

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

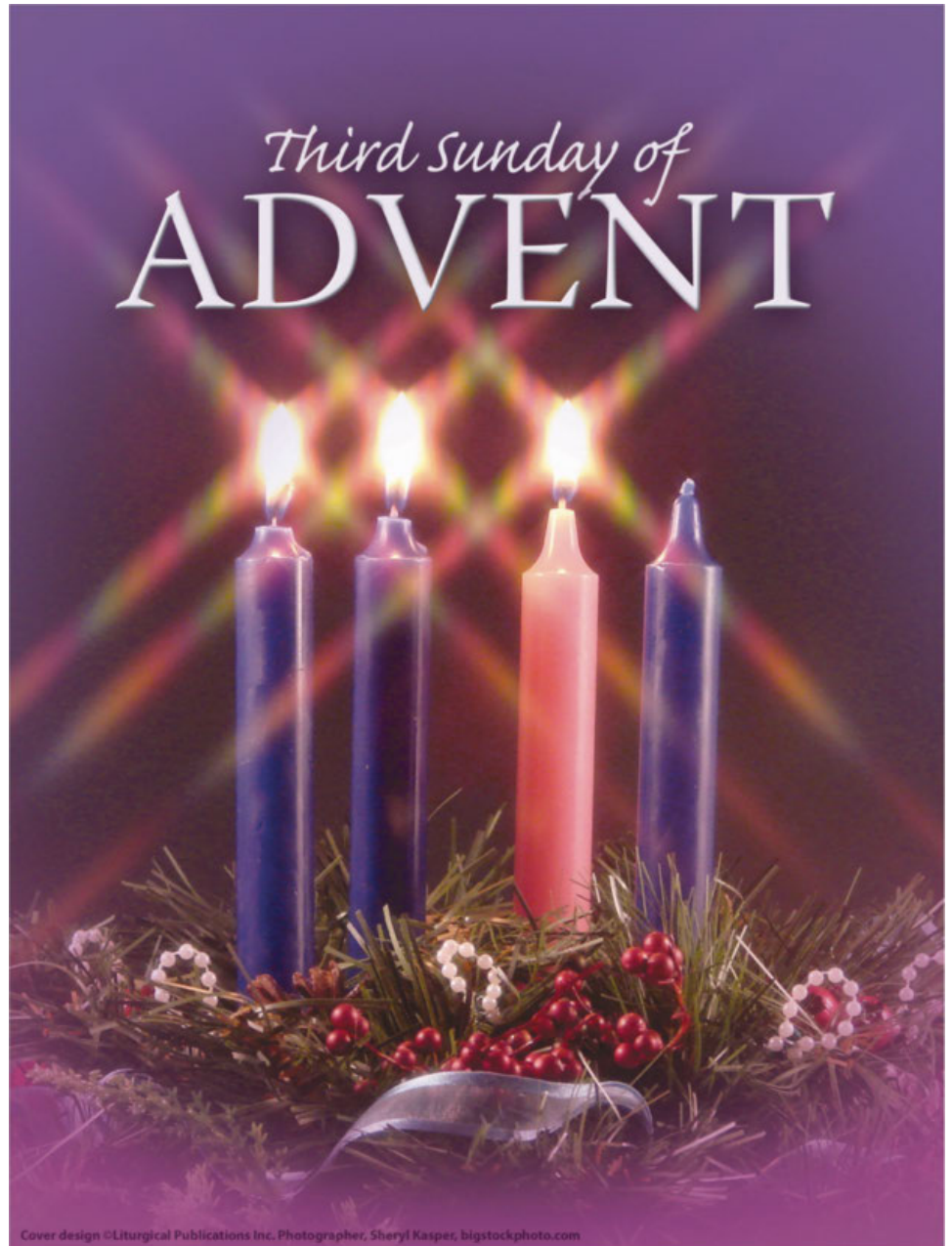
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:
Congratulations on this momentous
step! Arrangements need to be
made at least 9 months in advance.
A marriage preparation program is
required. Call the Rectory.

