



Parish Tidings

Our Lord's Ascension Parish

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Annual Blessing of Cars and Drivers



St. Christopher is a widely popular saint, especially admired by athletes, mariners, ferrymen, and travelers. He is celebrated as one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers and holds patronage of things related to travel.

According to legend, Christopher was told because of his size and strength he could serve Christ by assisting people to cross a dangerous river, where many were perishing in the attempt. So he became a ferryman, carrying pilgrims on his strong shoulders across a swift-moving river while using a staff to maintain his balance.

One day a young child approached and asked to be ferried across the stream. Halfway across, the weight of the child became so great that he feared they wouldn't make it. When they finally arrived safely on the other side, the child explained that he had been carrying the weight of the sins of the world. Christopher knew then that he had been carrying Christ, and that he'd met the all-powerful God for whom he'd been searching. The name "Christopher" means "Christ-bearer," and he is usually shown supporting the Christ child on his shoulders. This was what made Christopher patron saint of travelers.

Miniature statues are frequently displayed in Automobiles. In French a widespread phrase for such medals is "Regarde St Christophe et va-t-en rassuré" ("Look at St Christopher and go on reassured", sometimes translated as "Behold St Christopher and go your way in safety"); Saint Christopher medals and holy cards in Spanish have the phrase "Si en San Cristóbal confías, de accidente no morirás" ("If you trust St. Christopher, you won't die in an

accident"). In Austria an annual collection for providing vehicles for the use of missionaries is taken up on a Sunday close to the feast of Saint Christopher, asking people to contribute a very small sum of money for every kilometer that they have traveled safely during the year.

St. Christopher's Day is the occasion for the Blessing of the Cars. The custom began in 1933, when the pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania started blessing automobiles after he himself had been involved in three serious car accidents.

Prayer to Saint Christopher

Dear Saint Christopher,
protect me today
in all my travels
along the road's way.
Give your warning sign
if danger is near
so that I may stop
while the path is clear.
Be at my window
and direct me through
when the vision blurs
from out of the blue.
Carry me safely
to my destined place,
like you carried Christ
in your close embrace.
Amen.

Coopersburg Community Day

For the fifth consecutive year our parish will be participating in the Coopersburg Community Day on Saturday September 19, 2015. In addition to gaining a monetary profit from the sale of our specialty items, this is an opportunity for us to promote our church. We will be selling pierogies, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa sandwiches, hot dogs, kiffles, baked goods, the parish cookbook and our 'You Bet Your Pierogi I'm Polish' items as well as craft articles.

It is scheduled rain or shine from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm with a set-up time beginning at 7:00 am. As a parish event all members are invited and encouraged to join in the venture in some way. The

fund raising committee, would welcome cash donations for the purchase of necessary items needed for the sale (ice, paper products, registration fees, etc.), donations of food items, and most importantly, your time manning a booth for a few hours. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the vestibule in August where you can volunteer.

ANS

Did you know that the ANS covers the cost of making the nut, poppy seed and apricot rolls for the Spring and Fall Bazaars? Last year we successfully ran the "Go for the Gold" campaign and the response was exceptional. All through the year parishioners continued to help our cause by contributing flour and sugar. In order to finance the cost of the nuts, poppy seed, apricot and other ingredients the ANS has two fundraisers.

- The "You Bet Your Pierogi I'm Polish" t-shirts worn by many of our parishioners at the spring and fall bazaar and baseball style hats are available for \$20.00. If anyone is interested in buying a shirt or hat, please see Jackie Bayak.
- The Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day is on Tuesday, October 19, 2015. For a \$5.00 donation (the entire donation benefits our church) you will receive a 25% OFF SHOPPING PASS and a chance to win a \$500 or \$100 Shopping Spree. The Shopping Pass may be purchased from any member of the ANS. Support your church and save money – a winning combination.

August at a Glance

- Sunday Mass at 9 AM**
- Coffee Social after Mass**
- Bingo every Wednesday at 7 PM
- August 18, 19 & 20 Clergy Retreat**
- August 14 & 15 Pierogi Making
- August 30 – - Blessing of Students, Teachers and Backpacks**
- ***
- September 1 – **Committee Meeting**

Pierogi Making

Then



(front row) Amelia "Mealy" Sydorak, Agnes Bankowski, Mrs. Shulga
(middle row) Mania Soltysiak, Mania's friend, Wanda Poposki, Carolyn Broczkowski
(back row) Sophie Bryski, Victoria Szalachowski, Mania's friend, Pauline Werkman

Now



Throughout the years pierogi making has been a vital part of our parish. Not only is this an essential fundraiser, but also an enjoyable social activity.

Reunion in the Sun



John and Lynn Wunderler spent two weeks vacationing with their sons and grandchildren in sunny Florida. This was a reunion of sorts, as it was the first time in about eight years that all the sons

and their families were able to get time off to spend together.

The first week was spent in the Orlando area, with day trips to Liki Tiki Water Park, Sea World and Wild Florida. As in the previous few years, birthdays were celebrated for John Sr. and John Jr. Everyone enjoyed the great time and food at Joe's Crab Shack. The second week it was off to Pinellas Park to enjoy John and Lynn's retirement home and the beach.

John Sr. spent many long hours over the previous eight months getting the house ready for the family vacation visit. Treasure Island beach was the hit this week, but there were also trips to other family favorites at John's Pass, the Outlet Mall and St. Petersburg Twistie Treat ice cream stand. This particular ice cream stand is known for serving approximately 50 different flavors of soft serve ice cream in regular and sugar-free varieties. John and Lynn are looking forward to the next time that everyone can get to spend time together and hope it's not another eight years.

And God Created Man

CREATION



On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?" And God saw that it was good.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span."

The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?" And God, again saw that it was good.

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?" And God agreed that it was good.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play, and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.

There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service. If you are looking for me, I will be on the front porch!

Heavenly Peanut Butter Pie

CRUST:

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup butter (1/2 stick) melted
2 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, grated

FILLING:

1 cup crunchy peanut butter
1 pkg. (8-oz.) cream cheese, softened
2 teaspoons butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup miniature chocolate chips
1/2 cup salted peanuts (optional)
1 pkg. (8-oz.) frozen whipped topping, thawed

In medium bowl, combine cracker crumbs, butter and chocolate; mixed well. Reserve 1/4 cup crumb mixture to use as garnish. Press remaining crumb mixture onto bottom and sides of 9-inch pie plate. Chill.

In large bowl, beat together peanut butter, cream cheese and butter. Add sugar and vanilla; blend well.

Stir in chocolate chips and peanuts. Fold in whipping topping. Pour into chilled crust and garnish with reserved crumb mixture. Chill overnight.

