



From the Rector...

Dear Family of St. Christopher's,

Happy birthday to the Christian Church! Happy birthday to you, who are the body of the Church in the world!

We're all familiar with our own birthdays, and we celebrate them because they mark the day of the year in which we entered into this life. But did you know you have a second birthday? Because you are part of the body of the Church, Pentecost is the Church's birthday, and yours as well. And like any birthday, it's a cause for celebration.

The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "50th day." Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their Earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations. Pentecost is also a Jewish holiday, which the Jews use to celebrate the end of Passover. Jews celebrate the gift of the law to Moses at Mt. Sinai on this day. But we, as Christians celebrate the birth of our Church.

At Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. Jews from all over the world were gathered with Peter, the leader of the Apostles and the Eleven. At this time, a great wind blew and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which split itself into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon these people and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another.

Others who were not so blessed, accused those speaking in tongues of being drunk, but Peter arose and addressed the crowd, explaining that it was only 9 o'clock, and that this phenomenon was not intoxication, but rather this was the work of the Holy Spirit, prophesized in the scripture. Peter then called all those present to be baptized and about three thousand people were baptized that day. These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first pope of the Catholic Church.

The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, (as our Bishop Michael Hunn explains us during his visit recently) wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit. The color of Pentecost is red and the priest wears red vestments on this day. Parishioners are also invited to wear red on this day. Red decorations as well as celebrations are appropriate, similar to any other birthday. Special prayers are often said just for Pentecost. And of course some portions of the gospel read in different languages!!!

*Blessings,
Fr. JJ Bernal +*

Collect for The Day of Pentecost

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

-The Book of Common Prayer

From the Senior Warden...

PENTECOST

Once our celebration of Ascension Day (30 May) is over, we will now look forward to Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday (09 June) and the beginning of the Pentecost season which is the longest season of the church year. Pentecost Sunday celebrates the Holy Spirit's coming to strengthen and enlighten the disciples and is the fiftieth (50th) day from Easter. The color for this day will be RED to designate "tongues of fire" and the symbols for Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit and include flames, wind, the breath of God and a dove. For this day, the custom of wearing red (i.e. vestments) has been extended to Priests, Ministers, choirs and lay people. Red banners may be hung throughout the church to signify the "blowing of the mighty wind" and the "free movement of the Spirit".

Red flowers at the altar/preaching area are typical decorations for Pentecost services. These flowers play an important role in church rites and symbolize the renewal of life, the coming of the warm summer and the growth of the church. Red flowering plants and green branches can decorate the church altar and font.

Pentecost, as earlier stated, is the longest church season and will last until the beginning of Advent. We will celebrate the growth of the church, the spread of the good news and we will study more of the life of Jesus. The color for this season will be GREEN which symbolizes hope and growth. The symbol for this season is shown as the "cross arising from the earth".

Pentecost has been regarded as the "birthday" of the Christian church. This festival is when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and is celebrated on the Sunday 50 (fifty) days after Easter. The name Pentecost comes from the Greek "*pentekoste*, fiftieth). Pentecost is also regarded as the start of the church's *mission* to the world.

Pentecost is a time of universal prayer in honor of the disciples' time of prayer and unity awaiting the Holy Spirit. Though the practice of fasting is no longer required for some; retreats, prayer vigils and litanies may be observed. Pentecost is a time to observe Baptisms and above all, Pentecost is the time for the Confirmation celebrations of youths

FATHER'S DAY (JUNE 16)

The campaign to celebrate the nation's Fathers did not meet with the same enthusiasm as Mother's Day, perhaps because as one florist explained – "fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have". The origins of Father's Day initially began in 1908 in a West Virginia church to commemorate some men who had died in a coal mine explosion. The next year, a woman in Washington tried to establish this day as an equivalent to Mother's Day. She was successful and her state celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day, June 19, 1910.

However, it was not until 1972 – 58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official, that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. Today, the day honoring Fathers is celebrated on the third (3rd) Sunday in June so one might say that Mother's Day became the inspiration for Father's Day.

This official holiday has now been in effect for forty-seven (47) years. So how can we celebrate Father's Day? Some general ideas are to take Dad golfing, cook dinner on the grill or in the oven or maybe go to a movie. Children (or we all) can craft gift cards or maybe just spending time with Dad may be the best gift of all.

President Obama, during his Presidency, urged all Dads to take "the Fatherhood Pledge". (NOTE: This pledge can be found on the Internet). He asks children young and old to remember that it is not all ties and

golf clubs but the time spent to love and earn Dad's heart. With approximately 70 million dads in the United States today, give good ol' Dad a big hug and tell him "thank you" however you can."

