



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 – Thursday: 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



**Twenty-first Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
August 25, 2013**

“Strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed.”

– Hebrews 12:12-13

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 24 – 4:30 p.m.
Jose Figueiredo – 6th Anniversary
(Wife Maria)

Sunday, August 25 – 8:00 a.m.
Rev. John P. Tracy

Sunday, August 25 – 10:30 a.m.
Albert & Antonietta Pettinato
(Family)

Monday, August 26 – 7:30 a.m.
**Ethel B. Hart – 10th Anniversary
and Harold L. Hart**
(Carolyn & Joe Kronen)

Tuesday, August 27 – 7:30 a.m.
Mary Rogosky Verotsky
**In Remembrance of Her Birthday
and Charles George Verotsky**
(Carolyn & Joe Kronen)

Wednesday, August 28 – 7:30 a.m.
Diane E. Olinatz *(Family)*

Thursday, August 29 – 7:30 a.m.
Tina Dudek – 23rd Anniversary
(Jean Walker)

Saturday, August 31 – 4:30 p.m.
Velma Castonguay *(Niece Ina & Bob J. Hetkowsky)*

Sunday, September 1 – 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Edward G. Pfnausch

Sunday, September 1 – 10:30 a.m.
Patricia M. DiGregorio *(Dave & Chickie Amberg)*

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (August 18):	\$ 5,144
Same Sunday in 2012:	\$ 5,805
Feast of the Assumption	\$ 1,078

My personal thanks for your generous support which is so essential for our parish!

With Gratitude, Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Jesus explains in today’s Gospel that a life of faith, a life of stewardship, requires a change on our part, a conversion. Part of His warning was intended for the Jews, whom he anticipated would cling to traditions and the past rather than fully embracing what Jesus laid out. In fact, this was a challenge for the early Apostles.

Jesus points us as well through stewardship to become people who served. Christ repeatedly makes reference to the importance of serving others. Of course, He closes with the statement that “Some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.” As difficult as that may be for us to fully comprehend, it means, quite simply that all in the world are called, and all in the world can be saved, whether at the beginning or at the end, as long as they place their total trust in the Lord. Jesus is the gate through which we all must pass.

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
Jose Figueiredo – 6th Anniversary**
(Wife Maria)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For All Families of the
St. Christopher Parish / School Community**

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



CHOIR NOTES

Greetings!

As summer winds down, we anticipate the increased activity that comes with Fall... and for our Music Ministry family that means rehearsals! Just a few notes here regarding the rehearsal schedule for both adult and children's choir.

Adult Choir

Please note that adult choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the adult choir can just show up on that evening or talk to Charleen (or any current choir member) for more details. We are always excited to welcome new members...and of course, always have a special need for more Men's voices! ALL ARE WELCOME!

Children's Choir

Regarding Children's Choir...this gets more complicated. We will NOT be meeting on Monday afternoons as we did last year. Due to my other job, I am no longer available in the afternoons on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays. My only option for a weekday afternoon rehearsal is Thursday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. prior to adult choir. I will have forms available by the weekend of Sept. 7/8 for both existing and new members. Children's choir rehearsals will NOT begin until the 26th of September. I realize this day and time may not work for everyone, but we will have to do what we can!

General Info

I am looking forward to another great year of beautiful music made by our awesome Music Ministry family. I am forever grateful for the dedicated singers we have here at St. Christopher Church. I am always looking for instrumentalists, so if there is anyone interested in playing flute, violin, drums, or any other instrument...we will find a way of incorporating you into our family! Please see me at the piano before or after church if you are interested or have questions. I continue to be honored to direct such a wonderful group of people who love to praise God through song.

Peace, Charleen

**2013/2014
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**



**Classes for Students Entering
Grades K-8
Begin Sunday, September 15**

Now is the time to register your child for our religious education program. Forms are available at the church entrances or you may contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Rel. Ed. at 860-895-8692 or at stchrisre@gmail.com. **Returning families are asked to complete a new registration form each year.** Our 2nd grade sacrament program is a two-year program beginning in 1st grade. A program for children entering Kindergarten is also available.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN!

St. Christopher Church will again be participating in the 40 Days for Life Campaign! During this 40 days campaign, parishes will be engaging in 24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration, as well as 12 hours of prayerful vigil at the abortion clinic in Hartford.

Our dates for Eucharistic Adoration in our church will be from Monday, September 30, 2013 at 6:00 a.m. until Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at 6:00 a.m.

On Saturday, October 19, 2013 we will engage in prayerful vigil next to the abortion clinic in Hartford beginning at 6:00 a.m. and concluding at 6:00 p.m.

We are seeking at least 2 people for each hour time slot for both the Eucharistic Adoration and the prayerful vigil. Also, I will be offering a shuttle from St. Christopher to Hartford for the prayerful vigil to make it easier for folks to assist with this wonderful display of support for life. Please help us bring our prayers for life to God in this special way. Thank you! For more information or to reserve a time slot please contact me at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net.

Peace, Phil Gosselin

THE DREAM CONTINUES

Deacon Tom invites you to join him at Center Park in Manchester on Wednesday, August 28, at 6:30 p.m. for the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington. This event is being co-sponsored by St. Bridget Church to encourage non-violence in all our relations.



Youth Ministry

9th and 10th Grade Students

Register for this year's program IN PERSON on Saturday, September 7 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass and on Sunday, September 8 after both Masses. \$50 per student.

Sunday, October 6, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.: Opening evening retreat for parents AND students in the church hall.

First Sunday of the Month, November to May: Life Night for all Confirmation students in the church hall from 7 – 9 p.m.

11th Grade Students

Application to be confirmed due September 1st!

