



# THE CHRONICLES

June  
2011

## Children and Youth Edition

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Volume 10, Issue 5

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S DAY SCHOOL

PRE-KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION DAY

CLASS OF 2011



### Our Graduates

*Top Row, left to right*

Michael Salazar

Ava Ceraudo

Ace Center

Olivia Nugent

*Middle Row, left to right*

Matthew Zatopek

Cameron Cooper

Amare Fields

*Bottom Row, left to right*

Soren Boyd

Kameron Stovall

Lily Trevino

Eli Lofts

*Also pictured*

Mrs. Gail Musgrove

Ms. Emily Cox

Father Bob Goolsby

Thank you Lord for this day.

Thank you for the times we shared here at St. Christopher's Day School. Thank you for the dedicated teachers, the many friends who have come along, the laughter and joy we have shared. Thank you for the songs we have sung and the knowledge we have gained. Thank you for leading us and guiding us through it all.

May the memories live on in us, and inspire us to share with the world, all that we have gained through this journey.

Thank you Lord.  
Amen

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
1656 Blalock Road  
Houston, TX 77080  
www.stchrishouston.org

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle  
Bishop of Texas  
The Rev. Robert P. Goolsby  
Rector

Sunday Services

8:00 AM  
9:15 AM  
10:15 AM

Rite I Eucharist  
Christian Education  
Rite II Eucharist with Children's Chapel

**Parish Office**

Phone: 713.465.6015  
Fax: 713.465.2086  
Email: [information@stchrishouston.org](mailto:information@stchrishouston.org)  
Website: [www.stchrishouston.org](http://www.stchrishouston.org)

**Hours**

Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Staff**

Rector  
Father Bob Goolsby  
[fatherbob@stchrishouston.org](mailto:fatherbob@stchrishouston.org)

Parish Administrator  
Gladys Pace  
[gladys@stchrishouston.org](mailto:gladys@stchrishouston.org)

Sexton  
Ralph Talley  
[ralph@stchrishouston.org](mailto:ralph@stchrishouston.org)

Director of Music Ministries  
Henry Washington  
[sing2livefree@yahoo.com](mailto:sing2livefree@yahoo.com)

Director of Children's Ministries  
Jill Center  
[jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org)

**St. Christopher's Day School**

Day School Director  
Marchelle Cipra  
[cipra3@aol.com](mailto:cipra3@aol.com)  
Phone: 713.465.6035  
Fax: 713.465.2086

**Day School Hours**

Full Care  
7:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Mother's Day Out/Preschool  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Pre Kindergarten  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
After School Program  
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Thrift Shop**

Manager

Claudia Langerud  
[information@stchrishouston.org](mailto:information@stchrishouston.org)  
Phone: 713.467.7743  
Fax: 713.465.2086

**Hours**

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**PRAYER REQUEST**

If you or someone you know needs prayer, the Daughters of the King maintain a prayer list. Cards are available in the Sanctuary. Once added, the prayer will remain on this list for one month unless noted. If you wish to add a prayer to the Prayers of the People, please contact the church office 713.465.6015. Unless otherwise noted, the prayer will only be added for one week.

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you or someone you know needs a home or hospital visit or Holy Communion, our Pastoral Care Team is available. Pastoral Care visit the ill and homebound. Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to offer communion. Please call the office to be added to the visitation list. In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call 281.636.7224.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar Flowers are available for dedication to special occasions (birthdays, anniversaries, in thanksgiving, in memory of, or for the glory of God). If you would like to order Altar Flowers, contact the church office at 713.465.6015 or email [gladys@stchrishouston.org](mailto:gladys@stchrishouston.org). Dedications are \$50.00.

**BUILDING SPACE RESERVATION**

If you wish to reserve any space on the parish property for a personal or organizational event, a building reservation or meeting request form must be filled out and approved at least five business days prior to the event. Reservation forms are available in the office or can be emailed to you. Contact the church office at 713.465.6015 or [gladys@stchrishouston.org](mailto:gladys@stchrishouston.org).

**FUNDRAISER OR OUTREACH CAMPAIGN**

If you or your organization have a fundraiser

or outreach campaign you wish to offer to the congregation, you must have approval from the church office. Please contact Gladys at 713.465.6015 or [gladys@stchrishouston.org](mailto:gladys@stchrishouston.org) for more information.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you wish to add an announcement to the weekly bulletin please submit it in writing by the Tuesday before you wish it published. Submitted announcements are subject to approval. Please bring it to the church office or email [jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org).

