

Saint Christopher Catholic Church

***160 Holt Spur Drive
Jamestown, Tennessee 38556
Reverend Father Michael Sweeney, Pastor***



***December 15, 2018
Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday***

**Masses: Saturday Vigil: 6:30 P.M. (CST)
Holy Days (Vigil): 6:00 P.M. (CST)
Confessions: After Mass (1st Saturday of month or as needed)
Spanish Communion Service: Sundays 8:00 A.M.(CST)
Father Michael Sweeney: Rectory 865-882-9838
Emergency: 865-216-6453**



Liturgical Ministers for Next Week

December 22, 2018

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**Reader:** S. Mahon / **Alternate Reader:** W. Allen  
**Altar Servers:** J. Rindler / B. Rindler  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** L. Savastano / J. Vaughn  
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December Sacristan: Allison Stucker
Hospitality: Linda Savastano
KoC Round Table Coordinator: George Savastano
Mass Intentions: Sarah Mahon
Webmaster: Stormy Allen
Web-Page: www.saintchristopherjamestown.com
www.facebook.com/saintchristopherjamestown
Bulletin: Mary Germann
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**INTENTIONS**



Together, let us pray for the needs of our brothers and sisters. Remember the sick, home-bound, caregivers and recovering of our parish and all those on the St. Christopher prayer list (available to view in the narthex) in your daily prayers: Juan Herrera; Zachary Chamness, grandson of George & Linda Savastano; Cissy and Vickie, daughters of Joyce Vaughn; Pete Yahner, brother of Sarah Mahon; Mary Henise; Joyce Mulligan; Bruce Bigard, brother of Allen Bigard; Teddie Stevenson; Terry McDonald; Mike & MaryLee Baldalament; Todd Swallows; Carol Capozzio and for those of us who suffer in silence. Also, pray for our military personnel, especially those serving in harm's way. For these and all other unspoken needs; we pray to the Lord.

**ATTENDANCE & DONATIONS**

***December 8, 2018***

Parish: \$ 815

Building Fund: \$ 145

Retirement for Religious: \$ 116.20

Children's Shopping Spree: \$ 150

Immigrant Services (Catholic Charities): \$ 55

Sat. Night Service / Bilingual Service: 45 / 11

Mike Emmons funeral: 58

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MASS INTENTIONS - *December 15, 2018*

For the repose of the soul of **Mike Emmons**;

Requested by **our parish family**.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **St. Mother Teresa Guild** will have its **Christmas party tomorrow**, December 16<sup>th</sup> at **2:00 pm**. We will do a present exchange; the monetary value should be no greater than \$20.

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Christmas food baskets will be **distributed** this **Friday, Dec 21st at 1:00 pm**. If you know of someone in need, please fill out a card found in the narthex **no later than Friday 9:00 am**. We will need the family name, number of family members in the household and person responsible for pickup and delivery of the food box. **Christmas Eve Mass, Monday Dec 24th**, will be at **8:00 pm**.

Liturgical Ministers for Future Week(s)

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**Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Reader:** B. Rindler / **Alternate Reader:** M. Criswell

**Monday Altar Servers:** S. Schuch / A. Fackler / A. Salinas

**8:00 PM Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Mahon / S. Mahon

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Dec 29th Reader: R. Germann / **Alternate Reader:** P. Dalton

Altar Servers: W. Allen / T. McDonald

Eucharistic Ministers: D. Hailey / L. Savastano

On this Gaudete Sunday, joy is the principal theme of the first two readings. The Prophet Zephaniah speaks about the coming of the Messiah and tells us that day will be a day of rejoicing not just for the whole people but for the Lord himself. Then St Paul tells his readers that since the Lord is very near, their attitude should be one of happiness and joy. He tells them to ask the Lord for those things they need and then in very lovely words he invokes the peace of God upon them.

In the Gospel reading St John the Baptist tells the people to share and to have a concern for the poor. As to the tax collectors and soldiers, he tells them not to extort money from the people. John makes it very clear to the people that he is not the Christ but is merely the one instructed by God to prepare the people for His coming. He seems to go along with the idea prevalent at the time that the Messiah was to come as a mighty warrior and be the one who is to judge the people.

Rather than come as a judge, Jesus comes to seek out sinners and to reconcile them with God and with their fellow man. Jesus comes not so much to judge as to save. He comes with a gentle and healing touch. He shows Himself to be especially fond of the poor and lowly and His predominant characteristic is His compassion for others.

Our mission in the world is actually very similar to that of John the Baptist. It is our task to tell those around us that Christ has come to save us, that people should repent of their sins and embrace the salvation that He offers us.

The Christmas season is almost upon us. As it approaches, we become ever more conscious of the Christmas story. We are reminded of the mysteries of Christ's birth. And we are reminded too of that other birth; the birth of Christ in our hearts, the entering into our lives of our loving Savior. If we do one thing only this Christmas, it should be to let Him be born anew in our hearts so that

He may fill us with His truth and love of God and love of our neighbor.