



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-third
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

September 15, 2013

“A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.”

– Psalm 51:12

*Mass for the
Intentions for the
Week*

Saturday, September 14 – 4:30 p.m.

Maureen DesRosiers

For Good Wishes & God’s Blessings

(Love, Mom)

Sunday, September 15 – 8:00 a.m.

Timothy McCarthy

(Family)

Sunday, September 15 – 10:30 a.m.

Leona Guerin

(Tony & Maria Sousa)

Monday, September 16 – 7:30 a.m.

Mark Tardiff

(Family)

Tuesday, September 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Irma McCarthy

(Family)

Wednesday, September 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Diane E. Olinatz

(Family)

Thursday, September 19 – 7:30 a.m.

Dominic & Nancy Viglione

(Jean Walker)

Saturday, September 21 – 4:30 p.m.

Jose Figueiredo

(Wife Maria)

Sunday, September 22 – 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Brian A. Shaw

Sunday, September 22 – 10:30 a.m.

Kenneth Johnson *(Alice Goslin)*

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (September 8): \$ 5,301

Same Sunday in 2012: \$ 5,605

Parish School Support: \$ 1,459

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

With Gratitude, Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

All of the readings for this 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time deal with lost souls, lost people. In every case, however, it is a merciful and loving God who forgives and reaches out to whoever is lost. Stewardship teaches us to trust in God. It reminds us on a daily basis to give thanks to God for the love and blessings we receive. Yes, in a sense we are all lost, but no matter what, God loves us, God seeks us, and God welcomes us warmly when we repent and return. To paraphrase the Parable of the Prodigal Son, “We are lost, but through stewardship we can be found.”



PRAYER LINE

Our Prayer Line is ready to receive your prayer requests! All requests are handled with care and in a confidential manner. You need only share what you wish. E-mail your requests to Beverly Connors, Prayer Line coordinator, at bcrc29@hotmail.com or call her at 860-432-1530.

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
Sandra Leonard DeVivo – 7th Anniversary**
(Family)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For the Young People of Our Parish
Who Will be Receiving the
Sacrament of Confirmation**

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



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 our annual picnic is just one of the exciting events planned. Everyone always has a great time. Flyers that give you all the details are available at the entrances of the church. If you are planning to attend, please let us know by filling out the bottom section of the flyer. You may place your form in the collection basket this week or next week. We are also seeking volunteers to help with the picnic. You may use the same form to express your interest in helping. We hope to see you there!

HOPES COLLECTION

Help Our Parish Elementary Schools

Catholic school students are guided to live their faith "every moment of every day" as Pope Francis encourages. Next weekend, September 21/22, please support the 2013 HOPES Collection being taken up on behalf of our Archdiocesan Catholic elementary schools and invest in the future of our children. Please note that 25% of monies collected will remain in our parish to support our own parish school. We have faith in our Catholic schools – and you can too!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Christopher Council #4

The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly social gathering this Thursday, September 19 in our church hall. If you are a practicing Catholic man, 18 years of age or older and are interested in learning more about becoming a Knight, please contact Scott Gay, Grand Knight, at 860-670-8898 or at scottgay95@gmail.com.

DINNER MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Dinner time is the perfect time to connect with your kids on a daily basis. Through the prayers of thanksgiving said before eating plus the array of favorite meals served and the loads of laughs shared about the day's events, you can help continually feed your child's mind, body and soul. Take part in *Family Day - A Day to Eat With Your Children* on Monday, September 23. For more information, tools, and resources visit the *Family Day* link at www.archdioceseofhartford.org.

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

After all the Masses this weekend, we hope that all parishioners will stop in the church hall for togetherness and hospitality. Stay for 5 minutes, 15 minutes or longer. It will give us as a parish family time to be together and to share our friendship. After the 4:30 p.m. Mass refreshments will include pizza, salad, appetizers, finger foods and beverages. On Sunday morning after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses, baked goods and beverages will be served. Please make it a point to stop by and make "Hospitality Weekend" a big success!



2013 CONFIRMATION

The Confirmandi

At the 10:30 a.m. Mass this weekend the Confirmandi from the Confirmation Class of 2013 will be with us as we celebrate our liturgy. For the past two years, these students have been preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Having already been baptized into Christ, and having participated in the catechetical preparation for this sacrament, they choose to follow Christ more closely. They ask for their parish community's continued prayer, encouragement and guidance.

