



# First Holy Communion

*May the Holy Spirit light the way  
as these young people receive  
the Body of Christ for the first time.*

St. Christopher Church

May 5, 2013

Orion Adams-Mejia

Kelsey Morin

Dante Alcover

Kendra Obrycki

Jazmyn Browne

Mary Poirier

Delina Chavez

Angela Scibek

Kaitlin Cyr

Arianna Scibek

Jaylah Hayle

Jenna Wilder

Elizabeth Hernandez

*Body of Christ, true Bread of Life,  
stay always in my heart.*





Sixth Sunday  
of  
Easter

May 5, 2013

“May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!” – Psalm 67:6

Mass  for the  
Intentions  Week

Saturday, May 4 – 4:30 p.m.

**Velma Castonguay**

*(Her Sister Omerine & Elmer Gendreau)*

Sunday, May 5 – 8:00 a.m.

**Dennis Daigle – 11th Anniversary**

*(Mom, Dad & Family)*

Sunday, May 5 – 10:30 a.m.

**Pauline Larson**

*(Dave & Chickie Amberg)*

Monday, May 6 – 7:30 a.m.

**Muriel Lebel *(The Tardiff Family)***

Tuesday, May 7 – 7:30 a.m.

**Francis Vance**

*(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)*

Wednesday, May 8 – 7:30 a.m.

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

Wednesday, May 8 – 5:30 p.m.

**John Conlon *(Fr. Curran)***

Thursday, May 9 – 7:30 a.m.

**Dinis Leonardo *(Wife & Family)***

Thursday, May 9 – 9:00 a.m.

**Students, Staff & Families**

**of Our Parish School Community**

Saturday, May 11 – 4:30 p.m.

**Special Intention**

Sunday, May 12 – 8:00 a.m.

**Gerry Martin**

*(Wife Jan & Family)*

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (April 28): \$ 5,836

Same Sunday in 2012: \$ 6,457

Many thanks for your generous support of our parish  
Together we make St. Christopher’s the vibrant and  
welcoming faith community Christ calls us to be!

With Gratitude,

Fr. Curran

**HOMEFRONT COLLECTION**

Due to a misunderstanding, the HomeFront collection was not taken up at the 4:30 Mass last weekend. If you would like to help support this year’s HomeFront project, please place your donation in an envelope marked “HomeFront” and put it in any weekend collection. Thank you.



**THE ASCENSION  
OF THE LORD**

**Thursday, May 9**

The Feast of the Lord’s Ascension is Thursday, May 9, a holy day of obligation. Masses on Thursday, May 9, will be celebrated at 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. A Vigil Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 8, at 5:30 p.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 God’s Comfort & Healing Presence  
for a Parishioner**

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For the Children of our Parish Who Are  
Making Their First Holy Communion**

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

**KENTUCKY DERBY  
HOSPITALITY WEEKEND**

*This Weekend – May 4 & 5*

“And they’re off!” On this Kentucky Derby weekend we hope that all attending Mass will join for fun and togetherness **after all the Masses**. Refreshments will be served. Make it a point to stop and make “Hospitality Weekend” a big success. The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be hosting.



**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

We are seeking individuals who would be interested and willing to serve as readers at our 10:30 a.m. Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. Several readers are needed to proclaim the Old and New Testament readings as well as the General Intercessions in different languages! The variety of languages expresses the Church’s catholicity, that is, her universality. People of every race, nation, and tongue enrich the Church. At Pentecost, from many languages and peoples, God brought together in unity the Church. If you would like to assist us, please contact the parish office at [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net) or at 860-568-5240.



Our Church is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:

**Zoe Valencia Carrasquillo**  
**Rei John Hwang**

**SPA FOR THE SOUL**

Ladies...a mini-retreat...just for you! LOCAL!! Enjoy this retreat tailor made for the busy woman. Saturday, May 11 beginning at 8:45 a.m. and ending with Mass at 11:00 a.m. for those wishing to stay. Directed Meditation. Take home ideas. Opportunity for Confession. Soothe the soul! Right here at St. Christopher’s Parish. Please RSVP to Tonya Brownell by calling 860-655-9482 or by sending an e-mail to [tonya.brownell@gmail.com](mailto:tonya.brownell@gmail.com).



**ST. CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB  
Monday, May 6 ~ 1:00 p.m.**

Can your table-mates team beat the other teams? Come and play Scattergories with us. It will be lots of fun, and you’ll love the prizes. As usual, this will be followed by light refreshments.

If you have been thinking of joining the social club, or have not yet paid your 2013 dues, 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.**

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

Almost every definition of stewardship eventually gets down to the notion of “trust” — trust in God. That is certainly Christ’s message in today’s Gospel, when He says, “Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” In other words, trust Me; trust My Father; and trust the Holy Spirit, who is always with you and among you.

Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that trust as we understand, both in relation to the Lord and in relation to stewardship, is a two-way street. Yes, it is our trust in God that allows us to take the risks involved in stewardship and give of ourselves and of what we have. Equally important, though, is that other feature of stewardship, of trust.

Trust has a dual meaning. Of course, it means that we have confidence in God as a presence, helper and comforter in our lives. Nonetheless, it also involves that other meaning of trust — something given to us, an interest we hold for God and the benefit of others. God entrusts us with several things we hold in trust: our families; the very earth on which we live; the Church; Holy Scripture and the Gospels. These are given to us in trust that we might nurture them, expand them, and return them to God with increase.

We are called to trust God, as He is our Advocate, but we must never forget that God trusts us, too. As Blessed Mother Teresa once said, “I know God won’t give me anything I can’t handle. I just wish He didn’t trust me so much.”