**NAME TAG/CONTACT INFORMATION**

Submit name tag request or contact information changes in writing to the parish office. Requests can be emailed to [gladys@stchrishouston.org](mailto:gladys@stchrishouston.org).

**St. Christopher's Chronicles** is published monthly by St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Houston, Texas.

**Submissions**

Submissions deadline is the 10th of each month. Submissions may be emailed to the editor at [jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org) or hand-delivered to the church office. All submissions are subject to space availability and editing. Submissions in ALL CAPS will not be accepted.

**Photo Policy**

The Chronicles and St. Christopher's Church occasionally use photos of individuals or groups in publications, including our website. Anyone objecting to the use of their photos or those of minor children please notify the church office at 713.465.6015.

**Mailing List**

If you would like to be added/removed from the mailing list please contact the Parish Administrator at 713.465.6015.

**Read The Chronicles Online**

The Chronicles is available online in PDF form at [www.stchrishouston.org](http://www.stchrishouston.org) or can be emailed directly to you. If you would like to receive an electronic version of this publication, please email your request to [jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org).

Episcopal priest and writer, Tom Erich wrote eleven prayers for *The Vestry Resource Guide*, a publication of the Episcopal Church Foundation, and does so for each month of the year except where he combines the June/July prayer. The April prayer comes to my mind at this time, because the prayer addresses changes that we go through this time of year. Children, teenagers, young adults, and older adults are graduating and finding new schools to attend, or seeking new employment, moving away from home or ushering *their* children into new schools and new environments. Whether we like it or not, it seems, change abounds.

So the prayer asks God to help us to recognize the “transitions” in our lives and of others. Why would this prayer have the reader ask God for help to “recognize” transitions? Are we prone to disregard and ignore such transitions? Possibly. Transition, change, difference, are all words that can cause us to feel unsettled or certainly uncomfortable. Changing one’s life’s circumstances or accepting a new and different start in life, like moving or starting a new job, retirement, beginning life in a new community and other such changes in life can be very discomfoting. We’ve all experienced them, and I think we have all survived them.

As we continue on in the life of our parish amid changes due to new plans for ministry, renovation, new membership within our parish and other new beginnings and changes in our lives, I am reminded of the Psalm by David who writes, “Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure” (16:9). God calls us to leave our anxieties and worries with him.

Life is full of changes and unpredictability, but God calls us to be glad, to rejoice, and ultimately to find rest in him. “Rest”. This time of year, I find a lot of comfort in that little word.

So the Vestry prayer for April goes, “Dear Lord, as the school year ends and program leaders plan for the coming season, help us to be attentive to reality. Help us to thank those who have served, and to ask what they learned. Help us to recognize the transitions happening in the lives of children and their parents, and to ask whether we have served them well. Help us to see the people behind the numbers, the tears and smiles behind the Sunday statistics, the yearnings that remain to be met tomorrow. In our gratitude, help us to remember those who served in small ways. In our compassion, help us to treasure those who failed. All this we ask in the Name of One who never flinched from reality. Amen.”

**Father Bob's Calendar**

- 1 Healing Service
- 2 MAM CC Meeting
- 3 TENS Conference
- 4 TENS Conference
- 5 Anglican Covenant Study
- 6 Circle of Care
- 7 Staff Prayer
- 8 Healing Service
- 12 Vacation Bible School Finale
- 13 School Board
- 14 Staff Meeting  
Thrift Shop
- 15 Healing Service
- 17 Clergy Support Group
- 18 Kid's Night In & Movie Night
- 19 Father's Day
- 20 Outreach Meeting
- 21 Staff Prayer  
Finance Committee
- 22 Healing Service  
Clericus
- 26 Emmanuel - Supply
- 27 Vestry
- 28 Staff meeting
- 29 Healing Service

As you receive this in June I shall be completing my second (Middler) year of study and have been accepted by Bishop Harrison as a Candidate for Holy Orders. That is a big step forward and follows successful completion of all assignments and tests and a second round of interviews with committees within the Commission on Ministry.

The Iona Senior Class will be ordained to the diaconate on June 18 at Christ Church Cathedral. I will miss them as I return to school next fall, having spent two years forming lasting bonds of friendship with these talented and interesting people of God.

We recently learned that our Iona School for Ministry is unique in the American Church and several other dioceses are looking at us, considering how they might offer a similar alternative preparation for ordained ministry. Some exploratory work is under way toward using today's technology to share curriculum beyond our diocesan borders. Three students from the Diocese of Oklahoma began studying with us this year. It is exciting to be a part of history in the making.

The work of this past year has been very interesting and includes an in-depth look at church history, down to the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Texas; a look at all of our liturgies and rites; Book of Common Prayer history; Anglican Spirituality, and so much more.

