

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES

SUNDAY: 4:00p Saturday;
8:00a, 10:30a, & 5:00p

WEEKDAYS: 7:00a

SATURDAY: 7:00a; 4:00p (fulfills
Sunday obligation)

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:
Contact the Rectory for Mass times.

ROSARY: Monday-Saturday after
the 7:00a Mass

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
Arrangements for Baptism and for
the Baptismal Program, which is to
precede it, must be made with the
Rectory Office by expectant parents.
Adults and children over age 6
seeking Baptism are encouraged to
call the Rectory and talk with one of
the priests.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:
After 7:00a Mass Monday through
Saturday; and Saturday 3:00-3:45p

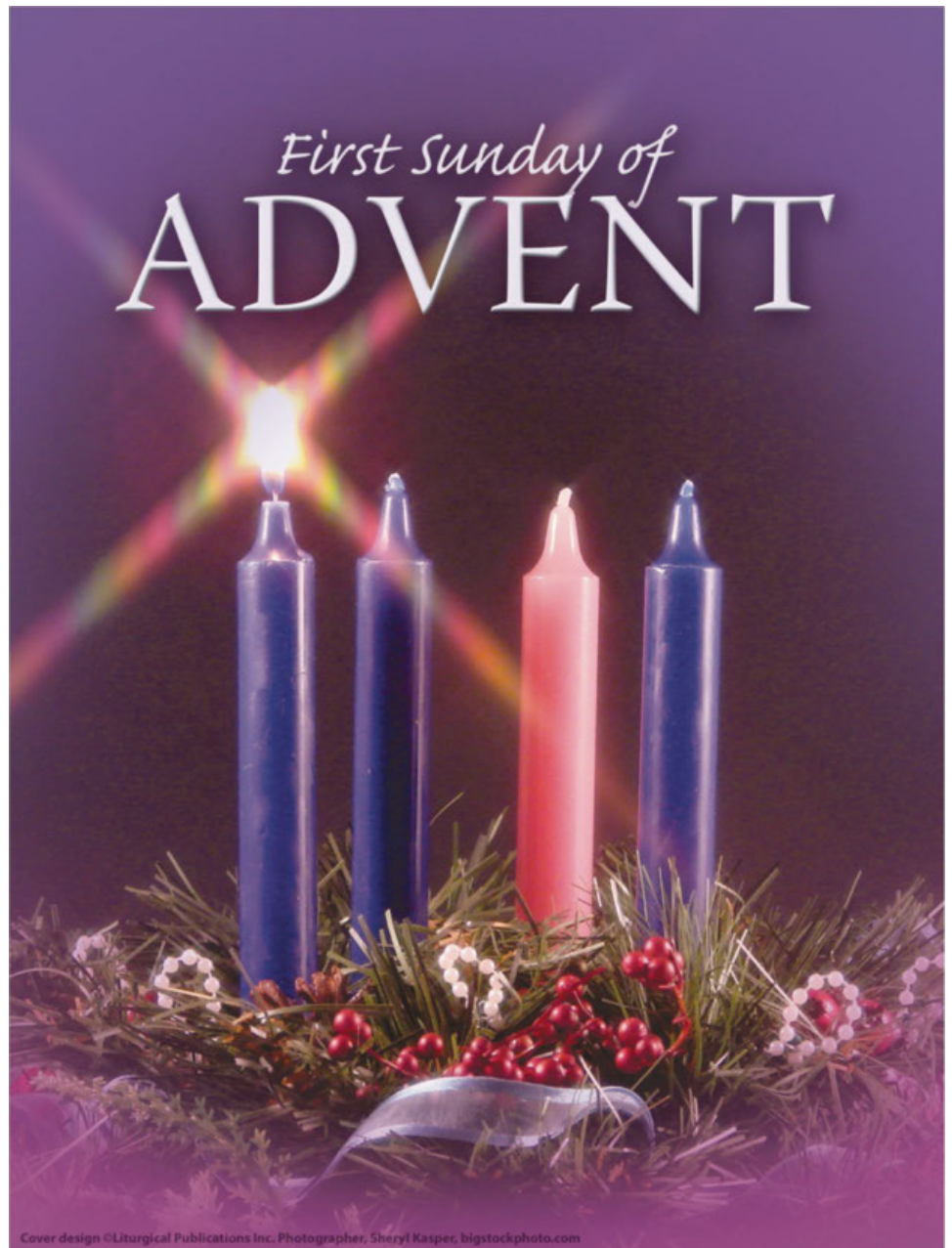
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:
Congratulations on this momentous
step! Arrangements need to be
made at least 9 months in advance.
A marriage preparation program is
required. Call the Rectory.

