



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 (ACTING PRES.)

Madeline Cassarino – 860-568-4073

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.saintchristopherschool.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

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**Thirty-second
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

November 10, 2013

“My steps have been steadfast in your paths, my feet have not faltered. I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God.” – Psalm 17:5-6a



Saturday, November 9 – 4:30 p.m.

Dinis Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, November 10 – 8:00 a.m.

Francis J. Kiernan
In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Wife Denise)

Sunday, November 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Louis Sciarra, Jr. – 8th Anniversary
(Wife & Family)

Tuesday, November 12 – 7:30 a.m.

Mark Tardiff
(Family)

Wednesday, November 13 – 7:30 a.m.

John & Louise Olinatz
(Children)

Thursday, November 14 – 7:30 a.m.

Rev. Joseph Parel

Saturday, November 16 – 4:30 p.m.

Eileen Telesmanick
(Clayre & Bob Hall)

Sunday, November 17 – 8:00 a.m.

Mr. & Mrs. John Hebert
(Adrien Hebert)

Sunday, November 17 – 10:30 a.m.

Eugene “Gene” Wager
(Joe & Jean Martocci)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (November 3):	\$ 5,799
Same Sunday in 2012:	\$ 6,283
All Saints:	\$ 662
All Souls:	\$ 920

Your generosity to our parish is appreciated. Many thanks for all you do to help our parish!

With Gratitude, Fr. Curran

PARISH SCHOOL SUPPORT

The second collection being taken up at all Masses this weekend is the monthly collection to support our parish school. Thank you.

PARISH’S ANNUAL APPEAL

We are pleased to report that we have already received many generous responses to our parish’s Annual Appeal. We thank these parish families for their support and ask those who have not yet responded to prayerfully consider supporting this important effort as generously as you can. Please remember that each gift makes a difference, no gift is too small!

If you did not receive an Annual Appeal mailing or have misplaced the pledge card that was mailed to you at home, please feel free to take one of the extra Appeal packets located on the tables at the main entrance to the church. Thank you!

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
Lois A.**

Who is Dealing with Health & Life Issues
(Beverly Connors)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

For All Veterans – Living & Deceased

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

VETERANS DAY

There will be no daily Mass celebrated this Monday, November 11.

Our parish office will be closed on Monday, November 11, in observance of the holiday. It will reopen on Tuesday, November 12, at 8:00 a.m.

A PRAYER FOR ALL VETERANS



Heavenly Father, thank You for America's heroes who have served our country so faithfully. We honor our veterans for their sacrifice to our country and for their courage and integrity. May every citizen realize that our country is better and safer because of their valiant duty. We praise You for all veterans who have gone before us in eternal rest. We especially pray for those veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending our country. Bless their families and comfort them with the thankful prayers of a grateful nation.

Almighty God, You gave us Your only Son, Jesus. Encourage us to follow in His example and work to create a more loving world. Let us not perpetrate war but safeguard peace and preserve Your gifts of equality and freedom. Through the efforts of our veterans, help us continue to promote justice in all nations. We thank You for our veterans, past and present, and for the knowledge that You are with us in all things. Amen.

COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES

Last year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a new national collection, to be taken up once every three years to support the Archdiocese for the Military Services – the only arm of the Church responsible for supplying priests to serve as chaplains in the U.S. military around the world. The first collection will be taken up next weekend, November 16 and 17. This collection offers each of us a substantial way to “*serve those who serve.*” Those who wish to support this collection will find an offering envelope and information sheet at all entrances of our church. Funds raised will help bring the Church's full range of pastoral services to the men and women in uniform as well as to their families.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Memorial Mass of Remembrance and helped to make it such a success. Those who lost a loved one this past year were comforted by hearing their loved ones names called and being able to light a candle in their memory. They were also comforted by seeing so many of you who were there to support them. We were so pleased that many of you took advantage of coming forth to light a candle for your loved one no matter how long ago your loss was.

Thank you also to everyone who shared their time and talents by providing such delicious baked goods for the reception after Mass which was enjoyed by many and to those who helped setup, serve and clean up.

I am blessed to be a part of St. Christopher's parish.