Fieldwork at Lord of the Streets and Houston Hospice has blessed me in more ways than I can count. Our brothers and sisters who live on the streets of Houston and who are dying alone in places strange to them are hungry for Christ's body – the Church – to assure them of His love and thirsty for knowledge of His presence in their lives. We can all be a part of filling that hunger and that thirst.

So what is next in my journey? This summer I plan to take care of a couple of minor health matters for which my study schedule seemed to leave no time and I will be writing a research paper which is due in September. In August I will make a retreat and will begin reading theology, the core academic for my senior year. I expect to continue serving as a chaplain at Houston Hospice at least until school starts in September. From Advent through Easter of 2012 I will intern at

another parish and will be fully imbedded in its life and worship.

My thoughts on this are bittersweet. I shall miss your kind and familiar faces and the comfort of our regular common worship. At the same time, I am excited to learn other ways of "doing church" and to meet other Episcopalians and their families. This will be my opportunity to stand on the threshold between the church and the world, which is the role of the deacon, and to be as open as possible to receive direction from the Breath of God in bringing together his hurting children and those whom he has richly blessed.

Thank you, as always, for your prayers, encouragement, support and faithfulness. You are very special to me and I am humbled by your caring. And now, Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. (*Ephes. 3:20, 21*)



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S FINANCIALS

April 2011

Annual Budget Pledge Income Goal

\$250,000

Actual Year to Date Pledged

\$229,146

Year to Date Actual

\$74,457

2011 Stewardship Program

99 Pledges Received

## FROM THE PARISH

### SENIOR BUS TRIPS

**Monday June 13**

This is our “Carmen Darlin” trip to Huntsville, TX. We will meet our tour guide at the Sam Houston Statue visitor’s center for a tour of local historical sites. A break for country style lunch and then a visit and tour of the Prison Museum. I have not personally made this trip, but have gotten several great reviews. Looking forward to it. More details and cost as the date draws nearer.



Look for sign-up sheets and posters in The Narthex and Parish Hall. Feel free to call me, Carl Squires, for more information at 713-467-2552

### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Monday, June 13th, the church office will be closed Mondays through the summer. The office will resume Monday hours on August 1st.

**NewsLetter  
DEADLINE**

### CHRONICLES DEADLINE

This is a reminder that all calendar events, articles and information to be printed in the Chronicles is due to the editor by the 10th of the previous month.

### DAY SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

Beginning Tuesday, May 31st, the Day School will be in Latham Hall from 7 AM to 6 PM, Monday - Friday to accommodate students attending their summer program. Any activity regularly scheduled to occur in Latham Hall during those hours will have to make alternative arrangements with the office. Thank you.

### EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Tickets are now available in the church office for the June 28th Astros game. Contact Gladys to purchase or for more information.



### THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Summer is coming and many people will be on vacation. This includes volunteers at the St. Christopher’s/Houston Hospice Thrift Shop. The hours for the Thrift Shop are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 AM to 3 PM. Manager Claudia Langerud is putting out an urgent call for more volunteers—no experience necessary. Training will be provided. Any day, any hours —whatever time you can give is greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please call Claudia at the Thrift Shop: 713-467-7743 or email [stchthriftshop@hotmail.com](mailto:stchthriftshop@hotmail.com).

### SUMMER INTERNSHIP WITH MAM

Are you going to be a full-time sophomore, junior or senior college student in Fall 2011 and are looking for a summer internship? There is an opening for a student intern to implement the sixth year of MAM’s summer high school student jobs program from June 1 to August 10. This will be an on-site/off-site position as supervisor. Leadership skills and familiarity with non-profit event planning, fundraising, and general administration a plus. Please send resume and cover letter to Sara Rice at [srice@maministries.org](mailto:srice@maministries.org).

### JUNE’S SPECIAL DATES

#### Anniversaries

Ruben and Martha Salas	6/02
John and Carmen Aikman	6/13
David and Joyce Archibald	6/17
Ralph and Jacque Clemons	6/17
Lee Eriksen and Dick Vukin	6/30

#### Birthdays

Joseph Knisel	6/01
Aryelle Hatfield	6/03
Nikolai Turpin	6/04
Philip Redding	6/05
David Carmichael	6/10
Ann Seitz	6/17
Rock Beauseigle	6/20
Virginia Evans	6/20
Candy Leskin	6/20
Jeanene Trout	6/21
Jacques Nuijten	6/22
Diane Anderle	6/23
Carolyn Montalbano	6/25
Jennifer Gibson	6/26
Mike Leskin	6/26
Carol Meyertons	6/26
Wendy Alexander	6/29
Suzanne Clark	6/29
Bob Goolsby	6/30
Sandra Montalbano	6/30



## JUNE EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

**Stewardship Conference at Camp Allen**

### SUNDAY, JUNE 5TH

#### **FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY**

Donations of fresh fruits and vegetables and other food items are collected, blessed and delivered to Mission of Yahweh, a local ministry that assists mothers and children in need.