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 15, 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
mknnotter@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. 15-21, 2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

Religious Education Sch/HSch 8:30-10 a.m.
Sports GYM 1-9 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024

Cub Scout Meeting SH 4-7 p.m.
Sports GYM 4:15-9 p.m.
Athletic Association Mtg PC 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

Sports GYM 4:15-9 p.m.
Cub Scout Meeting SH 5-7 p.m.
Baptismal Preparation Rectory 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

Enrichment Classes SH 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Brownie Troop 26292 Mtg SH 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Sports GYM 4:15-9 p.m.
Cub Scout Meeting SH 5-7 p.m.
Daisy Troop 25518 PC 6-7 p.m.
Choir Practice Ch 6:30 p.m.
Women's Sodality Mtg SH 7:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

Cub Scout Pack 3617 Mtg SH 5-7 p.m.
Boy Scout Meeting MCCR 6:30-8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024

PreK Christmas Program Church 8:30 a.m.
K-8 School Christmas Program Ch 10:15 a.m.
Sports GYM 4:15-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 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

MChpl: 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

Today we light the rose-colored candle on our Advent Wreath. Today, we wear rose-colored vestments. Today, the focus of Advent shifts a bit. Today is “Gaudete Sunday.” In Latin, “Gaudete” is the imperative form of “rejoice.”

The imperative is a command: Rejoice! We should rejoice because God is coming. Rejoice, says the Church today, because our days of darkness and waiting for Jesus’ appearance are close to their end, dawn is nearly here! The sun is rising: the Son is coming.

The past four summers, I’ve led a pilgrimage of seminarians to Rome. I celebrate daily Mass for the seminarians in the *Chiesa di San Giralamo della Carita*, the Church of St. Jerome of Charity — a place dear to my heart. The Church is beautiful and rich in history. The Church was built over the house of St. Paola. In the late 4th Century, Paola hosted St. Jerome as he translated all the books of the Bible into Latin under the orders of Pope St. Damasus I. The current Church was built in 1508 and embellished with beautiful baroque art in 1657.

The real reason the Church is so dear to me, though, is because I met a very good friend here. St. Philip Neri (1515-1595) lived at and prayed in this Church for 32 years between 1551 to 1583. I’ve spent a lot of time praying in his Church. And, getting to know the Nuns there, I’ve been able to pray and even say Mass in St. Philip’s rooms adjacent to the Church. St. Philip Neri and I have grown close. Even though he died 390 years before I was born, I still consider him my friend!

What makes St. Philip Neri so attractive? His consistent joy! Neri was on a spiritual mission. He wanted everyone to know that all people are called to be holy and saints. He led a life of direct service to others. He paid great attention to the education of young people and care for the poor and sick. He became friends with St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, St. Felix of Cantalice, St. Camilus de Lellis, and St. Charles Borromeo.

St. Philip Neri knew that being a saint means being full of joy and humor. As he visited the hospitals and brought food and gifts to the destitute patients, Neri was always joking and laughing with them to build up their morale. He played pranks, read joke books, and played the “clown” in general.

Philip Neri was incredibly holy and he hoped that playing jokes and having a laugh would warm people’s hearts to the Good News that he really came to share — Jesus Christ loved them. The Son of God wanted to be a part of their lives. What greater cause for rejoicing could there be?! Jesus Christ, the Son of God, wants to be a part of our lives.

This weekend, let’s remember that as Christians, we are called to be saints — people full of joy and humor. We have a great cause for rejoicing! Our Lord and God is madly in love with us. *Gaudete!* Rejoice!

Oremus pro invicem!

Fr. Ryan P. Brady





2025-2026

WE ARE

READY TO GROW



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AIDES

6

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2

LEARNING
SPECIALISTS

1

COUNSELOR

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION

OPENS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26TH
8AM-12:30PM

TOURS AVAILABLE!

New Family Registration will take place at the Main Office of St. Christina School at 3333 W. 110th Street. Scan the QR code below for addition information on the enrollment process.