– Jean Nowik-Martocci, Consolation Minister




We offer our thanks and appreciation to Jean Nowik-Martocci and to her committee who helped make our Annual Memorial Mass of Remembrance for our deceased loved ones so powerful. This liturgy gave us the opportunity to remember in a very special way our beloved family members and friends who have departed this life during this past year.

We thank Charleen Miele, our Music Director, and the adult choir for providing us with such beautiful music to enhance our liturgy.

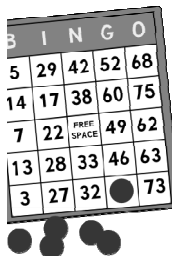
We thank all those who helped to host the reception that was held following this liturgy and those who so generously provided the wonderful food items.

May God bless you all!

– Fr. Curran



CHILDREN'S LITURGY
 Our monthly Children's Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, Nov 17 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall and will be hosted this month by families with students in Grades 2 and 7.



**ST CHRISTOPHER
SOCIAL CLUB**

It's Bingo time at the Social Club!

Feeling lucky? Our November meeting will take place on Monday, Nov. 18. Join us at 1:00 p.m. for our annual Bingo Games. First card is free, additional cards are \$1 each. Don't miss the fun. As usual, the meeting will be accompanied by some delicious pies and other refreshments.

We are always eager to welcome new members, and it's a bargain at only \$10 per year. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

SEEKING... BAPTISMAL BLANKETS

We are seeking parishioners who knit or crochet who would be able to help us keep our inventory of baptismal blankets well stocked as we have a number of babies being baptized before the end of this year. The finished blankets measure 36" x 36" and must be made using a soft, pure white yarn (with or without a shimmer). The blanket can be knitted or crocheted using your favorite stitch. If you are interested in preparing a blanket or two, please let us know. You may call Chickie Amberg at 860-568-9069 or the parish office at 860-568-5240. Thank you!

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN
INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

The journey continues on Sunday evenings. Our next gathering is this Sunday, November 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center community room. Light Refreshments will be served. New candidates always welcome.



WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer **Sergeant 1st Class Forrest W. Robertson** (age 35) of the armed services who bravely fought and gallantly died on November 3 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

GRATITUDE

"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." – Cynthia Ozick

HOMEFRONT 2014

As part of a 27 year tradition, HomeFront, Inc. announces that possible free home repair assistance to qualified neighbors in need may be available in May of 2014. Fueled by a mission of keeping deserving neighbors in their homes with an improved quality of life, HomeFront invites members of the community to consider someone who may be in need of our assistance. If you know any homeowners who could benefit from free home repairs this Spring, please let them know that applications are now being accepted. **Deadline to submit an application is November 15, 2013.** All requests for help will remain confidential. To find out more about the HomeFront project or to request an application, please call them at 1-800-887-HOPE (4673). Applications are also available on their website at www.homefrontprogram.org.

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

Last week's Hospitality Weekend was very well attended. Special thanks to **Jeff & Shannon Williams and their children**, and to **Howard Wilmes** and to all who donated food. Hospitality Weekend will not be held during December. We express our appreciation to all our parishioners for your wonderful support of Hospitality Weekend. We look forward to seeing you in 2014!

SOCIAL ACTION

Advocacy and Education
True Worship

On August 2, 2013 Bishop Leonard P. Blair, newly appointed Archbishop of Hartford, wrote: "Worship straddles heaven and earth." Following on this statement Bishop Blair quotes then-Cardinal Ratzinger in *The Spirit of the Liturgy*, "Worship, that is, the right kind of cult, of relationship with God, is essential for the right kind of human existence in the world."

Our worship at the altar must be accompanied by our worship in everyday life. We encounter God not just at the altar but in everyone we meet, especially the poor and vulnerable. In the Scriptures our service to the poor is viewed as analogous to our service at the altar – offerings to the poor are seen as offerings to God.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

It has come to our attention that there are many capital improvement projects which need doing, not the least of which is a new roof for the church. The engineering firm of Denis O'Sullivan was hired to do a thorough evaluation of our campus needs and to prioritize these needs. The report is quite detailed.