8 AM Rite I  
9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages  
10:15 AM Rite II  
10:15 AM Children's Chapel  
11:30 AM Episcopal Youth  
Community  
11:30 AM Daughters of the King  
1:30 PM VBS Decoration/Setup

### MONDAY, JUNE 6TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
10 AM Senior Exercise

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:05 PM Healing Service in Chapel  
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
6 - 8:30 PM Vacation Bible School



### FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
6 - 8:30 PM Vacation Bible School

### SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH

8:30AM - 4 PM Vacation Bible School

### SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH



**PENTECOST  
SECOND SUNDAY  
OFFERING FOR  
EPISCOPAL  
ENDOWMENT FUND**

8 AM Rite I  
9 AM VBS Meet in Latham Hall  
9:15 AM Town Hall in Sanctuary  
10:15 AM Rite II  
10:15 AM Children's Chapel  
11:30 AM Vacation Bible School  
Finale & Lunch

### MONDAY, JUNE 13TH

Church Office Closed  
Senior Bus Trip  
7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
6 PM Day School Board

### TUESDAY, JUNE 14TH

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
10 AM Senior Exercise  
1 PM Thrift Shop Board  
7 PM Labyrinth

## **JUNE EVENTS**

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:05 PM Healing Service in Chapel  
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
2 PM Family Day Dinner Meeting

### **FRIDAY, JUNE 17TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH**

6 - 9 PM Kid's Night In & Movie Night  
in Youth Room  
"Gnomeo & Juliet"

Private Latham Hall Rental

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH**

### **THIRD SUNDAY- LORD OF THE STREETS OUTREACH**

8 AM Rite I  
9 AM Snack Pack Assembly  
9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages  
10:15 AM Rite II  
10:15 AM Children's Chapel  
Noon Episcopal Church Women



### **MONDAY, JUNE 20TH**

Church Office Closed  
7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
4:30 PM Outreach Meeting

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 21ST**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
10 AM Senior Exercise  
6:30 PM Finance Committee

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22ND**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:05 PM Healing Service in Chapel  
12:30 PM Clericus  
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 23RD**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### **FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH**

8 AM Rite I  
9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 AM Rite II  
10:00 AM Children's Chapel  
11:30 AM Episcopal Youth  
Community

### **MONDAY, JUNE 27TH**

Church Office Closed  
7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
7 PM Vestry

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 28TH**

**Episcopal Night Out at the Astros**  
7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
10 AM Senior Exercise

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall  
10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:05 PM Healing Service in Chapel  
7 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 30TH**

7 AM - 6 PM Day School in Latham Hall



Thursday, June 9th —

Sunday June 12th

Vacation Bible School

**BIBLE STORIES**

**LIVELY SONGS**

**EXCITING GAMES**

**TASTY SNACKS**

**CREATIVE CRAFTS**



To register, volunteer or get more information contact Jill Center at 713-465-6015 or [jill@stchristhouston.org](mailto:jill@stchristhouston.org).

**Thursday and Friday**

6:00 PM Dinner in Latham Hall  
6:30-8:30 PM Vacation Bible School

**Saturday**

8:30 AM Breakfast in Latham Hall  
9:00 AM-4:00 PM Vacation Bible School

**Sunday**

9:00 AM Rehearsal in Latham Hall  
10:15 AM Worship Service  
11:30 AM Lunch in Latham Hall  
Noon VBS Finale Show

**Stay for a surprise treat!**



**Summer Sunday School  
Catch the Wave  
and  
Discover Jesus!**



**Beginning June 19th in  
Youth Room**

**All children and parents welcome!**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SUMMER EVENTS**



**Movie Night & Kid's Night In**  
**Saturday, June 18th,**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Youth Room**

Come as a family and enjoy a movie with heart or children ages 3 and up are invited to attend Kid's Night In.

Let your kids have a night of fun while you enjoy a night out.

Join us in watching **"Gnomeo & Juliet"** and some fun activities.

Enjoy pizza, popcorn and a special treat! Kid's Night In reservations must be received by Friday, June 17th. Call now.

For more information, please contact Jill Center at 713.465.6015 xt 225 or [jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org).