COME BE A PART OF THE CARDINAL SPIRIT.



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Finding the perfect present can be tricky...
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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



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 22..... **CLOSED to submissions**

December 29..... **THIS 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

Why Do We Do That? — Catholic Life Explained

Christmas

Question:

With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

Answer:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

©LPi

December 15, 2024 — Third Sunday of Advent

On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, "What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?" The Saint responded, "I'd keep hoeing this row of beans." Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus' glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize "**with the Holy Spirit and fire**" (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus' coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It's so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don't know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That's what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.

Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: "Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming." Then make the appropriate changes.

— *Father John Muir*

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Women's Sodality News

Join us for a meeting, holiday potluck, and "Left, Right, Center"!

When: Wednesday, December 18th, 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. Christina School Hall

Pair up or with a small group and bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Bring some single dollar bills to join in a few games of "Left, Right, Center." Don't worry if you haven't played this dice game before as you'll learn as you play!

Email saint.christina.sodality@gmail.com with any questions.

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.



2024 Advent & Christmas Schedule

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





Magical Keys
Christmas Extravaganza

The Magical Keys Christmas Extravaganza

2024

Produced and Directed by sisters
Kasia Szczech-Dlugosz & Karolina Szczech



**SCAN HERE
to buy tickets**



Trinity Christian College - Ozinga Chapel Auditorium
6601 W College Drive Palos Heights, IL 60463

December 21st, 2024 6:30 PM
December 22nd, 2024 3:00 pm

TICKETS

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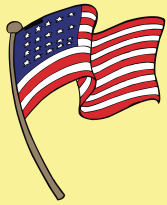
St. Christina Parish Domestic Violence Outreach

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.

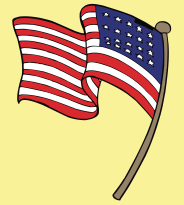
Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior in any intimate relationship whereby one partner seeks to gain or maintain control over the other. The abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional and psychological. Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, religion and gender. Domestic violence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



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



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 Sriver
LT Matthew Sebok, USN
Wayne Sherman
Cpt. Hans Christian Sitarz
Benjamin Somers, USAF, E2 Airman
CPT Luke J. Spencer, US Army
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. 16 – Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. People of Our Parish

Tuesday, Dec. 17 – Late Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. † Pete Massuto

Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Late Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. † Frank & Genevieve Venezia;
† Kathy Cordes

Thursday, Dec. 19 – Late Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Reynoso

Friday, Dec. 20 – Late Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. † James Kolacek;
† Jeanette Negrete

Saturday, Dec. 21 – St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory
2:00 p.m. Wedding: Rachel Morris & Anthony
Natalino
4:00 p.m. † Dolores Jaroch; † Albert Stuba;
† Michael McComb

Sunday, Dec. 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. † Babe Lilek; † Diane Oboikovitz;
† Mary Concannon
10:30 a.m. † Donald Myron;
† Charles Riegel;
† Margaret Kapustianyk
5:00 p.m. † Irene Zittman; † Wilma Major

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 21

4:00 p.m. President: Fr. John Sullivan
Lector: L. Kolacek
E.M.: Deacon John; C. Chessare;
P. McKittrick

Sunday, December 22

8:00 a.m. President: Fr. Brady
Lector: P. Schied
E.M.: Deacon Al; R. Gorski; D. Higgins
10:30 a.m. President: Fr. Brady
Lector: C. McKeon
E.M. Deacon Stanley; D. Tobar; T. Moroz
5:00 p.m. President: Fr. Svida
Lector: L. Caputo
E.M. M. Gochee; B. Gochee; K. Sullivan

COLLECTION TOTALS

November 2024 Donations from
WeShare Online Giving: \$7,063.33

Thanksgiving Collection: \$4,045.00

Sunday Collection Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2024: \$11,643.87

Support Your Parish Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2024: \$2,726.00

Sharing Parish: \$357.00 Christmas Flowers: \$1,668.00

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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