



*Parish church & school of*  
**SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S**

538 Brewer Street, East Hartford, CT 06118

Tel: 860-568-5240 Fax: 860-568-0673

E-mail: [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.stchris-eh.org](http://www.stchris-eh.org)

**PRIEST**

Rev. Vincent J. Curran, Pastor

**PRIEST IN RESIDENCE**

Rev. Louis D. Cremonie

**DEACONS**

Deacon Edward Giard  
 Deacon Thomas F. Breen III

**PARISH TRUSTEES**

Kay McNamara  
 Richard "Mac" McCarthy

**PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Roch Girard – 860-568-5879

**FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

Michael Munley – 860-683-8594

**OFFICE MANAGER**

Bonnie Szalay – 860-568-5240

**MUSIC DIRECTOR/PASTORAL ASS'T**

Charleen Miele - 860-561-5394

**COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.**

Maria Sousa – 860-895-8692  
 E-mail: [stchrisre@gmail.com](mailto:stchrisre@gmail.com)

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION**

Kristina Gillespie – 860-895-8692  
 E-mail: [stchrisym@gmail.com](mailto:stchrisym@gmail.com)

**PARISH & SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT**

Dianne Rumsey

**CHURCH CUSTODIAN**

Roger Dube

**MASSES**

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM  
 Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM  
 Monday – Friday: 7:30 AM  
 Holy Days: As announced in the preceding Sunday Bulletin

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday afternoon: 3:15 – 4:00 PM  
 or Anytime by appointment

**ROSARY and MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

Wednesday: 7:00 PM - Chapel

**BAPTISMS / PRE-BAPTISM PROGRAM**

By app't. w/Deacon Edward Giard –  
 Call parish office at 860-568-5240

**MARRIAGES**

Please contact Parish Priest at least six months in advance at 860-568-5240

**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Kathleen Madej – 860-568-4100

**SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

Karen Santacross – 860-568-4975

**SCHOOL SECRETARY**

Audrey Cesana – 860-568-4100

**SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT**

Ron Cote – 860-461-2683

**SCHOOL'S WEBSITE**

[www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org)

**MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION**

Jean Nowik-Martocci – 860-568-8873

**COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Mary Priest – 860-569-0087

**HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**

Barbara Casey – 860-568-4638

**PRAYER LINE**

and **TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY**

Bev Connors – 860-432-1530  
[bcrc29@hotmail.com](mailto:bcrc29@hotmail.com)

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Toni Amberg – 860-568-9069

**PRO-LIFE MINISTRY**

Phil Gosselin – 860-568-5001

**COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Richard Domler – 860-569-7396

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

St. Christopher Council #4  
[www.kofc-ehartford4.org](http://www.kofc-ehartford4.org)

**PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**

860-761-7456 [vocationshartford.org](http://vocationshartford.org)

**CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES**

[www.credocath.com](http://www.credocath.com)

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

[www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org)



The Epiphany  
of  
the Lord

January 6, 2013

“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.”

– Isaiah 60:1

Mass  for the  
Intentions  Week

Saturday, January 5 – 4:30 p.m.

**Velma Castonguay**  
(Sister, Adrienne Brumbaum)

Sunday, January 6 – 8:00 a.m.

**Roger Yergeau**  
(Children & Grandchildren)

Sunday, January 6 – 10:30 a.m.

**Stan Traynor**  
(Wife Ann & Family)

Monday, January 7 – 7:30 a.m.

**James Gusy, Sr.**  
(Family)

Tuesday, January 8 – 7:30 a.m.

**Paul E. Franklin**  
(Wife Claire)

Wednesday, January 9 – 7:30 a.m.

**Francis Vance**  
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Thursday, January 10 – 7:30 a.m.

**Grace Vigneau**  
(Gloria Juergens)

Saturday, January 12 – 4:30 p.m.

**Ray Sinclair** (Jan Martin)

Sunday, January 13 – 8:00 a.m.

**Mary Lou Lysik**  
(Matthew & Jodie Brodack)

Sunday, January 13 – 10:30 a.m.

**John St. Onge – 2nd Anniversary**  
(Wife Simone & Family)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (December 23): \$ 5,562  
Same Sunday in 2011: \$ 15,706\*

\* Christmas Weekend



Due to the early submission deadlines imposed by our publisher for our bulletins during this Christmas season, we will report all collections taken up during this time as soon as we are able.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The story of the Magi – the Three Kings – is one of the most endearing and most familiar to all Catholics. Because they brought gifts, it is also the focus of many stewardship commentaries. The stewardship aspects of this story present us a real view of what is expected of us as stewards. The visitors from the East made valuable gifts to the Holy Family – gifts with a value which may have represented a sacrifice on their part. Being from a distant land, these “wise men” acknowledge that Christ is the Savior of all lands and all peoples. Near the end of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us that nations will be judged not just on how they treat Him, but on how they treat His brothers and sisters in need — a definite call to stewardship.

