



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

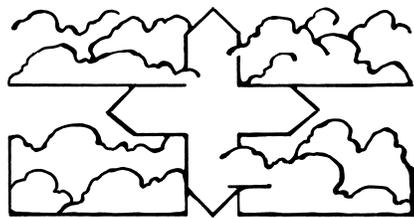
PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN www.nccw.org



**Second Sunday
of
Easter**
April 7, 2013

“Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever.”

– Revelation 1:18a



Saturday, April 6 – 4:30 p.m.

Velma Castonguay
(Niece Ina & Bob J. Hetkowsky)

Sunday, April 7 – 8:00 a.m.

Louise Agnes – 2nd Anniversary
(Husband & Children)

Sunday, April 7 – 10:30 a.m.

Virginia Demers – 3rd Anniversary
(Family)

Monday, April 8 – 7:30 a.m.

Charles Bernard
In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Wife Cathy & Family)

Tuesday, April 9 – 7:30 a.m.

Erin Handel
(Richard & Mary Burke)

Wednesday, April 10 – 7:30 a.m.

Francis Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Thursday, April 11 – 7:30 a.m.

Paul E. Franklin *(Wife Claire)*

Saturday, April 13 – 4:30 p.m.

Louis & Angela Trevison
(Daughter Mary Harden & Family)

Sunday, April 14 – 8:00 a.m.

Joseph Chesery – 18th Anniversary
(Daughter Madeline & Santo Cassarino)

Sunday, April 14 – 10:30 a.m.

Madeleine Halle *(Norman & Edith Daigle)*

OUR TITHING PARISH

Easter Collection 2013: \$ 11,385
Easter Collection 2012: \$ 11,500

My sincere thanks for all you do to make our parish a place where Christ is encountered and where His joy and life are shared with and for others!

With Gratitude, Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The real stewardship message for this, the Second Sunday of Easter, is found in the Gospel of John. It is a story with which almost all of us are familiar — the story of “Doubting Thomas.”

At the heart of a stewardship way of life is trust in the Lord. Like Thomas, we sometimes want to see proof for ourselves; experience personally that the hope promised by Christ is real. Living a stewardship way of life is a way of achieving that. Even though, like Thomas, we may have moments of doubt, if we truly pursue service and sacrifice, we, like Thomas, are proclaiming, “My Lord and my God.” And we, like Thomas, will hear those wonderful words, “Blessed are those who have not seen, and have believed.”

OCCUPANCY

“The value of life does not depend upon the place we occupy. It depends upon how we occupy that place.”

– St. Thérèse of Lisieux

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 Loving Memory of
Debra R. Petig**
(Her Sister Sandra Shinder)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**That the Light of the Risen Christ
Shine In Us and Through Us**

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



The Holy Week and Easter celebrations were very well attended. My sincere thanks to all who helped to make these celebrations so powerful and prayerful! Special thanks to Deacons Ed Giard and Tom Breen for all their assistance and to Charleen Miele, the cantors, and the choir members for the beautiful way in which they carried out their ministry. The music added so much to the prayerful spirit of the liturgies. Thanks also to the Altar Committee and to our custodian, Roger Dube, for the lovely job they did in beautifying our church, and to all the others who participated in special ministries – Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Ushers and Counters – we offer our sincere thanks!



We wish to thank Phil and Alice Gosselin for the fantastic job they did in coordinating the Living Stations of the Cross; Charleen Miele and the choir for sharing their musical talents with us all; and the actors and readers for their willingness to participate in this dramatization. A great job by all!



Thanks to all of you for your generosity to the Easter collection, to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal and to the other requests for financial assistance which are presented to our parish. Your kindness and willing giving are signs of real faith and concern for others.



Thanks as well for the Easter cards, gifts, Masses, and baked goods.

In the joy of our Risen Lord,
Fr. Curran

FOOD BANK REPORT

For March 2013

Requests: 29 Adults: 46 Children: 25

Thank you for your continued support of our food bank so we can continue to help feed those in need!

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

After the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses this weekend, all parishioners are invited to stop by the church hall. It gives us as a parish family a chance to be together and share our friendship. Stop, eat and make “Hospitality Weekend” a big success!

LIVING STATIONS THANK YOU!

Our Living Stations presentation was wonderful! There are so many people who helped to make it possible. Thank you to Charleen Miele, Toni Mintel and our choir for providing the thoughtfully selected music. Thank you to all the readers, actors and actresses that put in so much of their time and talent. Thank you to Alice Gosselin for co-coordinating the presentation. Thank you to Maria and Tony Sousa for all the work they do behind the scenes. Thank you to Father Curran for his continued support of our production. Special thanks to Alex Murray who portrayed our Savior, Jesus Christ! And last but not least, thank you to everyone who came out to watch and was inspired by our Lord's love for us.

Peace, Phil Gosselin

A MUSIC MINISTRY THANK YOU!

A very special "thank you" goes out to all the Music Ministers who made our celebration of the Triduum so special this year (and every year!) The extra hours of rehearsal, the passion you feel for what you do, and the dedication you show year after year. I know I could not do this ministry without the help and support of my "other family"...my choir members and cantors. You offer this Parish such a special gift and I know I speak on behalf of each and every one of our parishioners when I say "thank you my friends...we truly appreciate all that you do for us!"

Peace, Charleen



CRS RICE BOWL

We are most grateful to those who have been participating in this special Lenten program. You may place your Rice Bowl in the specially marked container at the front of the church which will be available until April 14. Through your Lenten prayers and donations, you have helped touch the lives of millions of people. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO HELEN LITTLE!