Confirmation Mass

The sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by Bishop Peter Rosazza next Sunday, September 22, at 2:00 p.m. here in our church. All are welcome.



ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Our parish is actively seeking students in **Grades 4 and above** who are interested in becoming an Altar Server. If you would like to learn more about the Altar Server ministry, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail to stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net. A training session will be held in the near future.

NEEDED

"The thing that is needed most in our homes today is a family." – Anonymous

HELP! 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's to Hartford for the prayerful vigil to make it easier for folks to assist with this wonderful display of support for life. **There are still many time slots that need to be filled. 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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

We are seeking parishioners and others who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith and Church - or to share their faith. With enough interest we will begin in this Fall and meet regularly through the Spring, learning and sharing together. Suitable candidates will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), as appropriate, at the Easter Vigil. For more information, please call Deacon Tom Breen at 860-643-7268.



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. **We also welcome monetary donations to help us purchase perishable food items. Please place your donation in any collection basket in an envelope marked "Food Bank."**



MUSIC MINISTRY

Adult Choir

Our Adult Choir held their first rehearsal this past Thursday evening, but it's not too late for you to join us. There always seems to be a shortage of male singers, but we could really use both men and women. We rehearse every Thursday evening in the church beginning at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any other member of the choir. We hope you can join us!

Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir will hold rehearsals in the church on Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. Our first rehearsal will be held on September 26. We invite all school age children to join us for our Children's Choir. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing the voice of our children!

– Charleen Miele

Youth Ministry

9th and 10th Grade Students

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.

Youth Ministry Events and Mini-Courses

Open to All High School Students

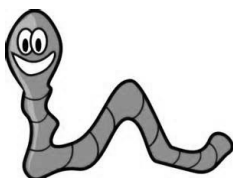
Please visit our website at stchris-eh.org and click on Youth Ministry to get all the details.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Starting next year, virtually all Americans must carry health insurance, or face a fine of approximately \$95 per person in 2014, even if the coverage violates their religious principles. The fine will increase to \$695 or more per individual per year by 2016! To voice your opposition to the mandate, please call the Capitol switchboard in Washington, D.C. at 202-224-3121 and urge your representatives to support legislation that will overturn the mandate.

A CALL FOR INCHWORMS

Our fearless leader has moved on to a more relaxing, leisurely way of life in the Carolinas. Roch Girard has left a huge hole in directing and protecting the life of our parish. You have seen Roch serving at funerals, lecturing at the Triduum, photographing parish activities, facilitating the Parish Council, landscaping the grounds, negotiating with engineers about the maintenance of the parish building and grounds (school heating system, chapel refurbishing), and likely so much more than we even realize. How do we fill such a void?????? Roch may be gone, but our needs remain. Mother Nature has a way of reclaiming the landscape.



**Yard by yard, it is hard.
Inch by inch, it is a cinch.**

SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO, please look into your heart and listen to God's whisper with the ear of your heart. God has blessed you with so many gifts and talents; fear is not one of them. Excuses are of our own making that we can overcome by working side by side with fellow parishioners for a solution. We walk side by side supporting each other on our faith journey. We pray side by side in praise of our creator. We sing side by side making a joyful sound in thanksgiving. We work side by side because we care and take delight in who we are – a faith-filled community, living into the Gospel invitation to "come follow me."

We invite you to inch on over to your phone or computer and let us know how you can help. Please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail message to stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Blessed Be!

– Sparky, a simple inchworm



CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE

The first Can and Bottle Drive of the school year will be held on Saturday, October 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please bring your pre-rinsed cans and bottles to the front of our school. We also collect aluminum can tabs. All proceeds benefit our parish school.



ST. CHRISTOPHER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #4

Fall Harvest Dinner

Saturday ~ October 26 ~ 5:30 p.m.

More information to follow.

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.

WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer Connecticut resident Staff Sergeant **Todd Lobraico, Jr.**, age 22, who bravely fought and gallantly died on September 5 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

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.



HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Our Homebound Ministry is ready to bring Communion to our parishioners who are homebound or are at home recuperating. Please call Barbara Casey at 860-568-4638 to make the necessary arrangements.