

Saint Christopher Catholic Church

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



***December 8, 2018
First Sunday of Advent***

**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 8, 2018

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**Reader:** R. Germann / **Alternate Reader:** S. Mahon

**Altar Servers:** J. Brayton / S. Brayton

**Eucharistic Ministers:** D. Hailey / M. Mahon  
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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; Mike Emmons; 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 1, 2018***

Parish: \$ 245.13

All Saints: \$ 25

Building Fund: \$ 100

Sat. Night Service / Bilingual Service: 44 / 17

Immaculate Conception (Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>): 33

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MASS INTENTIONS

December 8, 2018

For the repose of the souls of **Josephine Halaburda** and **family**;

Requested by **Sue** and **Howard Duncan**.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The parish **Thanksgiving / Christmas dinner** will be next Saturday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>**, after Mass. If you wish to bring something, sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

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The **St. Mother Teresa Guild** will have its **Christmas party** next **Sunday**, December 16th at **2:00 pm**. We will do a present exchange; the monetary value should be about \$20.

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**The Retirement Fund for Religious** (2<sup>nd</sup> collection) will be next week.

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The Ladies Guild is again doing **Christmas Food Baskets** for the less fortunate of our community. As was done at Thanksgiving, if you know of someone in need, please fill out a card in the narthex. We will need the family name, number of family members in household and person responsible for pick up and delivery of food box.

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There is a **donation box** in the narthex for The Ladies Guild Christmas Boxes. **Donations**, both monetary and canned food items, **are appreciated**.

The Prophet Baruch predicts the restoration of the people of Israel to Jerusalem after their captivity in Babylon. The idea of Jerusalem gazing towards the east in anticipation of the return of the people from exile fits in perfectly with the idea of the Church watching and waiting for the second coming of Christ. This theme of waiting for Christ is also highlighted in the second reading where Paul urges the Philippians to increase their love for each other so that they will be ready to meet Christ when He comes in glory.

St. John the Baptist is presented to us as the final prophet of the Old Testament, the one foretold by Isaiah, the voice crying out in the wilderness. Luke solely focuses on John's preaching of repentance. Even Jesus' baptism takes up only two verses. John is the last and most important of the Old Testament prophets. His task is to announce the impending arrival of Jesus. Quoting Isaiah, John proclaims: All mankind shall see the salvation of our God.

God didn't create mankind and then leave him alone to get on with things. The first lesson of the season of Advent is that God actually has intervened in human history.

The second lesson of Advent is that He hasn't stopped intervening in human history. We ought to realize this and co-operate with His plans for us. We know Christ came on that first Christmas day and we know He will come at the end of time. But He is also coming into our lives right now. As it says: today is the day of salvation. Your presence in this place and in this Church and in this family and in this moment is not by any accident; it is in the eternal plan of God.

Let us echo the prayer of the early Church and make it our own: Come, Lord Jesus, come. Yes, Lord, come into our hearts right this minute, come and bring us your healing and salvation. Come and fill us with your joy and hope. Come into our lives and make us perfect followers of your word. Come and save us, come and be with us. And in the words of Paul: Come Lord and increase our love, help us to be pure and blameless, help us to reach your perfect goodness so we may give glory and praise to God.