***In Christ's Name,
Joe Maldonado, Senior Warden***

A Prayer for Father's Day

Almighty God, we give our thanks for the fathers in our lives.

Fatherhood does not come with a manual, and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail. We ask for Your blessings for them all – and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways – both big and small – they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach. So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent – grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches – and the women of our families. For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You. In the Name of Jesus Christ Holy name we pray. Amen."

From Fr. Alex...

EASTER SEASON

We celebrated with joy the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. This great feast lasts for fifty days when we still rejoice that we have a merciful God who gives new life to the community of believers as we continue to read the Acts of the Apostles during the Sunday celebrations.

During this season we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension which in indeed the opportunity to reinforce our faith in the Risen Christ and eternal life for us. The book of Acts in Chapter 2 describes the event of the Coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Our Lady the day of Pentecost. The presence of the Holy Spirit in the early Church is the fulfillment of the promise of our Lord. Pentecost is the time to renew the confidence that God helps the believer to follow the footsteps of Jesus and witness his Resurrection. The Church needs the guidance and strength from the Holy Spirit to continue its vocation to proclaim the love of God to the world.

Que este tiempo de Pascua sea la oportunidad de celebrar la presencia del Espiritu Santo cuando recordamos que durante la fiesta de Pentecostes Dios se hizo presente a la Iglesia primitiva como lo leemos en el libro de Hechos de los Apostoles.

Este tiempo de Pascua nos lleva a darnos cuenta que nosotros necesitamos de Jesus vivo que nos invita a ser testigos de su amor y misericordia. Que celebremos este tiempo de Pascua estos cincuenta dias con la inspiracion del Espiritu Santo Amen.

***Blessings,
Fr. Alex Reyes +***

*Happy
Birthday*

**JUNE
BIRTHDAYS**

*Logan Bishop 13
Fr. Alex Reyes + 17
Violet Navidomskis 26*

MEETINGS

Sunday, June 2
11:30 a.m. Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, June 5
10:00 a.m. Bible Study in Spanish
Thursday, June 13
8:00 a.m. Outdoor Workday



2019 Summer Camp Schedule

All sessions will include traditional camp activities as well as various activities related to the theme for that week. Drop off is at **4 pm** on the first day of each camp and pickup is at **10 am** of the last day of each camp.

**Family Camp
June 13-16**

(All Ages: parent/s required)

Families participate in traditional camp activities as well as a chance for families to share in quality time while sharing and growing in their faith together. The long weekend provides a great way to introduce younger children to camp and for alumni to come back.

**Summer Fun Camp
June 17-22**

(Ages 8-12, Grades 3-7)

Enjoy Camp activities like Archery, Arts & Crafts, Field games, Swimming, Campfires, Bible Study and much more while exploring who you are in Christ.

**Adventure (Excursion) Camp
June 23-29**

(Ages 12-17, Grades 7-12)

Teens are invited into God's creation through wilderness hiking, sleep under the stars, white-water rafting, visiting New Mexico's treasures and other activities! This camp will help teens explore their relationship with Jesus through Bible study and Worship.

For more information and registration:

www.bishopridge.org/camp-stoney.html

**Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader
June 30 - July 6**

(Ages 8-12, Grades 3-7)

Campers grow in their relation with Christ as they explore the world of C.S. Lewis's Narnia. Campers will participate in themed arts and crafts projects, participate in Worship and bible Study as well as spend the week reenacting one of C. S. Lewis' iconic books through costumed skits.

**Harry Potter: The Chamber of Secrets
July 7 - 13**

(Ages 8-13, Grades 3-8)

A fantasy camp that explores the Christian themes found in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter, through Bible Study and worship. Play Quidditch, visit Diagon Alley, put on a skit, make themed craft projects, participate in classes, swim, hike, and take archery lessons all at Camp Stoney's version of Hogwarts.

**Superhero Camp
July 14 - 20**

(Ages 12-17 Grades 7-12)

This camp explores the Christian virtues and themes found in Superhero comics. Find your inner Superman, Wonder Woman, Peter Quill, Gamora, which ever Superhero is in your heart. Enjoy themed crafts, games, swimming, hiking, and archery.



JUNE PRAYER LIST

Please keep these members and friends of St. Christopher's in your daily prayers...