SANCTUARY LAMPS

The lamps beside our tabernacles remind us of the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.



The candle in the church burns this week

**In Honor of**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Simon Elsinger**  
**In Celebration of Their 50th Wedding Anniversary**  
(Gloria Juergens & Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For a Peace Filled New Year for All**

If you would like to schedule a weekly dedication, please call the Parish Office at 860-568-5240.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend in honor of the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. This collection will support the needs of our parish. Thank you!



### EVENING OF MUSIC & REFLECTION FOR PEACE

On Thursday evening, January 10, at 7:00 p.m. our Music Ministry will present an Evening of Music and Reflection for Peace. The evening will be dedicated to the lives lost recently in the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy. Join us as we come together to celebrate GOD who is LOVE and pray for PEACE in our world. The program will consist of readings, reflections, and songs that will help us to recognize the presence of God in our world... a God who is Peace. Join us if you can. "*Where two or three are gathered in my name...there am I in their midst.*" (Matthew 18:20)

### NEW COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

After having served as our parish's coordinator of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the past several years, Cathy Reynolds felt it was time to turn over the reins and allow someone else to be the coordinator of this important ministry. We are grateful to Cathy and appreciative for the wonderful job she did as the coordinator. Thank you, Cathy!

We are pleased to announce that Mary Priest has agreed to take the reins from Cathy and begin serving our parish in this capacity. We look forward to working with Mary and appreciate her willingness to step into this position. Thank you, Mary!

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

After meeting Jesus, the Magi returned home by "another way." What in your family needs to be done "another way?" Do you need "another way to resolve differences, to communicate or show affection? This is a new year, time to change what isn't working. Take a tip from some wise men, there's always "another way."

### WELCOME DEACON TOM BREEN

We are pleased to announce that Deacon Tom Breen joins Deacon Ed Giard in serving our parish beginning this weekend.

Deacon Tom is a native of Boston, the second of nine children of Thomas F. and Nora M. Breen. He grew up in the parish of the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Roxbury, staffed by the Redemptorist Fathers, and entered the Redemptorist seminary in ninth grade. He spent nine years in the seminary (high school, novitiate and college), leaving after graduating from St. Alphonsus College in Suffield.

Tom received graduate degrees in Educational Psychology from the University of Connecticut, where he met his wife Mary, whom he married in Storrs in 1971.

Tom worked in education for many years, in Venezuela, Brazil, West Virginia, Hartford (the State of Connecticut and City of Hartford), and Arlington MA, before pursuing hospital ministry at Hartford Hospital and St. Raphael's in New Haven, and social justice ministry with the archdiocesan Office of Urban Affairs.

Tom is now 'retired,' and he and Mary reside in Manchester. They have three married daughters, three granddaughters and a grandson.

Tom's diaconal ministry includes 22 years in the Hispanic Apostolate in Hartford at St. John the Evangelist and St. Michael's (including helping at Our Lady of Fatima for over ten years), four years at Assumption in Manchester and his recent selection as a Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Global Fellow.

Beyond ministry, Tom's interests include music, athletics, gardening, travel and language – if you speak English, Spanish or Portuguese, he would like to engage in conversation; if you speak another language, he would like to learn it (better?).

We look forward to Deacon Tom and Mary Breen being a vibrant presence of the Catholic faith here at St. Christopher's. We encourage you to introduce yourself to Deacon Tom in the coming weeks and to welcome him to our parish.

### FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts.

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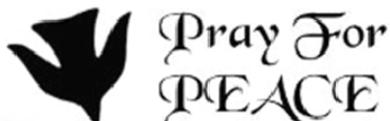
### GIFT CARDS

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards after all the Masses the weekend of January 26 and 27. Please help support our parish school by buying gift cards for gifts and everyday purchases. If you are interested in purchasing cards before the weekend of January 26 and 27, please contact Kathy at 860-569-8451 or [kasimeone95@comcast.net](mailto:kasimeone95@comcast.net). She will add your order to the school order that is placed every Monday.

### WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following person of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died the week of December 17 - 24 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

Sergeant Mondragon, Enrique - 23



A Can and Bottle Drive to support our parish school will be held on Saturday, Jan. 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please bring your pre-rinsed cans and bottles to the front of our school.

### Did you know?

- ◆ we also collect can tabs (they are the only pure aluminum on the can and also help us earn money for our school)
- ◆ we also collect Coke rewards bottle tops (these are the tops of many plastic Coke products that have a code that help earn money for our school)
- ◆ we can use some help!!! ANYONE can help! (especially students looking for service hours for Confirmation or high school)
- ◆ call Robin Duva at 860-568-8086 for info.

### THE NEW YEAR

*"We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives...not looking for flaws, but for potential."*

– Ellen Goodman

### 2013 CALENDARS

We are most grateful to the Newkirk & Whitney and Benjamin J. Callahan Funeral Homes for supplying us with calendars for 2013. They can be found at the entrances to the church.

### DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The fight to preserve our Religious Freedom is underway. Recently, U.S. District Court Judge Brian Cogan ruled that the Archdiocese of New York may pursue its lawsuit against the federal health care mandate stating that: "The First Amendment does not require citizens to accept assurances from the government that, if the government later determines it has made a misstep, it will take ameliorative action...There is no, 'Trust us, changes are coming' clause in the Constitution. To the contrary, the Bill of Rights itself, and the First Amendment in particular, reflect a degree of skepticism towards governmental self-restraint and self-correction."



### ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB

January 7 ~ 1:00 p.m.

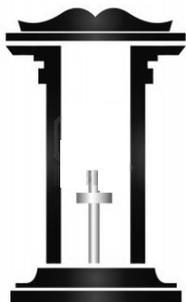
We will start out 2013 with a very entertaining program. Joining us after the brief business meeting, will be the Rev. Christopher Adams, who is happily known as the singing chaplain. Be prepared to be entertained and amused.

If you have been thinking of joining the Social Club, now is the time. Dues are only \$10 a year, and are due in January. This small amount will give you months of pleasant interaction with our members and lots of interesting things to see and do.

If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact **Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.**

### LITURGY CORNER... "DID YOU KNOW?"

From time to time you will find a small notice in the bulletin regarding information that may assist you in understanding what we are doing and why we do certain things during our Eucharistic Liturgies. Watch for them...and hopefully it will enhance your weekly celebrations!



#### The Ambo

We all know that the primary focal point during liturgy is the Altar (which is the table in the center of the Sanctuary.) Looking at the Altar, to the left of it we see the Ambo which is also a primary focal point. This Ambo (which many would refer to as a lectern or podium) is extremely sacred...much like the Altar. The Church documents remind us that the Ambo should be reserved for proclamation of the Word of God, the Prayer of the Faithful (Intentions) and the Exultet (the special prayer proclaimed only during the Easter Vigil). Thus, all other announcements, eulogies, etc. should be done from the lectern to the right of the Altar. Let's try to keep our Ambo as a sacred space and remember to use the lectern for all other announcements!

### YEAR OF FAITH PILGRIMAGE

Year of Faith Pilgrimage to Italy

Led by Archbishop Henry J. Mansell

Visit Rome, Vatican City, Orvieto, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Pisa, Padua & Venice!

May 20-29, 2013

Audience with Pope Benedict XVI on 5/22/13, Mass Celebrated Daily including at Rome's four major basilicas: St. Peter, St. Mary Major, St. Paul Outside the Walls & St. John Lateran

Visit [www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org) for details

### YEAR OF FAITH

#### Meditation



This Year of Faith has opened wide the "door of faith." The liturgical "door" that opens every calendar year is the solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Her Son is the Prince of Peace, thus her feast fittingly coincides with the World Day of Prayer for Peace, whose theme this year is "Blessed are the peacemakers." Peace, writes the pope, grows from deep within each human soul as God's gift. It flowers whenever we work to build peace in the world, as individuals and as members of the human family. As January unfolds, the Sunday Gospels proclaim Jesus' "manifestations" as Savior of the world: on **Epiphany**, to the Gentile nations, in the persons of the magi; on the **feast of the Baptism of the Lord**, to the people of Israel listening to John the Baptist at the Jordan; at **Cana's wedding feast**, to the smaller circle of disciples, as Jesus changes water into wine; finally, in his hometown synagogue, as **Jesus inaugurates his public ministry** by proclaiming his mission of bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed.

#### Mission

To continue manifesting Jesus' presence in the world by making his mission our own, especially as peacemakers in Jesus' name at home and in our communities.