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS:
Adoration Chapel is open Monday
through Friday, 8:00a - 4:00p, with
Exposition from 1:00p until 4:00p.
Holy Hour: Second Thursday of
the month, 7:00p - 8:00p in Church

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY:
If you or your loved one is sick or
homebound and unable to attend
church, please call Sr. Ann Vincent
to arrange for Holy Communion.

The Sign of St. Christina Church

December 1, 2024



St. Christina Parish Mission Statement:

...a Catholic community of faith called to be God's Holy People. Continually formed and fed by Our Lord in Word and Sacrament, together we strive to love and serve, invite and unite, support and challenge one another to joyfully live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

(Adopted Dec. 1996)



Parish Directory

Parish Priests

Rev. Ryan Brady, Administrator, 773-779-7181
rbrady@archchicago.org

Rev. Wayne Svida, Associate Pastor,
773-779-7181

Permanent Deacons

Alfredo Adolfo
deaconal@stchristinaparish.org

John Mutnansky
deaconjohn@stchristinaparish.org

Stanley F. Rakauskas
srakauskas@archchicago.org

School Principal

Carrie Spano cspano@stchristina.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Pam Waldrom
pamwaldrom.stchristinare@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Minister

Sr. Ann Vincent, 773-445-6779
sisterann@stchristinaparish.org

Music Director

Mary Kay Notter, 708-362-2053
mknotted@stchristinaparish.org

Youth Minister

Timothy O'Brien, 773-445-3435
tobrien@stchristinaparish.org

Office Manager

Joyce Maxwell jmaxwell@stchristinaparish.org

Secretary/Sacramental Coordinator

Wendy Lundberg
wlundberg@stchristinaparish.org

Administrative Assistant

Kim Geissler, 773-779-7181
kgeissler@stchristinaparish.org

Operations Director

David Sullivan, 773-779-7181
dsullivan@stchristinaparish.org

Webmaster

Hugo Lugo lugohugo@hotmail.com

Bulletin Editor

Marybeth Sprague
saint.christina.bulletin@gmail.com

Bulletin submission deadline: Monday at
12:00 noon for the following Sunday's bulletin.

Church: Corner of 111th & Christiana Ave.

Rectory:

11005 S. Homan Ave., Chicago, IL 60655
Hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday
Any other time by appointment only
Phone: 773-779-7181 **Fax:** 773-238-2942
Website: www.stchristinaparish.org
Parish email: parish@stchristinaparish.org

School:

3333 West 110th St., Chicago, IL 60655
Phone: 773-445-2969 **Fax:** 773-445-0444
Website: www.stchristina.org

Ministry Center:

11033 S. Christiana Ave., Chicago, IL 60655
Phone: 773-445-0132

Weekly Events - Dec. 1-7, 2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

Sports..... GYM 1-9 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

Cub Scout Meeting SH 4-7 p.m.

Sports..... GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

Holy Name Board Meeting PC 7-8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024

Cub Scout Meeting SH 5-7 p.m.

Sports..... GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

Baptismal Preparation Rectory 7 p.m.

School Advisory Com. Mtg PCCR 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024

Enrichment Classes SH 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Sports..... GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

Cub Scout Meeting SH 5-7 p.m.

Choir Practice..... Ch..... 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

Sports..... GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

Pizza with Santa..... SH 5:30-8 p.m.

Boy Scout Meeting CH 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024

Sports..... GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

Sports..... GYM 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Please Note: GYM is not available for practice until after 4:15 p.m. and Parish Center & Conference Room are not available until after 6 p.m. due to Extended Care.

Ch: Church

CH: Church Hall

HSch: Homan Building

Sch: School

SH: School Hall

SchL: School Library

PC: Parish Center

PCCR: Parish Center Conference Room

MC: Ministry Center

MCCR: Ministry Center Community Rm.

MCDR: Ministry Center Dining Room

MCChpl: Ministry Center Chapel

Rectory Hours

The Rectory is open Monday through Friday from
9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.



A WORD FROM Fr. Ryan

This weekend, we are beginning the season of Advent. This is a beautiful time of preparation for the Nativity of Jesus, our Lord and God. Jesus became present amongst us when He was born in that little town of Bethlehem roughly 2,000 years ago. Jesus has consistently been present amongst us since in the Eucharist. As we prepare for Christmas, may we live with an understanding of the presence of Jesus, our Lord and God, Who is in our midst.