**Episcopal Youth Community**

In June, EYC will meet on June 5th and June 26th. Vacation Bible School is June 9th—12th. Please check with Jill Center about times and volunteer positions available.

July meeting dates are the 10th, 17th and 31st.

There will be no EYC meetings in August.

Our current Bible Study is God Sightings. We are reading our way through the Bible in a different and fun way. EYC is open to all youth ages 11 and up. Visitors are always welcome.

**St. Christopher's Soccer Shootout**



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH**

**4-7 PM**

**Questions about Children's Ministries?**

Want to be involved?

New opportunities all the time for people of all talents.

Contact Jill Center at 713-465-6015 xt. 225 or [jill@stchrishouston.org](mailto:jill@stchrishouston.org) to become a part of these exciting ministries.



**July 22-24, 2011**

**Camp Allen**  
 Conference and Retreat Center

*Join moms of all ages for a weekend of relaxation, renewal and adventure!*

Experience outdoor activities such as canoeing, guided nature walks, rock climbing, the Blob, trail rides and skeet shooting. Enjoy creative activities from scrapbooking and photography to pottery and cooking. Get a massage, lay out by the pool, or even take a nap! Other highlights include a women's speaker, dessert social and Chick Flick movie night.



**register**



call: 936-825-7175  
 email: [info@campallen.org](mailto:info@campallen.org)  
 visit: [campallen.org](http://campallen.org)

**rates**

**Double Occupancy: \$195**  
**Single Occupancy: \$260**

Rates include 2 nights hotel lodgings, all meals, snacks, and most activities. Massages, pedicures, horseback riding, and skeet shooting are available for a nominal fee.

To  
Father Bob  
Thank You!



Dear Father Bob,  
Thank you for all you do for us. You are a good leader and a friendly person, so we always feel happy to be at St. Christopher's with you.  
Sincerely, Miss Debbie  
May 15, 2011



To Father Bob  
thank you!



To father bob  
Thank you!



Thank you for teaching us and I always see you in my dreams and I will always have you in my dreams and Thank you for being the pastor, your friend  
Chloe



Thank you for being the pastor  
Matthew

Pictures and words from Ms. Debbie's Elementary Sunday School Class:

Megan Seitz, Matthew Seitz and Chloe Denson

# Teacher Anniversaries

# Birthdays



Kyle Stringer 5 years



Patricia Infante 3 years

June 7

Caden C.

June 8

Eli L.

June 22

Nicholas F.

June 28

Chase S.



**Congratulations and thank you  
for your hard work and dedication!**

We would like to welcome our newest families to the...

Marcus & Joyce Abdo and son, Blake to the Little Lambs.

Micah & Molly Bowen and son, Samuel to the Caterpillars.

We are so glad that you are a part of our family here at St. Christopher's.



## Spring Dance Recital

May 23, 2011



# Congratulations, Graduates!





## St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

1656 Blalock Road

Houston, TX 77080

Office: 713.465.6015

Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School: 713.465.6015

Thrift Shop: 713.467.7743

E-mail:

information@stchrishouston.org

Visit our website!

[stchrishouston.org](http://stchrishouston.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

**St. Christopher's will joyfully share the Word of Jesus Christ with all people, reaching out in faith, love, and fellowship.**

### A PRAYER FOR PARENTS

Oh God, make me a better parent.

It is the most important job in the world and one for which there is no prior training.

Help me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to respond to their questions kindly.

Keep me from interrupting and contradicting them.

Help me to be as courteous to them as I would have them be to me.

Give me the courage to confess my sins against my children and the generosity of spirit to ask them for forgiveness when I know I have done wrong.

Forbid that I should laugh at their mistakes or resort to shame and ridicule.

Oh, Lord, reduce the meanness in me.

May I cease to nag. When I am out of sorts, help me please, to hold my tongue and keep my temper under control.

Blind me to the insignificant shortcoming of my children and help me to see the good things they do.

Give me a ready word for honest praise. Make me ever mindful that they need the nurturing that comes

with encouragement and appreciation for their small successes.

Help me remember that my children are only children so that I may not expect from them the judgment of adults.

Allow me not to rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves, think for themselves, and to make their own mistakes.

Forbid I should ever punish them as a means of ridding myself of anger and frustration. Help me to exercise reason and control.

May I grant them all wishes that are sensible and give me the courage to withhold a privilege when I know it might do them harm.

Make me fair and just, considerate and companionable, so they will have genuine esteem, respect and affection for me.

Make me fit to be loved and imitated by my children, for this is the greatest compliment of all.

*Author Unknown  
Anglican Digest*