



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

SERVICE TO HIS PEOPLE

Member of 5 Saints West Pastoral Planning Group

November 8, 2009

GLORY BE TO GOD!

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

It was a little more than a year ago that Lehman Brothers, the international banking and securities firm, collapsed. After years of unchecked spending and trading, Lehman's bankruptcy touched off the global panic that marked the beginning of the worst recession since the Depression.

One year after Lehman's collapse, **The New York Times** [September 13, 2009] interviewed several of Lehman's executives and traders who lost everything in the firm's bankruptcy. Lehman's employees were a tightly-knit group: they not only worked together but partied together, vacationed together, dated and married, and were in constant touch with one another 24/7. A job at Lehman's was considered security for life.

But then it all disintegrated in the economy's free-fall. While some had stashed away enough money from the boom years to retire comfortably, most lost their jobs, homes, and savings. Many are still looking for work and some are still grieving the loss of their Lehman identities. Few blame themselves or their firm for what happened; federal regulators, they say, did not do their jobs to check irresponsible and unsecured trading: How can you expect Wall Street not to look for ways to make money when competitors are? they rationalize.

It has been a sobering year for these once Wall Street high-flyers. They all made a lot of money - but at what cost. One of the Lehman's executives interviewed was a former managing director - today the 51-year-old father of two runs a gas station and car wash in Florida. He says of the past year:

"I spent a long time being very angry . . . angry for working so hard and doing so much. More importantly, for my family and all the time I was away traveling - the time I put in away from them. Now all that money I earned, the money paid in stock, is gone. I can't go back and remake it."

This past year has been a difficult year for many of us - many dreams have been shattered and the means to make those dreams come true have disintegrated. But the wreckage of the economy leaves us with the same question that today's Gospel asks: What are the wisest and most productive things to invest not only our money but our time, our

energy, our passion in? The unsettling images Jesus articulates in today's Gospel confront us with the reality that the things we give our lives to - our careers, our portfolios, our bodies, our celebrity - will one day be no more and that their loss will leave us bitter and disillusioned. Christ calls us to embrace, not the things of the body but of the soul, not the things of the world but of God: the eternal treasures of love and mercy, the joy that comes only from selfless giving, the satisfaction that comes from lifting up the hopes and dreams of others.

Giving Traditions

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons approach, we will continue our traditions.

Thanksgiving Day: At Mass, each of us is asked to bring non-perishable items and place them under our chairs. After communion, we will deliver the items to the altar area as an offering for those in need. After Mass, those who are able should come forward to help take all the items through the back hallway to pack in awaiting vehicles. These items will be delivered to Bethany House.



We will again have the **Giving Tree** for Christmas which will be in place the weekend after Thanksgiving. You may take one or as many ornaments you wish and purchase the item listed on the ornament. The items should be returned under the tree ASAP unwrapped and with the ornament attached. Each item has a designated recipient. All items will be wrapped and delivered to members of our parish and Bethany House. (if you would like to help wrap and/or deliver, please call me).

The Tree of Lights will also be in effect this Christmas. A light will cost \$3 - \$5 per person for whom it's being lit. (for example: if you want to give a light for 10 people, it would cost \$30 or you could be generous and give \$50). Proceeds will go to Matt Talbott House (drug and alcohol rehab) and possibly another place TBA.

The Cradles will be used for new winter items for children ages 5 and under. These items will be donated to Focus Pregnancy Center.

Thank you for your continued caring and sharing.

Chris McCabe 2939248

Liturgical Ministers

If you do not have your new phone lists, please pick one up under the accordion file (outside the sacristy door)

MASS INTENTIONS - Nov. 7th to Nov 15th

Saturday	4:30 PM Patrick O'Connor and Bob Booker by Doll Booher
Sunday	9:00 AM Fred Stohr by Ken & Dee Milner 11:00 AM Sr. Carol Fox by Chris McCabe
Monday	9:00 AM For the people of St. Christopher's
Tuesday	9:00 AM Roberta Daniels by Sylvia Miller
Wednesday	9:00 AM Jerry Pettis by Joanne Popeck
Thursday	9:00 AM Communion and Prayer Service
Friday	9:00 AM Joan Northrup by Sharleen & Don Ellis
Saturday	4:30 PM Richard & John Coleman by Wilma
Sunday	9:00 AM Steve McManus by Mom & Dad 11:00 AM Phyllis Pasono by Helen Indovina

NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**Sunday, November 8, 2009**

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (Hall) Liturgy of the Word
9:00 AM - (All Clsrms) Pre School - K
12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrms) Youth/Young Adult Choir

Monday, November 9, 2009

4:15 PM & 6:00 PM (All Clsrms) Classes grades 1-5
7:00PM- 5 Saints West Retreat with Dr. Joe Kelly (St. Vincent's)

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

4:15 PM & 6:00 PM (All Clsrms) Classes grades 1-5
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM (FYI) Young Adult Bible Study at Jitters

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (All Clsrms) Junior High classes
7:00 PM - (Church) Folk Group
7:00 PM - (Rectory) Finance Committee
7:00 PM - (Church) Choir

Saturday, November 14, 2009

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (Church) Pageant Choir rehearsal
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (Clsrms 6) Liturgy of the Word

Sunday, November 15, 2009

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (Hall) Liturgy of the Word
9:00 AM - (All Clsrms) Pre School - Kindergarten
12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrms) Youth/Young Adult Choir
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Entire Bldg) NCYC RETREAT

Thank You!!

We would like to thank all the members of the Martha/Mary Ministry who provided so many delicious meals to us while we were recovering from our recent surgeries. You are truly the angels doing God's work here on earth. Your labors and kindness are greatly appreciated. George & Eileen Zakielarz

Thank You

The family of Ann Yanklowski would like to thank the St. Christopher's Lazarus Ministry for the wonderful luncheon they provided after her funeral. The food dishes were delicious and the women were so hospitable in the way they greeted and served our friends and family. We greatly appreciate how nicely they set-up, cleaned, and packed up the food afterwards. You are a blessing!

Clothing Collection

We are so grateful for everyone who gave to the Fall Clothing Drive. We had over 48 Bags of Woman's clothes for Bethany House, over 25 bags of Children's Clothing for the FOCUS on Pregnancy Group, and over 20 Bags of Men's Clothing for the Brockport Migrants. Everyone was very happy and thankful to receive these clothes. We thank you the parishioners of St. Christopher's for all you gave.

The Human Service's Committee

Spirit Alive—Get Into the Acts

Read: Acts 9: 1 - 30

Reflect: This section of Acts describes Saul's conversion experience, and vividly shows how Saul's fervor for God became expressed in a new way because he was open to a new understanding of his faith. The other Christians were, at first, suspicious of Saul because of his previous persecution, but Barnabas spoke on Saul's behalf describing how he spoke the Good News with courage. What has been one of my conversion experiences? How did opening myself up to a new understanding of God change my faith? Have I ever risked standing up for another in my community, as Barnabas did for Saul? How was I received? How did it change how I understand being a disciple? How did it change my community?

Did anything else stand out for me in this section of Acts?

Act it Out! *How do my reflections today inform how I will live out my discipleship in the world this week?*

Could I...

...seek out a person with a different political or social perspective and try to better understand their point of view?

...advocate for the marginalized or voiceless in my school or community?

...try a new form of prayer or go to a new retreat center to expand my devotional experiences?

How else could I act it out?

PRAY FOR OUR TEENS!!!

As many of you know, 13 of us (7 youth and 6 adults) will be going on a pilgrimage to NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) November 18-22nd. We will be keeping our parishioners, friends, and families in our prayers while we are out of town. We are also requesting that you keep us in YOUR prayers as well!

Please sign-up on the back bulletin board a certain day/time to pray for us! The teens will be so excited to know that they will have a parishioner back home praying just for THEM every few hours! Being away and experiencing such a moving experience is wonderful, and knowing that people home are taking time aside to pray for you makes it even more amazing! Please be encouraged to sign up for a time to set aside for the youth of our parish, and also for the youth who can not take the trip! Thank you for your constant love, support, and encouragement!

**St. Christopher's
The Giving Tree**

St. Christopher's will once again be providing "The Giving Tree" this year. Beginning the weekend of October 31 - November 1st, we will have the Information Sheets available at the front and back of Church. If you are in need or know of a family who could use some help this Christmas Season, please fill out the Information Sheet and put it in the collection basket in a sealed envelope addressed to Chris McCabe. These information sheets will remain confidential.

PLEASE RETURN THE SHEETS NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, November 15th!