The Saints live their lives consistently in the presence of God. They never forget that God is there, present in their lives. Not too long ago, while praying for golfers before a fundraising outing, I reminded the golfers that their partner may not always be watching, but God is! So, no cheating! It was a silly joke, but honestly, it's true! The saints knew that God was always with us. They strove to recognize it and grow close to Him in all they did, all the time. Saints are made when no one is watching. Saints try to behave in a saintly way "all the time."

Gaspard Cardinal Mermillod was the bishop of Geneva, Switzerland in the late 1800s. He was well known for his love for the Eucharist. Many people in Switzerland converted by simply listening to his preaching. Cardinal Mermillod used to pray before the Blessed Sacrament late every night.

Late one night he prostrated himself, as was his custom, in front of the Tabernacle. After a little while praying in silence, he heard a noise. To his great shock, a confessional door opened at the side of the church and a lady walked out. The astonished bishop asked, "What are you doing here in the middle of the night, Ma'am?!" "Your Excellency," replied the woman, a little breathless, "I'm not Catholic. But I've been listening to you preach over the last few months. I heard what you said — that Jesus is really present in that little Host on the altar. I was convinced by your arguments, but one doubt remained in my mind. I wondered if you really believed what you preach." The lady continued, "So I wanted to hide myself in the church and see if, in private, you really treated the Holy Eucharist as you said we should."

The woman believed because she saw that Cardinal Mermillod truly believed when people were watching, and when they weren't. She converted because she saw that the bishop was a man in love with the Eucharist, in public and in private: all the time. May we too fall in love with the Eucharist and, this Advent, let's try and be consistent in our Christian life. Let's be a disciple of Jesus 24/7.



This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception has been transferred to Monday, December 9th. We will still celebrate a festive **Mass for the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 9th at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.** Even though you are not obligated to attend Mass on December 9th, please join us honoring and showing your love for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Thursday, December 12th, our parish will be celebrating an **Advent Evening of Recollection and Confession**. Beginning at 7:00 p.m., there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, a short Advent reflection, followed by the opportunity for individual confession. Fr. Rob Ryan, a dear friend and classmate of mine, will provide an inspiring Advent reflection. If you've never been to an evening like this, please come. It will be beautiful.

Oremus pro invicem!

Fr. Ryan P. Brady

#BetterTogether

Sr. Ann Vincent's Gift Card Drive

Thank you to our amazing school community for their donations to the Sr. Ann Vincent Gift Card Drive. As a school we collected \$2,627.25

to support Sr. Ann's Parish Ministries. Your generous support is greatly appreciated!



Altar Servers

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated altar servers for their selfless service. Your commitment to assisting the priest and reverence during Mass truly enriches our parish community. Your role in the liturgy enhances the Mass for all.

We Stand Together

Last week, St. Christina students and faculty lined the streets of the processional route to pay respect to fallen Chicago Police Officer Martinez. The first responders of our City and especially our community are always in our prayers and we are grateful for their service.





saint christina

In the Spring of 2014, Cardinal George announced the Archdiocese of Chicago *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign to raise money for Catholic education, faith formation, and Archdiocese parishes. Since its inception, this campaign raised over \$420 million for Archdiocesan parishes, schools, and ministries. Our former pastor, Fr. Tom Conde decided to conduct an independent parallel capital campaign, *Together We Build*, for St. Christina Parish.

Although the parish capital campaign was conducted independent of the Archdiocesan appeal – without Archdiocesan resources and assistance – the parish campaign was still subject to the Archdiocesan capital campaign assessment of 40% of total funds raised. It is my understanding that this was not communicated clearly to donors of the *Together We Build* campaign.

Since our very first days together at St. Christina, our Director of Operations, David Sullivan and I knew that clarity and finality were needed for St. Christina families regarding the *Together We Build* campaign. We have diligently examined contracts and bank statements to address your concerns, provide you with answers, and ultimately closure.

As a parish, you raised \$811,628 for the *Together We Build* capital campaign. You gave generously with high hopes and expectations. I appreciate your kindness and willingness to support our school and parish. The graph below indicates where the collected *Together We Build* monies were spent. As you can see, the funds raised were used solely on repairs and modifications to our Homan Ave. school building. Thankfully the exterior of that building is now strengthened for multiple generations of St. Christina School use.