## WORLD YOUTH DAY BAKE SALE

*Next Weekend – May 11 & 12*

A bake sale will be held after all Masses next weekend to support our World Youth Day pilgrims who will be traveling to Rio de Janeiro this July to join other youths from around the world for this great gathering of faith, hope and unity. You can help support their endeavor by donating an item to their bake sale and/or by making a purchase. For those wishing to bake, please bring your donation to the church hall prior to Mass. Thank you!

## THE CASE FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

Congress and the president, despite their serious differences, have an opportunity in the coming months to pass and enact the kind of immigration reform that will address both our economic and security needs, **BUT, WILL THEY DO IT JUSTLY?** The bishops of the U.S. have suggested five key elements needed for serious reform:

- 1) a path to citizenship
- 2) the preservation of family unity
- 3) legal means for unskilled laborers to enter and work legally in this country
- 4) due process rights for immigrants
- 5) constructive attention to root causes of migration

**JOIN US in the Saint Bridget school cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. on WED., MAY 8** to meet and discuss with people who are directly involved and/or affected by the immigration reform issues. **COME HEAR WHAT THEY HAVE TO TELL US!** Followed by refreshments and brought to you by the St. Bridget Social Justice Education and Advocacy Committee.



## VACATION BIBLE CAMP

*June 24 – 28*

The theme this year is *Kingdom Rock*. If you would like more information or if you would like to register, please visit our new website at [stchrisvbc.weebly.com](http://stchrisvbc.weebly.com) or pick up a registration form at the back of the church. We hope to see you there!

## 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](mailto:kasimeone95@comcast.net).



## WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following person of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died during April 22 - 30 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May he rest in peace.

Captain Blanchard, Aaron R. - 32

Captain Cyr, Brandon L. - 28

Staff Sergeant Dickson, Richard A. - 24

Staff Sergeant Fannin, Daniel N. - 30

1st Lieutenant Hess, Robert J. - 26

Captain Nishizuka, Reid K. -30

## DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

With the federal healthcare mandate taking effect in August, many religious employers, businesses operated by people of faith, and individuals will not be exempt, and will be forced to violate their religious beliefs or pay a fine. The time is now to contact the White House. Let them know that the mandate violates the First Amendment, which guarantees every American freedom of religion. Call the White House at: 202-456-1111 or 202-456-1414 or email: [www.whitehouse.gov/contact](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact).

St. Christopher Church Hall

**Friday ~ May 17, 2013**

**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](http://redcrossblood.org).



## CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE

The last Can and Bottle Drive of this school year will be held on Saturday, June 15, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please bring your pre-rinsed cans and bottles to the front of our school. Thank you for supporting our parish school!



### BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Next weekend we have the opportunity to support Birthright's service to pregnant women in crisis. Members of St. Christopher's Pro-Life Committee will distribute baby bottles (one per family) after all Masses next weekend, Mother's Day weekend, as part of a fundraiser for Birthright.

We ask that you take the bottle home, fill it with coins, cash or a check and return it to the specially marked baskets by Sunday, June 2. As you will see from the insert inside the bottle, you may make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one. Birthright will send an acknowledgement card of your gift of life.

This is a great opportunity for our church families to have hands-on involvement in a project that saves the lives of unborn children and makes a lasting difference in the mothers' lives. Birthright thanks you for any help you can give.

### ELECTRIC ORGAN AVAILABLE

Before submitting something into the local newspaper, I am wondering if anyone in our community is interested in a home size electric organ that is in good condition. If interested and want more information, please call me, Chickie Amberg, at 860-568-9069.

### HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM AT MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

**Who:** for girls rising to 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade

**What:** The HAP program assists and prepares students for high school, reinforcing Reading, Language and Math skills needed for the HSPT (High School Placement Test) in the morning and the girls participate in on-site recreational time (sports, arts, crafts, robotics, science is fun, and community service projects) in the afternoon

**When:** July 8- 19 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Where:** Mercy High School, Middletown

**Why:** Get your skills on and have fun in the sun!

For more info and registration call 860-346-6659 or visit [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com). Reduced registration fee if registered by May 24.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

The Archdiocesan Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will host its FOURTH ANNUAL **Bishop Peter Rosazza Social Justice Conference**, "Rooted in Faith: Growing Just Communities," on **Saturday, June 8** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol. (Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m.) A Keynote presentation by Alexie Torres-Fleming, founder of *Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice* and nationally recognized justice advocate, will launch the day. Over 25 workshops will cover a wide range of topics, from prison ministry to the environment to non-violence; seven workshops will be offered in Spanish. The conference fee of \$40 for Adults and \$20 for Students (aged 14-21) includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials. A special "team" rate is also available. For information, visit [www.catholicsocialjustice.org/conference](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/conference) or call (203) 777-7279.



### 2013 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

This month, after years of study, 8 men are being ordained to the priesthood. During their years of preparation for this vocation, they were supported by family and friends – and by everyone who made a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. When you make a gift to the Appeal, **you** help meet the cost of priestly formation and education, since a portion of Appeal funds are used for this purpose. Please support our seminaries by making a gift to the Appeal today.

Extra appeal packets are located at the main entrance of our church. You may also make your donation online by visiting: [appeal.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://appeal.archdioceseofhartford.org). We offer our appreciation and gratitude to the parish families who have already made a gift to the 2013 Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

### FOOD BANK REPORT

**For April 2013**

Requests: 34 Adults: 57 Children: 34

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