



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

Richard Oliveira – 860-568-2341

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



**Our Lord
Jesus Christ,
King of the
Universe**

November 24, 2013

“I rejoiced because they said to me, “We will go up to the house of the LORD.”

– Psalm 122:1

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 23 – 4:30 p.m.
Marianne Harden (Mom & Family)

Sunday, November 24 – 8:00 a.m.
Lucille Serruto – 5th Anniversary
(Husband & Family)

Sunday, November 24 – 10:30 a.m.
Della Samiento (Chickie Amberg)

Monday, November 25 – 7:30 a.m.
Veronica Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Tuesday, November 26 – 7:30 a.m.
Rev. Zigford J. Kriss

Wednesday, November 27 – 7:30 a.m.
Francis Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Thursday, November 28 – 9:00 a.m.
Parish Mass of Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 30 – 4:30 p.m.
Paul Crowley – 8th Anniversary (Wife Irene)

Sunday, December 1 – 8:00 a.m.
Jennifer Ruggiero
(Robert & Susan Falkevitz)

Sunday, December 1 – 10:30 a.m.
Timothy Byrnes
In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Mother & Family)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (November 17): \$ 5,395
Same Sunday in 2012: \$ 5,161

Archdiocese for the Military
Services : \$ 954

My personal thanks for your generous support of our parish. By sharing your time, talent and treasure, you enable us to further the mission of bringing Christ to our families, our young people, our community and our world!

With Gratitude, Fr. Curran

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Today’s second collection supports the Campaign for Human Development which provides funding for groups that create lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. *“The Church’s love for the poor...is part of her constant tradition.”* (Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 2444)

THANKSGIVING DAY

Parish Mass – 9:00 a.m.



The parish Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28, will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. Come and join us as we give thanks for all of the Lord’s blessings to us.

Please note: There will be no daily Mass celebrated on Friday, November 29.

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 a Special Intention

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week
For Blessings for All
During this Season of Thanksgiving

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

COLLECTION FOR THE PHILIPPINES

November 30/December 1

A special collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend, November 30/December 1, to assist Catholic Relief Services in their response to Typhoon Haiyan. Donations collected will go to both immediate humanitarian needs and the cost of long-term reconstruction.

We recognize there are several special collections being taken up at our parish during this time of year, but the tragedy in the Philippines warrants our response. We offer our prayers to the people of the Philippines and may hope not fade from their hearts as nations respond to their needs.

GRATITUDE

“Gratitude is the best attitude.”

– Unknown

SOCIAL ACTION

Advocacy and Education

Welfare of the Parish

Canon Law (the law of the Church) holds the Community of St. Christopher responsible for the welfare of everyone living within the geographical boundaries of the parish, both their material and spiritual welfare. We offer the Sacraments and Rites of the Church to everyone who comes to our door; we bring the Eucharist and Sacrament of the Sick to people in their homes; we offer religious education to children and youths; we have our Parishioners in Need (PIN) program; we have programs for bereavement and other needs.

Do these programs and efforts satisfy our responsibility? Do they meet all the needs of people in the parish, whether they are on our rolls or not? Do we even know what people need or want: education, evangelization, advocacy?

Should we be thinking about some kind of program to listen for these needs – listen to young people, singles and young families, parents taking care of adult children, or adult children taking care of parents, older people?

Pope Francis has asked the whole Church how we reach out to serve people. How can we at St. Christopher’s answer his survey?



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

St. Christopher School Cafeteria

Sunday ~ December 8

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The time has been extended!

Admission fee: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$20 for family (2 adults and 4 kids); fee includes pancake breakfast, crafts, activities. Pictures with Santa available for purchase. Pre-registration requested at stchrishsa@gmail.com by December 5.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS



Please note: We will not be gathering this Sunday, November 24. Our journey will continue on Sunday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center community room.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

Today’s gospel reminds us the Kingdom of Heaven is not like Disney’s Magic Kingdom. Admission to Christ’s Kingdom is paid with the currency of acceptance, forgiveness, attention to the poor and love of one’s enemy.



GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS!

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses the weekend of December 7/8. 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.

St. Christopher Church Hall

Friday ~ December 6, 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.

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!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

This Sunday is traditionally called Christ the King. Yes, we recognize Jesus' Kingship over all the earth and all its peoples, but the Gospel points to the part of His dominion that cannot be matched by anyone else: He rules over death as well as over life. St. Catherine of Siena once said, "All the way to heaven is heaven, because Jesus said, 'I am the way.'" As we prepare for Advent, which begins next weekend, and as we end our liturgical year this week, we need to dedicate ourselves anew to being good stewards — to realizing that we are children of God, that Christ is our King, that we are gifted, and that we are called to share those gifts. We also need to join with the forgiven thief who was crucified next to Jesus and place our total trust in God. While we attempt to be disciples of the Lord, all we must utter is "Thank you, God" and "Lord, remember me."


