

Dear Parishioners,

Today we hear a young Solomon meekly asking God for wisdom and understanding so that he might properly distinguish right from wrong and judge with kindness and compassion. We often find ourselves misleading ourselves about right and wrong or judging others hastily and unfairly. Let us take this opportunity today to pray that we may emulate Solomon and welcome God's wisdom and mercy into our lives so that we can be guided in using right judgment.

The old tradition indicates that Saint Christopher, who was a Roman soldier, was baptized by a hermit and, with his advice, settled on the river, helping travelers. He died for his faith during persecution during the reign of Emperor Decius (around 250). As their patron saint, Saint Christopher worshiped carriers, porters, rafters and pilgrims. Today he is venerated as the patron of drivers, and his image decorates many vehicles. St. Christopher is commemorated in the liturgy of the Catholic Church on July 25th. Since last year's blessing of cars was accepted very well, I decided to do it again this year. Your cars and you will be blessed as you leave the parking lot after mass this weekend.

Each summer the Mission Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago facilitates the Mission Cooperation Plan, an opportunity for more than 100 international missionary dioceses, congregations and organizations to share their stories and invite support from our faith communities. Typically, missionary representatives visit churches over a weekend to speak and appeal for contributions. In the summer of 2020, travel is impossible for most missionary speakers, and protecting the safety of both the worshipping communities and speakers is paramount. This means that in-person appeals are not possible. Yet needs are greater than ever for communities of faith in under-resourced areas throughout our world. For this reason, the mission collection will be taken next weekend August 1-2, 2020. Please be as generous as you can.

New Mass Book for 2021 is already open. If you would like to schedule a mass, please call the rectory.

We keep in our prayers our parishioners, who for various reasons cannot worship with us in the church, asking God for keeping them healthy and safe.

Have a happy summer!

Father Stan.