



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

Website: 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

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION

Kristina Gillespie – 860-895-8692
 E-mail: 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.saintchristophersschool.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

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

PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

www.nccw.org



Second Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
January 20, 2013

“Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory.”

– Isaiah 62:2

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 19 – 4:30 p.m.

John Tirinzonie
(*Friend Dottie*)

Sunday, January 20 – 8:00 a.m.

Margaret Gallo
In Remembrance of Her Birthday and Carmelo Gallo – 16th Anniversary
(*Family*)

Sunday, January 20 – 10:30 a.m.

Bonnie St. Onge
(*Family*)

Tuesday, January 22 – 7:30 a.m.

Alfonzina Marra – 10th Anniversary
(*Family*)

Wednesday, January 23 – 7:30 a.m.

Veronica Vance
(*Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey*)

Thursday, January 24 – 7:30 a.m.

Paul E. Franklin
(*Wife Claire*)

Saturday, January 26 – 4:30 p.m.

Gene & John Tirinzonie
(*Family*)

Sunday, January 27 – 8:00 a.m.

William Stone – 30th Anniversary
(*Wife & Family*)

Sunday, January 27 – 10:30 a.m.

Dianne Gallicchio – 10th Anniversary
(*Her Loving Family*)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (January 13):	\$ 5,630
Same Sunday in 2012:	\$ 5,453
Parish School Support:	\$ 1,262

Many thanks for all you do to support our parish and its many ministries!

With gratitude, Fr. Curran

HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION

Today’s second collection supports our Archdiocesan High Schools. Your generosity is deeply appreciated by all those whose dreams you are helping to fulfill.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

In today’s second reading from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, Paul explains and defines what stewardship really is. “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” Each of us is gifted in some special way. And all of our gifts are to be used to build the Kingdom of God.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Please note that our daily Mass will not be celebrated on Monday, Jan. 21. In addition, our parish office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 21. We will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 8:00 a.m.

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
For Improved Health for a Parishioner

The candle in the chapel burns this week

In Thanksgiving to God for the Gift of Human Life

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

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

After all the Masses this weekend, all parishioners are invited to stop by the church hall, not only to see the olive wood carvings, but also to join in for refreshments. After the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass refreshments will include beverages, appetizers and finger foods. On Sunday morning after both Masses, coffee, soda and baked goods will be served. Stop by and enjoy "Hospitality Weekend."

THANK YOU!!!!

A great big thank you from the bottom of my heart to all those who helped to make the Evening of Music and Reflection possible. It was a great experience for all who attended and we had a wonderful crowd! The music, reflections, readings, dancers...were all just perfect! Thank you, again, to everyone!!!

At the end of the program we put forth a challenge for everyone to consider reading the book "The Four Agreements" by don Miguel Ruiz. **We plan to gather and discuss this book on Monday evening, February 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall.** If you were planning to attend but are unable to make this date, please let me know and we will take into consideration the number of people unable to make this evening. If need be, we will schedule a different date or an additional date for discussion. Hopefully everyone has been able to acquire a copy of the book by now. We sold the ten pre-purchased copies and provided the information for others to purchase a copy themselves. If you are having trouble locating a copy, let me know and I will see if I can help. I know it is available on both Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com (and probably in the Barnes and Noble store as well!) and many local libraries have copies to borrow.

Also, a great big thank you to my choir members (and their families) for their generous gift of flowers to be sent to my new business (The Sacred Self, LLC) at the beginning of each month! I could not have been more surprised and touched by this thoughtful gift! I know I will enjoy the flowers and I am sure it will help to provide a pleasant environment for my clients as well! I have always known that I have the best choir members (children and adults!) ever! Thank you!

Peace, Charleen

OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS

A representative for the Holy Land Christians will be visiting our parish this weekend and will have available for purchase olive wood carvings. The olive wood carving industry has evolved as a cultural tradition of the Christians over many centuries. Many Holy Land Christians in the Bethlehem area alone rely upon income generated from this art form. The items that will be available were carved by Holy Land artisans. We invite you to stop by the church hall after all Masses this weekend to see these beautiful carvings.



REFLECTION & PRAYER

Every other Sunday morning from 9:00 – 10 :00 a.m. a group of parishioners meet at the Rectory for prayer and reflection. Presently, Richard Rohr's book The Great Themes of Scripture is being used for discussion. Silent prayer is part of the experience. Come join in next Sunday, January 27 and prayerfully enjoy this hour together.

SIGN OF PEACE

During this time of year when flu and colds are widespread, you may wish to offer each other the Sign of Peace using a gesture other than shaking ones hand. You may be more comfortable offering a nod, a bow or a wave of the hand. These gestures are perfectly acceptable in offering the Sign of Peace to those around you.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

It is with profound gratitude that I thank you for your amazing support of the 2012 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your gifts raised a record-breaking \$10,055,967, which will help thousands across our Archdiocese. You have shown that together we can make a vital difference in the lives of so many people in need. I pray that this same sense of solidarity helps us preserve our most fundamental right of Religious Freedom. It is imperative that we keep this issue front and center on the minds of our elected officials.