MEN'S RETREAT TIME IS COMING!

Nothing Less than Everything

Holy Family's retreat team invites you to experience a dynamic weekend retreat which explores the meaning and the potential of love to transform our lives. Love is our source and our destination. Christ gave us nothing less than complete love on the cross, and we, in turn, are called to love one another. There is no way to love half-way. When we live in the awareness of God's love which flows through us at each moment, we access our own capacity to forgive, serve, and bring peace. The retreat team invites you to be both comforted and challenged by this fresh exploration of the power of love in our lives and in our world.



The tremendous retreat team at Holy Family always choose a theme that is so relevant and powerful. I encourage the men of our parish to give yourself the gift of retreat and there is no time like the present. There will be lots of great food, inspirational and informative presentations and workshops. Please don't let the cost keep you from attending; your presence is more important than anything; you pay what you can. There is some "scholarship assistance" available to encourage first time retreatants to find out what this experience is all about. Please contact me to tap into this great opportunity. The retreat will be January 10 - 12, 2014. You can register online at Holy Family Retreat Center's website with a credit card or you can print off the registration form and mail it in: www.holyfamilyretreat.org. If you don't have internet access, please contact me and I will get a form to you. Please call Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or e-mail me at imgoose@comcast.net if you have any questions.

	<p>Our Church is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:</p> <p>Kalysia Eneida Perez Aleczander Joseph Rosario Jessica Rainha Sousa</p>
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WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following persons of the armed services who bravely fought and gallantly died during November 13-17 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

Staff Sergeant Vazquez, Richard L. – 28
Staff Sergeant Viola, Alex A. – 29

PARISH'S ANNUAL APPEAL

We thank the parish families who have already supported this year's annual appeal 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!** Extra Appeal packets are located on the tables at the main entrance to the church if you did not receive one in the mail or have misplaced your pledge card. Thank you!

INFLUENZA (FLU) CLINIC

The Town of East Hartford’s Department of Health and Social Services is hosting a Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinic on Friday, December 6 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the South End Senior Center, 70 Canterbury Street, East Hartford. East Hartford residents who are 55 years and older are eligible to receive the vaccine free of charge. **(Proof of age and residency are required.)** For more information, please call 860-568-4281 or 860-291-7324.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

We are looking for individuals and families who would be interested in coming forth at the beginning of Mass to light the candles of our Advent Wreath. Individuals and families are invited to sign-up for one of the weekend Masses beginning the weekend of November 30/December 1. If you are interested, please call Bonnie at the Parish Office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail to the parish office: stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net.



DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has ruled in favor of Francis and Philip M. Gilardi, brothers who own Freshway Food and Freshway Logistics, protecting their First Amendment right. The ruling stated that the health care mandate infringes on the religious liberty of employers who oppose the use of birth control, abortion and sterilization. This is one of many court cases that have been filed against the government.

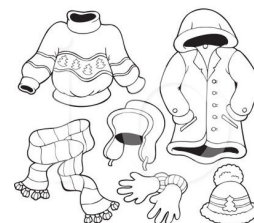
If you haven’t done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of your First Amendment right to religious freedom.

TRIP TO LA SALETTE SHRINE

The Ladies Guild of St. Isaac Jogues in East Hartford is hosting a bus trip on Sunday, December 15 to the La Salette Shrine in North Attleboro, MA. The cost is \$40. The Shrine offers a Christmas Concert with Father Pat mid-afternoon followed by Mass. Then 350,000 holiday lights will adorn the entire grounds. For more information or to register, please see the blue flyers on the tables at our church’s main entrance or you may contact Tours By Pat at 860-533-9167 or toursbypatq@gmail.com.

HELPING THE HOMELESS

The 6th grade students in our parish school are collecting new and gently used winter clothing to help the families living in the East Hartford Community Shelter stay warm this winter. They are collecting clothes for girls, boys, men and women as well as winter jackets, boots, hats, mittens and pants. Items can be left in the collection boxes in our church hall through December 6. Please help our 6th grade students make Jesus and the Homeless smile. Thank you!



CANDLE STATION

Lighting a candle is a prayer: when we have gone it stays alight, kindling in the hearts and minds of others the prayers we have already offered for them and for others, for the sad, the sick, and the suffering, and prayers of thankfulness too.



Lighting a candle is a parable: burning itself out, it gives light to others. Christ gave himself for others. He calls us to give ourselves.

Lighting a candle is a symbol: of love and hope, of light and warmth, our world needs them all.

We invite you to light one of the candles on our candle station. The suggested offering is \$3.00.

Box Top for Education



Our parish school is most grateful for the number of *Box Tops for Education* coupons we receive each week from our parishioners! We are pleased to announce that our school was able to raise \$1,424 during the school year that just ended. Clipped coupons can be placed in our offertory baskets any weekend – even over the summer. Ask your friends to save them too! Thank you for your support!