I am pleased to announce that our long-time parishioner, Helen Little, will receive the Saint Joseph Archdiocesan Medal of Appreciation from Archbishop Mansell during a ceremony that will be held at the Cathedral of St. Joseph next Sunday, April 14 at 3:00 p.m. No medal can express adequately the church's appreciation for Helen's dedication on behalf of our parish. She has shown great stewardship.



Helen is currently a member of the following ministries: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Hospitality, Counting Team, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Altar Server and Food Bank. She is a past member of the following ministries: Altar Committee, Ladies Guild, Widows & Widowers, Walking Group, St. John's Soup Kitchen, and Small Christian Community.

St. Christopher's is blessed to have Helen as part of our parish family.

With a grateful heart, Fr. Curran

WOMEN'S WELLNESS PROGRAM

As many of you know, I recently completed my graduate degree in counseling and have opened my own psychotherapy practice in Old Wethersfield – The Sacred Self, LLC. In addition to working with individual clients, I am beginning to offer programs that center around "wellness of mind, body, and spirit." Beginning April 20, and running every Saturday for eleven weeks (minus April 27), I will be offering a "Women's Wellness" program from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.. The program involves some group sharing, nutritional information, guided meditation, and physical activity. We will meet at my office (109B Main Street, Wethersfield) and walk (or run, or dance-walk, etc.) from there each week. I will accommodate various physical abilities and levels. The morning will end with stretching, setting an intention for our day, and fostering the presence of our "sacred self." If you are interested in this program, please see me at the piano for additional information. I am excited to offer this and more programs in the future. There is no requirement to commit to the entire ten sessions.

Peace, Charleen

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is calling the current proposed revisions of the Obama Administration's healthcare mandate "an unprecedented ...violation of religious liberty by the federal government" that must be changed. The bishops have sent a letter to the Department of Health and Human Services delineating their opposition. To review the full letter, visit: uscbb.org and search: general counsel comments from March 20, 2013.

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.

2013 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal changes lives through service to the Lord. In addition to assisting the underserved of our communities, your gift helps those cultivating a vocation to the priesthood. Your gift to the Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church and our faith.

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2013 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. Extra appeal packets are located at the main entrance of the church. You may also make your donation online by visiting: appeal.archdioceseofhartford.org. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

GIFT CARDS

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.

WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following persons of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died during March 16 – 29 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

Sergeant Cable, Michael C. - 26

Chief Warrant Officer Groves III, James E. - 37

Chief Warrant Officer Reagan, Curtis S. - 43

Sergeant Wade, Tristan M. - 23

**ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL
PRESENTS OUR
14th ANNUAL AUCTION**

Coming Home for our 50th!

Our parish school is proud to announce its 14th Annual Auction on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at Murphy Hall in St. Christopher School. Our school is using this event as a kick-off to its 50th Anniversary Celebration. The parishioners of St. Christopher Church have played an important role in our success and we want you there to help us ring in the next 50 years. It looks to be a good time for all with fine food, drink, and lots of great items to bid on during both the live and silent auctions. New this year will be a Travel Table with trips to Orlando, St. Thomas, Hawaii and Sedona, AZ up for bid. You'll also be able to find getaways to the Cape, a ride in a hot air balloon, tickets to theater productions and sporting events, gift certificates to stores and restaurants, and much, much more!

This is an adults only event. The cost is \$25.00 per person (\$20.00 per person for Seniors). Your ticket price includes food and drinks. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and lots of door prizes. It's a great night out. Tickets will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend and the next two weekends. You can also use a Reservation Form (which can be found at the main entrance of our church) by placing it and your ticket money in an envelope labeled School Auction and putting it in the collection basket at Mass.

We are still looking for auction items. If you have a new item or a service you would like to donate to the auction or if you have a business that would like to advertise in our catalog, please call Karen Santacross at 860-568-4100 or e-mail her at ksantacross@hotmail.com.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next weekend through our second collection, we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Your gift makes you a pilgrim of charity around the globe. *Be a pilgrim of charity. Support the Peter's Pence Collection.*

**SPRING IS IN THE AIR...
HOMEFRONT IS COMING!**

HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 4, 2013 will be upon us before we know it. For those who are not familiar with the HomeFront project, it is a community outreach, a one day repair blitz for a neighbor in need, where St. Christopher Church will form a crew to perform necessary home repairs and the HomeFront organization provides the materials. The typical HomeFront recipient is elderly, disabled or a single parent and the average total household income was \$22,000 for recipients in 2010.

At this point we have not received any information about our HomeFront recipient, but we need to get our crew organized anyways. If you would be willing to assist, there are many way to get involved. We always need skilled persons such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc., but we also need folks that can do common homeowner tasks such as raking, painting, pulling weeds, mowing the lawn, cleaning...

Please consider assisting us with this very worthy project. A big part of the success of our project is feeding our hardworking crew with a simple lunch on HomeFront Day. It would be awesome if we could also provide them with some coffee and maybe donut wholes or something similar in the morning while we are getting ready for our day. If there is a group in our parish or a parishioner who is a member of an outside organization that would assist us with these needs, we would be so grateful!

Also, in the near future we will be conducting a second collection to assist with the required fee that helps make HomeFront possible. A donation of just a few dollars per person would be very helpful. Thank you for your past and future support of this project of neighbor helping neighbor.

We can make a difference, but it won't happen without you. Please say **YES!** For more information or to volunteer, please contact Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net.

BUILDING PLANS

"Whatever your lot in life, build something on it."

– Anonymous