We need members to volunteer to serve on the Building and Grounds Committee. This is an extremely important ministry. Anyone with knowledge of engineering, and/or the building trades, is especially needed. Someone from the Parish Council will serve on this committee also.

If you are willing to help out, please contact the Parish Office at 860-568-5240 with your information and someone will get back to you. Thank you.

PUT YOUR STAMP ON ST. CHRIS

Help Us Help the Children

To help keep costs down, our parish school has brought their Annual Fund mailing process in-house. Over the past 10+ years, the Annual Fund has helped collect over \$500,000 for the school. You have always been there to help us whenever we needed you and we hope you can help us with this important endeavor. We will need a lot of stamps to get our message out. In the past few years, many of you have come to our rescue. We were extremely grateful. If you have an extra book of 46 cent or Forever stamps hanging around or even 5 or 6 stamps, would you be willing to donate them to our cause? The kids would really appreciate it. Just place your stamps in an envelope addressed to Parish School and drop it in next weekend's collection basket. Thank you!



GIFT CARDS

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses next weekend, November 16 and 17. Please help support our parish school by buying gift cards for gifts and/or for your everyday purchases. Please note: A large selection of gift cards are available that would make excellent Christmas gifts. For more information contact Ania at 860-569-0686 or by e-mail at simpsonania@sbcglobal.net. Orders are placed every Monday, so contact Ania if you would like to receive cards at other times.

THANK YOU!

With a grateful heart I thank you, the community of St. Christopher, for your personal, prayerful and monetary support for the Guatemalan dental mission. In particular I thank Mr. Dan Valenti from our parish school who invited me to speak to his 7th and 8th grade religion classes about my mission trip to Guatemala last year. The students came up with the idea of collecting clothing and dental items to which you so generously responded. On behalf of the people of Esquipulas, I thank you.

Because of your generous donations of money, essential equipment was purchased allowing the team (18) to serve more people, more effectively, bringing real relief. Most adults required extractions while I worked with the children teaching them good oral hygiene. My hope is that this young generation will care for their teeth, in spite of their sugar diet, so to live healthier and happier lives.

Because of your generous donation of dental supplies, toys, and clothing, everyone who came to the clinic received "gifts" – a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and clothing. The children were additionally rewarded for their bravery with a toy and a balloon. I came with two suitcases filled with toys, most of which were gone within the first two days. The simple, sweet people of Esquipulas were so appreciative of our presence among them.

Because of your kindness, these services and "gifts" allowed me to express my solidarity with them, my compassion and my unconditional love for them.

Because of your faithfulness to the Gospel, your prayers, your caring hearts, and your generous spirit, I have been formed in love and able to bring a heart full of gratitude to the people of Guatemala. "To whom much is given, much is expected."

I thank my God for you and for blessing me with a open heart to serve His people. God bless you.

Gratefully, Chickie

FOOD BANK REPORT

For October 2013

Requests: 47 Adults: 80 Children: 41

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

Thanksgiving Food Baskets



“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.”

(Proverbs 22:9)

Canned Vegetables

Stuffing Mix

Mayonnaise

Gravy

Canned Tuna

Instant Potatoes

Spaghetti Sauce

Pasta

TURKEYS

Soup

Cranberry Sauce

Coffee

Cereal

Graham Cracker Pie Crust

Frosting

Cake Mix

Pudding Mix

Jello

Non-perishable donations may be left in the area near our Candle Station. If you are able to donate a turkey, please let Dick Domler know by November 22. You can reach him at 860-569-7396.

Packing Help Needed

Volunteers who are able to assist with packing the Thanksgiving baskets are asked to be at South Congregational Church on Forbes St. on Thursday, November 21 by 9:00 a.m.

Delivery Help Needed

Volunteers who are able to assist with delivering the Thanksgiving baskets are asked to be at South Congregational Church on Forbes St. on Sunday, November 24 by 10:00 a.m.



Breakfast with Santa!!

Sunday, December 8 ~ 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

St. Christopher School Cafeteria

\$5 for Adults, \$3 for children or \$20 per family (2 adults, 4 kids)

Fee includes pancake breakfast, crafts, activities.

Pictures with Santa available for purchase.

Pre-registration requested at stchrisha@gmail.com by December 4.