



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

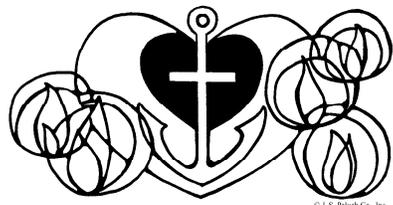
COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK
 Richard Domler – 860-569-7396

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



**Fourth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
February 3, 2013**

“Faith, hope, and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

– 1 Corinthians 13:13

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 2 – 4:30 p.m.

Gertrude McPherson
(Friend Irene Crowley)

Sunday, February 3 – 8:00 a.m.

Rev. John P. Rohan

Sunday, February 3 – 10:30 a.m.

Paul DonAroma
(Al & Sally Labieniec)

Monday, February 4 – 7:30 a.m.

Hedwige Dubé Devost
(Suzanne Martel)

Tuesday, February 5 – 7:30 a.m.

Francis Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Wednesday, February 6 – 7:30 a.m.

Mark Tardiff
(Family)

Thursday, February 7 – 7:30 a.m.

Harold Martin
(Wife & Family)

Saturday, February 9 – 4:30 p.m.

Velma Castonguay
(Niece Ina & Bob J. Hetkowsky)

Sunday, February 10 – 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Joseph K. Parzymies

Sunday, February 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Helen C. Katin
(The Katin & Brewer Families)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (January 27): \$ 5,624
Same Sunday in 2012: \$ 5,592

My sincere thanks for your generosity to our parish! Together we bring Christ’s saving presence to our community and to our world!

With gratitude, Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today’s second reading is truly one of the most powerful and poetic chapters in all of Scripture. Paul is giving his final, hefty challenge to the Corinthians’ selfish way of looking at life, rights and spiritual gifts. Moreover, he does not lecture them this time; he woos them with poetry. The goal of Christian discipleship, Paul says, is becoming “like a grown person,” giving up our childish self-centeredness. The measure of whether we have done this is whether we are benefiting others and laboring for the kingdom, or seeking our own pleasure and glory. If we give merely to influence others, to make ourselves look good, or to earn rewards apart from real concern for the needs of others, then we have missed the point of Christian discipleship.

“When we focus just on ourselves, the world shrinks and our problems seem huge. But when we learn to focus on other people, the world expands and our own problems seem smaller. As our world expands, so does our capacity to care.”

– David Wann

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 a Parishioner
Dealing with Life Issues**

The candle in the chapel burns this week

For Boy Scouts Everywhere
In recognition of Boy Scout Sunday

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



**PARISHIONER IN NEED
BAKE SALE
This Weekend!**

Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their Fourth Anniversary Bake Sale after all Masses this weekend, February 2 and 3. 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.** Thank you all for your continued support!

BOOK DISCUSSION

At the end of our recent Evening of Music and Reflection 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 would like 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. 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.

– Charleen Miele

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.

BLESSING OF THROATS

In honor of the Feast of St. Blaise which is February 3, the blessing of throats will be offered after all Masses this weekend. It is a special blessing in which the faithful invoke the saint's intercession, asking him to protect them from ailments of the throat and every other illness. Anyone interested in receiving this blessing will be invited to come forth at the end of Mass.



ST. CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB

Monday ~ February 4

1:00 p.m.

Church Hall

We are pleased to have Felicia Ortner with us. She will give us information about black bears in Connecticut. Are they increasing in numbers? Are they in our area? Come and find out.

We will also discuss the upcoming Lunch and a Play. On Saturday, June 22, we will lunch at the Publick House before attending *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Stageloft Theater in Sturbridge. Please let Joan Perrone know at this meeting if you wish to attend.

If you have been thinking of joining the Social Club, now is the time. Dues are only \$10 a calendar year. 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.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Last Saturday, January 26, a Reconciliation service was held in our church with the second grade students from our parish school and religious education program and their families. 27 young people received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. These same young people are also preparing to make their First Communion which will be celebrated here in our parish in May. We ask that you please keep these young people and their families in your prayers.



CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES EVENT

Credo Catholic Singles will hold its annual St. Valentine's Potluck Dinner on Saturday, February 9, in the St. Christopher School gymnasium. You are invited to attend our 4:30 Vigil Mass. Following the Mass there will be a social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Potluck dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. The evening will include time to socialize, share a meal and listen to music as we remember St. Valentine. Please bring your favorite dish. A-H: dessert with Valentine Theme, I-R: side dish, S-Z: main dish. \$5.00 donation includes a free raffle ticket with a chance to win some great prizes. For more information call Harriet 203-248-3184.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Last week, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims gathered in Washington, D.C. for the March for Life to pray for life. It is with this same steadfast resolve that we will fight for the preservation of Religious Liberty.