Campaign	Total Amount Collected	Homan Building Windows	Homan Building Roof	Homan Building Masonry	Total Together We Build Expenses
Together We Build	\$811,628	\$313,664	\$128,195	\$272,650	\$714,509

Our Archdiocesan obligation for the *Together We Build* campaign was \$322,000. Obviously, the total campaign funds spent limited our ability to pay the required capital assessment from money raised. We have since paid \$130,000 of our obligation. By December 31, using historical savings, we will pay the outstanding balance of \$192,000.

The *To Teach Who Christ Is* campaign awarded 27,000 scholarships totaling \$150 million for at-need Archdiocese of Chicago children to receive Catholic education. \$10 million was spent on training catechists who teach our children the Faith. \$30 million was spent preserving crumbling buildings and facilities across our city that help house and feed the poor. Our Archdiocesan contribution directly helps educate, house, and feed those striving for a better future.

I want to assure you that my role as pastor is to be a good steward of your generosity. In my short time here, we have reinstated a Finance Council to allow for financial transparency, accountability, and oversight of our spending. And, as always, you are free to reach me at the Rectory to express your concerns or ask any questions.

As we look back with clarity and finality, we can move forward with hope toward a great future. St. Christina has, and always will be, a 'powerhouse' parish on the South Side, known throughout the Archdiocese for our strength, generosity, and selflessness. St. Christina Parish has been a source of inspiration and sanctity for the people of Mt. Greenwood for nearly 100 years. And, with Jesus in our hearts, the best is yet to come!

Fr. Ryan P. Brady

Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious

Next weekend, December 7-8, there will be a second collection to support the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please make your check payable to St. Christina Church so that it can be included with the parish donation. Please be as generous as you can.

Christmas Wafers "Oplatek"

For those of you who are familiar with the Christmas Eve tradition of sharing the Christmas Wafer, "Oplatek," they are available at both doors near the altar. Donations appreciated.



Holy Name News

The St. Christina Holy Name Men's Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, **December 13th** in the School Hall. Nominations for the 2025 board will be held.

The club will continue a new tradition and raffle off a widescreen television. Chances will be \$10 each or three for \$20. A longtime December tradition will continue with gift cards given to senior members. All men of the parish over 18 years of age are invited to attend. A light meal and refreshments will be served.

Senior Christmas Party

Thursday, December 12th

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Center
Donation: \$10 contribution (cash preferred)

Please submit name or contribution to Eileen McDermott (773-445-0802) or Joan Mulcahy (mulcahy72.att.net) by December 8th.

Thank You, Savvy Seniors and Mt. Greenwood Park Seniors

November means "Thanksgiving," and we are blessed to have received so many food donations for Pat's Pantry. Indeed, the harvest was great. Thank you, seniors, for your generosity. Many will benefit from your donations.

Just Married!
Congratulations as you start your life together:
Alexis Plante & Sean Callahan

Advent Book
Copies of the book *The Magnificat Advent Companion* are available at the doors of the church. Please take a copy home with you.



Early Bulletin Submission Deadline Schedule

There are a lot of early submission deadlines coming up because of the holidays. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday Bulletin Date

Article Submission Due Date

December 8	<u>CLOSED</u> to submissions
December 15	<u>THIS</u> Friday, December 6
December 22	Tuesday, December 10
December 29	Thursday, December 19
January 5, 2025	Monday, December 23

To submit articles to *The Sign*, please email your article or announcement (**HARD COPIES CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**) to Marybeth Sprague at saint.christina.bulletin@gmail.com. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content or space. Thank you for your help!

- Marybeth Sprague, Bulletin Editor

St. Christina School
1st Grade Girl Scout Troop 25394



PAJAMA DRIVE

DONATE A SET OF NEW PAJAMAS TO A CHILD IN NEED

December 1st-8th

Donations can be dropped off in the box in the Church vestibule from December 1st-8th



SCHOLASTIC BOOKS WILL DONATE ONE BRAND-NEW BEDTIME STORYBOOK FOR EVERY PAIR OF PAJAMAS WE COLLECT!

All pajamas must be

- BRAND NEW with tags
- A COMPLETE SET (top & bottom or onesie - no nightgowns please)
- Sizes Newborn-12 Youth
- NO HOLIDAY-THEMED jammies please!




Questions?
Contact Lindsey Sinde
lindseysinde@gmail.com

Finding the perfect present can be tricky...
but when you give the gift of your time
it is always

Perfect!