If you haven't expressed your opposition to the federal healthcare mandate, please contact the White House at: www.whitehouse.gov/contact or call: 202-456-1111 or 202-456-1414.

COME MEET DEACON TOM!

January 26 and 27

Hospitality will be held after all Masses next weekend to give our parishioners an opportunity to meet Deacon Tom who began his assignment Jan. 5.

We ask for volunteers to donate finger foods and baked goods for these hospitalities. You may bring your donation to the church hall before Mass.

We thank the Parish Council for hosting the hospitalities that will follow the 4:30 and 8:00 a.m. Masses and the families of students in grades 4 & 5 who are hosting hospitality after the 10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy Mass.

BOY SCOUT

SUPER BOWL GRINDER SALE



The East Hartford Boy Scouts of Troops 57 and 61 are selling grinders and salads for Super Bowl Sunday, February 3. 12" grinder choices are Ham, Italian Combo, Turkey or Veggie for \$5.00 each. Large antipasto salads are \$6.50 and garden salads are \$4.00.

Please place your order by Wednesday, January 30 by contacting our parishioner Scott Gay at 860-670-8898 or at scottgay95@gmail.com. Grinders will be available for pick up in the church hall after 11:30 a.m. on February 3.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend **February 22-24, 2013 in Hamden, CT**. The weekend healing process includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mid-eighties. The fee for the weekend is \$100.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials.

For more information please contact Marie at the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office at 203-631-9030 or e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org. You may also get more information by visiting their website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

**PARISHIONER IN NEED
BAKE SALE**



Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their Fourth Anniversary Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of February 3 and 4. We celebrate four years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist several members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Your support has helped us succeed. Please continue to watch out for those in our parish who may need assistance and may be hesitant to ask for help. Even those we have helped in the past may still be struggling and we ask that they or someone on their behalf come forward if necessary. *Let's be aware of those who need care.*

Plan ahead for Super Bowl gatherings or Valentine's Day dinners. Donations of baked goods are very much welcomed (and needed) and can be brought to the church hall prior to each Mass. (Please indicate if there are nuts in the ingredients.)

Thank you all for your continued support!



St. Christopher Church Hall

Friday ~ February 1

1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Please call **1-800-Red Cross** (1-800-733-2767) to make an app't. or log onto redcrossblood.org.

WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following person of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died during January 7 – 13 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

Sergeant Wittman, Aaron X. - 28

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

At Cana we get a good insight into Mary's parenting style. She did not plead, argue, demand or manipulate. She merely pointed out the situation and trusted her son would make the best decision.



ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday ~ January 29, 2013

Our parish school invites you to attend our Open House for prospective families of Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Eight students being held on Tuesday, January 29. Come and see why St. Chris' students test more than one year above grade level on IOWA Standardized Tests. There will be two sessions:

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. while school is in session

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (includes tour)

You can attend one or both sessions. Come and learn about our program of excellence and meet the staff, students, and parents. Our parish school provides a value-oriented education in a safe and comfortable environment. Learn more about our:

- Full-day Kindergarten
- Full Day and Half-Day Pre-K Programs
- Strong Academic Program
- Caring faculty & staff
- Spanish (K-8)
- Instruction in Art & Music
- State of the Art Computer Classes (K-8)
- Physical education & sports program
- Extra curricular activities
- A fully-staffed After-School Program until 5:30 p.m. for the convenience of our parents

Our graduates leave St. Christopher's prepared to excel in higher education. Our parish school is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Applications are now available for Fall Enrollment. We hope to see you there!

If you have any additional questions or are unable to attend, but would like more information, please call us at 860-568-4100. You can also visit our website at: www.saintchristopherschool.org.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our monthly Children's Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, Jan. 27 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall and is being hosted this month by families with children in Grades 4 & 5. Everyone is invited!

GIFT CARDS



Thank you to all who bought gift cards for the Christmas season. Our parishioners have helped our school community accumulate over \$6,500 in rebates during this year's program (April 1, 2012 –March 31, 2013).

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards after all the Masses next weekend, **January 26 and 27**. Please help support our parish school by buying gift cards for gifts and everyday purchases. For more information, please contact Kathy at 860-569-8451 or kasimeone95@comcast.net. Orders are placed every Monday, so call Kathy if you would like to receive cards at other times.

THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

**A great way to support the church
without tax consequences!**

On January 1, 2013, Congress enacted the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA) and included a late holiday gift to America's nonprofit community through the restoration of the IRA Charitable Rollover provision. The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70 1/2 and older to contribute a gift up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to their parish without the income being treated as federal income. Gifts must be transferred directly from an IRA to the parish, are not to be treated as taxable income, and count towards a required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. A Charitable IRA Rollover is not deductible as a charitable contribution.

Additionally, the new law provides a special election available to individuals who took a distribution from their IRA after November 30, 2012 and before January 1, 2013, and who make a cash gift to a qualified charity before February 1, 2013, to treat the gift as an IRA charitable rollover even though the distribution is not directly from the IRA to charity. The distribution must be from an IRA, not a 401(k) or other retirement plan. Please call the parish office for more information.