Sunday, September 15: Retreat for those being confirmed.

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 p.m.: Confirmation Mass

Youth Ministry Events and Mini-Courses

Open to All High School Students

Podcast and Pizza: Wednesdays or Thursdays, 7–9 p.m., in the Parish Center. Contact stchrisym@gmail for this week's day. Bring \$3 to contribute to the pizza and a drink to share!

BINGO at Aurora Senior Living, fourth Monday of the month...7–8 p.m. September 23 is the next date!

"Give Me Shelter – Walk to End Homelessness" to benefit Immaculate Conception Shelter and Housing, Saturday, September 21 – 9:15 registration, 10:30 walk, 12:00 lunch \$20 donation

Archdiocesan Youth Spectacular: September 29 – \$20, noonish to 7ish

Jamie's Run 5K - race to benefit CCMC. We have participated in this race for the last three years! Want to train together and make this into a mini-course? We will start on Sunday, September 22 (earlier time on September 29 because of the Youth Spectacular) ...meet from 11:30-1:00 on Sundays, and plan to do some running/reading on your own during the week. Then we will run the 5K on November 3!

DENTAL MISSION FUNDRAISER

Last October I had the privilege of participating in a dental mission to Guatemala for a week. We landed in Guatemala City where we loaded a bus with equipment and luggage and headed to the mountain city of Esquipulus. Word was out that we were coming; the natives came by the hundreds. Under primitive conditions the team of dentists, hygienists, assistants and volunteers swung into action ministering to 600 people. Not speaking the language and having no dental skills, I worked with the children showing them how to clean and care for their teeth – all in sign language. Even though some people had walked 5 hours to get to us, we had to turn some away because of time. I ran out of children's toothbrushes/toothpaste to give them.

This year I will be returning with the team but we hope to service everyone and be better equipped. To defray our normal expected operating expenses (like fuel for the generators, security for the staff, water, dental supplies and equipment) we are having our first formal fundraising effort. The funds raised will not go toward personal expenses like air transportation, meals and hotel accommodations. We are trying to keep costs down so more individuals can participate.

I invite you to pray for the success of our mission and I invite you to join us on Thursday, September 12 for a casual, relaxing evening (5:00 - 8:00 PM) at the Gallery (141 New London Tpke. Glastonbury) to meet the dental mission team and learn from the enthusiastic volunteers. The evening will include 5 food stations and a beverage, a silent auction and raffle items. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Donations are gladly accepted with checks payable to CCIF-KOL (Crossroads Community International Fellowship/ Kitchen of Love) with memo to "dental mission". For more information contact me at 860-568-9069 or visit ddsinternational.wordpress.com. Thank you.

– Chickie Amberg



SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Christopher
Parish & School Picnic**

Sunday ~ September 29 ~ 11:30 a.m.

The 2013-2014 school year is a celebration of our parish school's 50th Anniversary and this is just one of the exciting things planned. Everyone always has a great time and we hope to see you there! More information forthcoming.



**ST. CHRISTOPHER
SOCIAL CLUB THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to all of you who helped make our 2013 picnic so enjoyable. There are too many people to mention everyone by name; but special thanks to Pat Berkery for all of her preparation, decorating, serving and cleanup; Frank Perrone and Ray Maselek for help in setting up; John Twarkins and Ray Schultz for manning the grills; Dick McCarthy for coming in early to put on the coffee and acting as a runner with the food; Nedra Gallo and Alice Barrett for helping at the grills; Dick Domler and Father Curran for use of their grills; Ray Bilodeau for providing his iPod with great music; and our Telephone Committee, Pauline Bilodeau and Rose Chitwood, for their calls regarding food items to bring...not to mention everyone who brought in food, and stayed to clean up afterwards. I know I have forgotten someone; but if you did anything to help out, please know it was greatly appreciated!

What a wonderful group we have. It is such a pleasure to be part of this great organization. Don't forget...no meeting in September...see you on October 7.

– Joan Perrone, Program Chairperson

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

All couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th, as well as other special anniversaries this year are invited to attend a special Mass that will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford on Sunday, October 20, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Archbishop Mansell will be the main celebrant. Each couple will be greeted personally, receive a commemorative memento, get a photo with Archbishop Mansell, and renew their wedding vows. A simple reception will follow. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Please call Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240 to respond to this invitation. All couples who register by Wednesday, September 25 will have their names listed in the program being prepared for this celebration.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

All are invited to experience what the apostles did on Pentecost. A 7-week journey will begin on Tuesday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. at St. James Church Hall, 896 Main Street in Manchester. This seminar will help you begin or deepen your relationship with Jesus. After the seminar a love and hunger for the sacraments, scripture and prayer will increase in your life. You will experience a fuller measure of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. At the seminar you will find a community that quickly becomes like family. You will find love and support. A typical seminar includes prayer, songs of praise, talks on the seven themes, witness, small group discussion and fellowship. For more information, call Jim at 860-643-1365 or Ray at 860-888-2269.

WE REMEMBER

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



FOOD BANK

Due to the increase in the number of people who have been requesting assistance from our food bank, we are in need of non-perishable food items so we can continue to help feed those in need. Please leave your donations in the area near our candle station.

St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ September 20, 2013
1:45 – 6:45 p.m.



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

**DEFENDING OUR
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

The passage of the federal health care mandate was supposed to provide universal health care to all Americans in order to prevent illness. Since when are procedures such as: surgical sterilization or prescriptions such as: contraception and drugs that induce abortions preventative health care measures?

To voice your opposition to the mandate, please call the Capitol switchboard in Washington, D.C. at 202-224-3121 and urge your Congressmen or Congresswoman and/or U.S. Senators to support legislation that will overturn the mandate.