Volunteer as a Substitute Catechist for Religious Education

What does a Catechist do, you ask?

A Catechist is someone who shares their faith!
Come and share your faith with the K-8th grade
Religious Education students.

When do we meet for class?

Select Sundays from 8:30-10:00 a.m.

How do I teach?

Our Catechists will have lesson plans ready for you
and they are dropped off to you during the week.

How often do I substitute?

That is up to you. You will be contacted with the
weekly sub needs. You decide if you are free.

*"I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the
work that you gave me to do." - John 17:4*



2024 Advent & Christmas Schedule

Advent Evening of Recollection

Thursday, December 12
Adoration, Mission Talk,
and Opportunity for Individual
Confession
7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., &
10:30 p.m. Masses

Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses

New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31

4:00 p.m. Mass

New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1

9:00 a.m. Mass

Parish Giving Tree

Since the Parish Giving Tree Program was very successful in past years through gift cards and monetary donations, we will continue with it this year!

We are asking for either monetary or gift card donations. All donations will be given to our parish families to make their Christmas a little brighter.

For your convenience:

Make a direct donation through **Venmo@stchristinagivingtree**

or

You can drop off cash, check, or gift cards at the Rectory. Those **MUST** be put in an envelope marked "**Giving Tree**" and may be placed in the mailbox at the front door or the mail slot at the back door. You may also put the **envelope marked "Giving Tree"** in the collection basket at Mass.

PLEASE DONATE BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Any amount of cash donations accepted and gift cards up to \$25 each will help our parish families greatly. Gift card suggestions are gas, local restaurants, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Dollar Tree, Kohls, Jewel, Marianos, Aldi, and Food for Less.

*Thank your for your continued support of this program.
We are blessed to have such a loving and caring faith community!*



Baptisms

"I have come to you that you may have life and have it more abundantly..."

Recently, Theodore Mark Altman; Ava Christine Anderson; Theodora Catherine Blough; Moira Erin Bourke; Eliana Isabel Carreno; Penny Kathleen Ciaglia; Andrew John Cummings; Vincent Scott Fiorella; Lily Mae Garcia; Peyton Patricia Kiely; Teresina Marie Leveille; Cassidy Maureen Maxwell; Aidan Keith McCarthy; Rory Bernadette O'Dowd; Charlotte Elizabeth Pentek; Rosemary O'Heir Schaeffer; David Joseph Sifuentes; and Cecilia Marie Swiatkowski were born again of water and the Holy Spirit. Congratulations to these new Catholic Christians and their proud parents!



St. Christina Parish Domestic Violence Outreach

The mission of the St. Christina Parish Domestic Violence Outreach Committee is to provide education and raise awareness of domestic violence, promote linkage to services, and empower prevention efforts of domestic violence among the St. Christina community. To fulfill our mission, we maintain a safe and confidential outlet to foster hope for survivors, abusers, or concerned individuals.

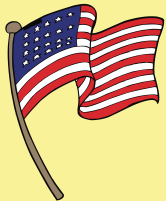
Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior in any intimate relationship whereby one partner seeks to gain or maintain control over the other. The abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional and psychological. Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, religion and gender. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds or educational levels.



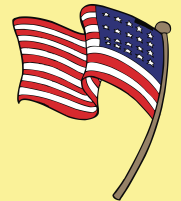
Domestic Violence Emergency Hotline: 1-877-863-6338

Split the Pot

The last Split the Pot drawing was Wednesday, November 27th, which was after the bulletin went to print. In the December 8th bulletin we will publish the last winning envelope number and the prize amount. The information will be also be available on the parish website. Thank you for your support of Split the Pot.



Pray for Our Servicemen and Women



Please pray for the following members of St. Christina Parish families who are serving in the military:

MSGT. John Beasley
Sgt. Lauren N. Bilotta Lipcamon
Eric Bour
Cpl. Benjamin Brasher, USMC
David Breier, USN
2nd Lt. Dan Caddigan
Cpt. Michael Caddigan
Cpt. Breedge Cafferty
Maj. Mary Cassidy
Pvt. Matthew J. Chausse, US Army
CSM Joseph Cistaro
Nicole Clausius
SPC Dylan Collura
Jean Comptois
Logan Conway
Anthony DeAvila, US Navy
Cpl. Kevin Donnelly
SSgt Francis J. Doyle, USMC
SPC Daniel Driscoll
Sgt. Matthew Dumais
Charles J. Dvorak
SSG Kyle T. Escalona, US Army
S.G.G. Jerome Gardner
Cpl. James Garringer
PFC Joey Golden, US Army
Henry Gorski, USMC
CPT Jennifer Grabarek, US Army
SSG Michael Grabarek, US Army
Daniel J. Grand, USMC
1st Lt. Lindsay Hartig