If you have any questions, please contact either Chris McCabe (293-9248) or Sheila Wimer (594-1542).

Building Peace with Justice

The two widows are the heroes and role models of our readings today. They are the "poorest of the poor". Although neither one knows what life will bring, they step out in faith, and take the next "God-step" in their life's journey. They are not shackled by fear, the unknown future, or material attachments and so they have the freedom to do God's will. Unblinded and unfettered, they are free to respond to God's radical call to hospitality and generosity.

Reflection: What fears and attachments do we need to recognize and shake off so we are free to respond to God's call? How is God calling us to be more hospitable and generous in these unstable times?

Human Services Committee

Day of Prayer

Notre Dame Retreat House Canandaigua, NY 14424
585-394-5700

November 17, 2009

The Theology of Giving Thanks

Presented by Fr. Tom Barrett, C.Ss.R.

9:00 Registration and Donuts/Pastries

9:30 Morning Prayer

9:45 Presentation in the Lounge

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation

2:00 Eucharist

Please call **585-394-5700** to reserve a spot. There is a **\$15.00 fee**, payable on day of event.

Hope & Healing

Thursday, November 19, 2009-- 6:15-8pm Hope & Healing--peer support for the separated, divorced, and widowed at St. Christopher's

Topic: How Can I Be Thankful on Thanksgiving or Any Other Day!!

Presentor--Donna Ecker: Graduate certificate of Theology at St. Bernard's Institute in 1990. Co-Director of 'Bethany House', a member of the Rochester Chapter of the 'Catholic Worker' for 24 years.

When it begins to rain, we reach for an umbrella. But what about the sunshine? It's there throughout the year in our lives. How do we acknowledge and celebrate it?

For more info. please call Peggy at 585-293-3337 or email: peggymcunningham@yahoo.com

Evening Faith Sharing

Thursday, November 5, 19, 7:00 – 9:00 pm at Mercy Prayer Center, 65 Highland Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Open to women and men of all faiths – a time to pray, reflect and share faith experiences. Facilitator: Sr. Laurie Orman, RSM Fee \$15. Call 585-473-6893 to register.

Patrick's Place Looking for Talent

Are you a graphic designer? Patrick Place, the comfort care home ministry of 5 Saints West, is in need of graphics for its new website, www.patrickplace.org. If you would like to design our graphics, contact Alana at info@patrickplace.org.

The Joy of Stewardship

Parish Financial Stewardship Summary

	LAST WEEK	YEAR TO DATE
Last Week	\$ 6,793.58	\$ 115,499.69

Attendance	728	#of Envelopes 227
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"Keep Our Campus Cool" Campaign

\$ 53,041.30 received \$ 54,451.30 pledged 325 families

Diocese Celebrates the Feast of St. Cecilia

Fri., Nov. 20, at 7:30pm, the Diocese of Rochester and the Rochester Chapter National Assoc. of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) cordially invites you Sacred Heart Cathedral for an evening of prayer and music in honor of the Feast of St. Cecilia, patron of church musicians. Vocal and instrumental soloists will be featured, along with the St. Theodore's Choir and St. John of Rochester Children's Choir. The Annual St. Cecilia Award will be announced along with twenty-two recipients of our Music Ministry Awards for High School Students. The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Ginny Miller: miller@dor.org 585-254-3210

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585-594-1400

Office: 220 King Rd.

Emergency Pastoral Care 350-8603

e-mail: nstchris@dor.org

<http://www.stchristophersnchili.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor	<i>Rev. Robert Gaudio</i> 594-1400
Sec/Business Mgr	<i>Marilyn Weinert</i> 594-1400
Deacon	<i>John Cunningham</i> 594-1400/301-8540
Rel. Ed. Coordinator	<i>Judy Leone</i> 594-1441
Rel. Ed. Secretary	<i>Karen Curtis</i> 594-1441
Music Director	<i>Celeste Dynski-Trumble</i> 293-2358
Pastoral Minister	<i>Chris McCabe</i> 594-1400/293-9248
Young Adult Minister	<i>Maranda Skolen</i> 719-5851/594-1091
Youth Minister	<i>Kim Potter</i> 329-4642/594-1091
Maintenance	<i>Robert Yaw</i> 594-1441

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastoral Council.....	<i>Bill America</i>	503-9415
Chairperson		
5 Saints West Rep.....	<i>Tom Staccone</i>	889-3784