Fr. JJ Bernal (Rector), Mariana Bernal, Deacon Ken Anderson (Member), Katie Hudak (Member), Patty Lane (Member), Luis Garcia (Member), Mary Reyes (Cano), Ray Vega (Vega), Gary Welsh, Richard and Kathy Schofill (Truesdale), Kevin Salcedo, Joe Heidrick (Shinn), Christie Lechuga (Perez), Fernando Peña, Christy Darling, Jerry Brown (Shinn), Hank Hosford (Mowad), Octaviano Tavares (Rodriguez), Donna Hvizdos (Hudak), Maria Morgan (Anderson), Irma Lopez (Mowad), John Hudak (Hudak), Skip Bambrook, James Mowad (Mowad), Bill Fields (Fields), Linda and Larry (Navidomskis), Manuel Vida, Bunky Mitchell, and Mrs. Mitchell, Alyson (Navidomskis), Mariann Chavez (Shinn), Bob St. Jean (Truesdale), Roman Morales and family

Almighty God, we commend to your care and keeping all of the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad: Capt. Matthew Barchie USAF, Sgt. Charles East, Navy, Matthew Barnes, Jerry Carreon, Adam Garcia, Navy, Magie Gonzalez, Lt. Jody M. Daniels, Navy, Roberto Salgado, Mark Logan, USAF, PFC Jose Gonzalez, Oscar I. Gonzalez, Comd. Darren Rich, Oscar Camuniz, SP Woody Needler, Army, Raymundo Ubina,

*The families and friends of all who are serving at home and abroad
Please contact Holly to add or delete names*

OUR MINISTRIES



*Adam Joseph Fuller
Class of 2019
Pebble Hills High School*

*Eddie Rey Pichardo
Class of 2019
Premier High School*

*Congratulations from your Church Family at
St. Christopher's!*

* OUTDOOR WORKDAY *

8:00 a.m. Thursday, June 13

Teens from Juvenile Justice will be here for community hours

We will be working on the church grounds clearing weeds and cutting grass in the playground and the back of the church

If you are available and can help, please do!
Teens needing community hours for school are also welcome to come! Pizza after!

SOUP KITCHEN

(Menus are subject to change)

Saturday, June 8

Martha Cano and Carlisle Navidomskis

Menu:

Soup, Salad, Burrito, Postre

Saturday, June 15

Diana Marquez and Vanessa Marquez

Menu:

Soup, Salad, Tacos, Postre



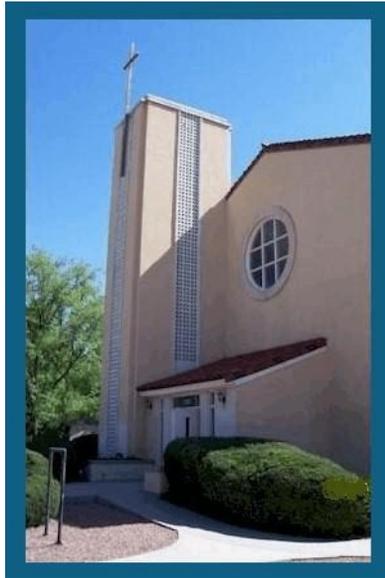
SUMMER STEWARDSHIP

The summer months are always very difficult for the Church You might go on vacation, but the Church never does! Bills, salaries, and expenses still go on!

Please consider your pledge before you hit the road ~ It would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you, and prayers for safe travel!

**CHECK OUT OUR
WEBSITE AND
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

300 Riverside Drive El Paso, Texas 79915

Church Office: 915 859-9329

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!

Email:

stchristopherselpaso@gmail.com

Website:

www.stchristopherselpaso.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Eucharist & Healing 10:30 a.m.



St. Christopher's

Soup Kitchen

Outreach

11:00 a.m.

2nd & 3rd Saturday of each month

**BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF THE RIO GRANDE
The Right Reverend Michael B. Hunn**

**CLERGY AND STAFF
The Reverend Canon José J. Bernal
Rector**

**The Reverend Miguel Ramirez
Associate Priest**

**The Reverend Alejandro Reyes
Associate Priest**

**The Reverend Kenneth Anderson
Deacon (Ret.)**



**Holly Truesdale
Parish Administrator**

VESTRY

Joe Maldonado - Senior Warden

Virgie Shinn - Junior Warden

Carlisle Navidomskis

Bruce Truesdale

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Rector

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday

**Fr. Bernal will be also available
on Saturdays by appointment.**



**Administrator
and Church Office
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday
Administrator in Office
at home on**

**Monday and Wednesday
852-3954 or 252-2475**

Church Offices Closed on Friday

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S MISSION STATEMENT

*Our Mission, as vessels indwelt
by the Holy Spirit, is to proclaim
the Gospel and teach the Faith;
to bring Christ's healing power to
those who are wounded and hurting;
to share our blessings with those in
need; to administer the Holy
Sacraments; and to live our lives to
God's glory, sharing the love of
Jesus Christ with all people.*