Pfc. Matthew Hastings, USAF
Sgt. Nicholas Stephen Hoiseck
Michael Hughes
Michael Insley, USMC
Cpl. Matthew Julkowski, USMC
Tony Kalabsa, US Army
FT2 (SS) Sean Michael Kampwirth, USN
CSM Michael Kelly
Captain Katherine Kezon
Matthew Kilroe, USMC
Maggie Kimmell
LCpl. Jonathon D. Knidsen
General James Kokaska
Sgt. A. Michael Krueger III, USMC
Brandon Machura, USN
Ryan Markmann
Captain Patricia F. McNamara, USMC
Scott A. Milcarek
Lt Col John Mutnansky, Jr.
SrA Megan Mutnansky
Cpl. Nicole L. Mutnansky, USMC
2Lt. Paulina Mutnansky, Army
2Lt. Rickey Mutnansky, Army
1SG Wayne F. Mutnansky
1st Lt. Jamie Neumann
SPC Taylor O'Callaghan

1st LT Justin M. O'Connell, US Army
William "Bill" O'Connell, USMC
LCpl. Jessica Oliver, USMC
Sgt. Dan T. Pacheco
Shane Pennington
PFC Jake Polselli, US Army
Cpl. Gerald A. Potempa, USMC
Megan Prosapio, USN
Vincent Prosapio III, USN
Christopher Quinn
Cpl. Joseph F. Quinn IV, USMC
LCpl Billy Rappold, USMC
Nolan Rowling, US Army
Steven Rowling, USMC
Warren B. Schamakel
Cody Scriver
LT Matthew Sebok, USN
Wayne Sherman
Cpt. Hans Christian Sitarz
Benjamin Somers, USAF, E2 Airman
Cpl. Donald Stalzer, USMC
SPC Jordan Stover
Lt. Ashley Strong, USN
LCpl Joe Sullivan, USMC
SSG Daniel Taff, US Army
Dakota Trueba, USN
Scott Vega
Ed Voelker, USN
John Lawrence Weston
Cpt. Eileen White
SPC Frankie Zoller, US Army





Monday, Dec. 2 – Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. People of Our Parish

Tuesday, Dec. 3 – St. Francis Xavier, Priest

7:00 a.m. † Pamela Plancon

Wednesday, Dec. 4 – St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. † Marie Niestrom

Thursday, Dec. 5 – Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. Those Who Are Sick

Friday, Dec. 6 – St. Nicholas, Bishop

7:00 a.m. † Faith Keating; † Ernest Tobar

Saturday, Dec. 7 – St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. Our Deceased Relatives

4:00 p.m. † Christopher David Kapa;
† Megan Spring;
† Walter Russell

Sunday, Dec. 8 – Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. † William Dorans;
† Catherine Dowling

10:30 a.m. † Peter Hughes;
† Robert Obeytek;
† John & Kay King & Family

5:00 p.m. † Jean & Frank Bargaila

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 7

4:00 p.m. Presider: Fr. Svida
Lector: P. Cain
E.M.: Deacon Stanley; D. Brueckman;
P. McKittrick

Sunday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Presider: Fr. Brady
Lector: P. Stefaniak
E.M.: Deacon John; K. Bresnahan; D. Higgins

10:30 a.m. Presider: Fr. Brady
Lector: C. Richter
E.M. Deacon Al; J. McKeon; R. Hudec

5:00 p.m. Presider: Fr. John Sullivan
Lector: B. Silva
E.M. Deacon Stanley; E. McDermott;
T. Rappold



COLLECTION TOTALS November 16-17, 2024

Sunday: \$9,461.42

Support Your Parish: \$942.00

Catholic Campaign for Human Development:
\$2,356.00

Thank you for your generosity.

WeShare — Online Giving

If you wish to give online, please go to our parish website, stchristinaparish.org, where you can find more information about online giving. On the left side of the home page click on Online Giving WeShare and follow the instructions, or you can call 877-316-0260 for assistance.

Parish Registration Form

St. Christina Parish Registration form is available on the parish website: stchristinaparish.org. Click on "Our Parish" tab on the left side of the screen then click on Parish Registration and follow the instructions. **You must be a registered parishioner to receive envelopes.**

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