

daughter of Theodore Slongo and Cindy (Legault) Slongo

(WEDDING ON DECEMBER 18, 2021)