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.

YEAR OF FAITH PILGRIMAGE

Reservations Still Being Accepted

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
for itinerary, cost and other details.

Deadline for registration is: Friday, February 15.



NEWTOWN UPDATE

Recently I mentioned that Prayer Shawl groups were asked for shawls, scarves, etc. to distribute to the children and their families in Newtown. At last count, 775 items have been received. Our own little ministry group here at St. Christopher's put together 7 shawls, 1 poncho, several scarves, and a monetary donation, and mailed off our package. It may not have been a huge donation, but it went with a lot of heart and prayers. I wish to thank all the crafters and supporters who made this contribution possible.

You don't need to know how to knit or crochet to join our band of sisters because we are happy to share what we know with you. We gather in the church hall on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Come join us!

– Chickie Amberg

ST. JAMES PRAYER GROUP

St. James Prayer Group is sponsoring for the 16th year, Gerri Cathcart, dynamic speaker from Global Missions in Virginia. Her theme will be "A Year of Restoration: How to Recover All You've Lost." It will be held on Friday, February 15 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Saturday, February 16 from 8:30 a.m. (coffee) – 12:00 noon and again on Saturday from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. All are welcome. St. James Church Hall, 896 Main Street in Manchester. Refreshments will be served. Free will offering. For further information, please call 860-569-0727.

HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION

THANK YOU! On behalf of our Catholic secondary school students, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Dale R. Hoyt, would like to express sincere thanks to all those who supported the 2013 High School Collection. The total collected was \$1,204. Your generosity is deeply appreciated by all those whose dreams you are helping to fulfill.

LITURGY CORNER... "Did you know?" Eucharistic Liturgy is broken down into four main parts: The Introductory Rites, the Liturgy of the Word, The Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Concluding Rites. Test yourself and see if you can figure out what each part is comprised of. Then, check with the Missal to see if you are correct!!!

GIFT CARDS

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses the weekend of February 23 and 24. 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 by e-mail at kasimeone95@comcast.net. Orders are placed every Monday, so call Kathy if you would like to receive cards at other times.



A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

Mary and Joseph must have been proud when their village “all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at his words.” But they probably felt shame when the same people drove him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are our path to being a Holy Family.



PRO-LIFE COLLECTION

Please help our parish school’s eighth graders help Birthright (East Hartford) and St. Gerard's Center (Hartford). It takes one person to make a difference. That person can be you!

Please consider donating new, unopened items for newborns to two years old: children's toothpaste, baby clothes, bibs, baby toys (no small objects), baby food or formula, baby first aid kits, gently used children's books, blankets or sheets, baby shampoo or body wash. Items can be dropped off in the collection boxes at St. Christopher School (front lobby) or in the church (parish hall) between now and February 15. THANK YOU for your support!

Any additional questions, please contact Mr. Valente at St. Christopher School at valentedmsc@yahoo.com.

WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following person of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died during January 21—27 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

Sergeant Schoonhoven, Mark H. - 38

VALENTINE’S DAY DINNER

If you would like to do something different and very special for your valentine, consider joining fellow parishioners for a Valentine's Day (February 14) celebration at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center. Join us for a celebration of the Mass at 6:00 PM followed by a delicious five-course buffet dinner prepared by Holy Family's talented chef, Joe Ethier. Along with dinner, local wine educator and Chief Grape Officer of WineTimeCt Lauren Guerriero, will offer her expertise and include 3 wines to compliment the meal courses. A musical combo will provide background and dance music. The cost per person is \$65. Reservations can be made by calling 860-521-0440. We hope to see you for a very special evening.

Youth Ministry

Life Night

Sunday, February 10 – with a time change!
 9th Graders from 7 – 8 p.m.
 10th Graders from 8 – 9 p.m.

FAITH Team

Let’s meet on Sunday, February 10, from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the parish center. ALL 6th – 8th grade students invited. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to stchrisym@gmail.com.

Movie Night

Sunday, February 17, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the parish center. All youth, Grade 9-12 invited!!

Podcast and Pizza

Every Thursday, 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. in the parish center. Bring \$4 for pizza and a drink to share.

Follow St. Christopher's Youth Ministry on Facebook and Twitter! Contact Kristi Gillespie for more information about any programs/activities being offered! stchrisym@gmail.com

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF...

Frank McMahan, Elizabeth Peck, Donald Repass, Rev. John P. Rohan, and Doris Tessier. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*