



*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](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.stchris-eh.org](http://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 – 860-568-5023

**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](mailto:stchrisre@gmail.com)

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION**

Kristina Gillespie – 860-895-8692  
 E-mail: [stchrisym@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.kofc-ehartford4.org)

**PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**

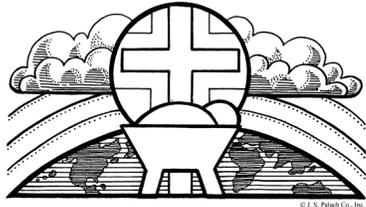
860-761-7456 [vocationshartford.org](http://vocationshartford.org)

**CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES**

[www.credocath.com](http://www.credocath.com)

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

[www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org)



The  
Presentation  
of the Lord

February 2, 2014

“He had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way.”

– Hebrews 2:17a



Saturday, February 1 – 4:30 p.m.  
**John Tirinzonie – 3rd Anniversary**  
(Mom & Jan)

Sunday, February 2 – 8:00 a.m.  
**Paul Curran**  
(Fred & Pat Clark)

Sunday, February 2 – 10:30 a.m.  
**Janet Durbin**  
(Dave & Chickie Amberg)

Monday, February 3 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Eleanor Curran**  
(Jeanne’s Small Christian Group)

Tuesday, February 4 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Paul E. Franklin**  
(Wife Claire)

Wednesday, February 5 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Elizabeth Barno**  
(Family)

Thursday, February 6 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Harold Martin**  
(Wife & Family)

Saturday, February 8 – 4:30 p.m.  
**John & Eileen Telesmanick**  
(Kathy & Bob Nixon)

Sunday, February 9 – 8:00 a.m.  
**Marie Fulco** (Tom & Jill Hurley)

Sunday, February 9 – 10:30 a.m.  
**Helen Katin** (The Katin & Brewer Families)

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (January 26):	\$ 5,641
What We Need:	\$ 7,317

**HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION**

THANK YOU! On behalf of our Catholic secondary school students and the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Dale R. Hoyt, we would like to express sincere thanks to all those who supported the 2014 High School Collection. Your donations totaled \$1,280. Your generosity is deeply appreciated by all those whose future you have helped to shape.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

In today’s Gospel we hear how Simeon takes the Baby in his arms, holds Him, and declares, “Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation.” One of the difficult things for us is to see that same salvation and to go in peace. Stewardship is seeing the glory of our Savior and striving to live out our lives with total trust in Him. As Catholics we need not only to understand our callings, but also to live them out. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, “Three things are necessary for our salvation: to know what we ought to believe; to know what we ought to desire; and to know what we ought to do.” Sharing our time, talent, and treasure with God and our parish is what we are to do.

**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 All Women and Men in Consecrated Life**  
*In recognition of World Day for Consecrated Life*

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For Boy Scouts Everywhere**  
*In recognition of Boy Scout Sunday*

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



**PARISHIONER IN NEED  
BAKE SALE**

Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their Fifth Anniversary Bake Sale after all Masses next weekend, February 8 and 9. We celebrate five years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist several members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Your support has helped us succeed. Please continue to watch out for those in our parish who may need assistance and may be hesitant to ask for help. Even those we have helped in the past may still be struggling and we ask that they or someone on their behalf come forward if necessary. Let's be aware of those who need care.

Plan ahead for Valentine's Day dinners. Donations of baked goods are very much welcomed (and needed) and can be brought to the church hall prior to each Mass. (Please indicate if there are nuts in the ingredients.)

Thank you all for your continued support!

**"CATHOLICISM" SERIES BEGINNING**

You're invited, ALL are invited (yes, **you** reading this!). Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in our church hall beginning on February 25. We'll join Fr. Robert Barron for an amazing journey around the world and delve deeply into the Catholic faith. "Catholicism," a ten part series, was filmed on location in 15 countries on six continents. "Catholicism" first aired in 2011 on both PBS and EWTN and received rave reviews. This is the most vivid illustrated teaching tool ever created about Catholicism. On this global journey brought to us now so close to home, we'll learn more about the living culture of the Catholic Church. More information will follow. The evenings will be hosted by Dan Valente, a teacher in our parish school. You can contact Dan at 860-384-5097 or at valentedmsc@yahoo.com.



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

**Eve Robin Gould**

**BLESSING OF THROATS**



In honor of the Feast of St. Blaise which is February 3, the blessing of throats will be offered after all Masses this weekend. It is a special blessing in which the faithful invoke the saint's intercession, asking him to protect them from ailments of the throat and every other illness. Anyone interested in receiving this blessing will be invited to come forth at the end of Mass.



St. Christopher Church Hall  
**Friday ~ February 14, 2014**  
**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).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**St. Christopher Council #4**

The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly business meeting this Thursday, February 6 at 7:30 p.m. 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.



**ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB**

**Monday, February 3 ~ 1:00 p.m.**

Since our January meeting was cancelled because of the weather forecast, Jeff Wieselberg has agreed to come to this meeting instead. He will be offering some beautiful piano music, vocals, and delightful entertainment. This will be followed by yummy desserts and coffee.

If you have been thinking of joining the social club, now is the time. Dues are only \$10 a year, and are due each year in January. This small amount will give you months of pleasant interaction with our members and lots of interesting things to see and do. I urge you to speak with any member of our group, and they will certainly encourage you to be part of this vibrant, friendly group. Please feel free to contact **Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229** if you have any questions regarding the club.

### WELCOME THE LIGHT!!

We are happy to announce that this year, for the first time, we will be sponsoring a day of Wellness and Togetherness to "welcome in the light" we are now receiving following the Winter Solstice! The day will be held on **Saturday, March 1** and will begin in the morning with a "Sunrise Stretching and Relaxation Class"...followed by Morning Prayer, and then a cooking presentation by the owner of Healthy Essentials (topic to be determined!). We will likely gather for a "chew and chat" boxed lunch and then break for the afternoon (so people can take care of things at home.) In the evening, we will celebrate our usual 4:30 p.m. Liturgy, followed by the Knights of Columbus' Mardi Gras Dinner, and then our music ministry's annual Evening of Music and Reflection! The Theme for the Evening this year is "Welcome the Light...Carry the Light...BE the Light!"

If anyone is interested in helping with the details of the day, please see Charleen at the piano. She will contact you with information regarding details of an organizational meeting. What a perfect way to gather as a Parish, share some time together, make new friends, learn about self-care, and honor and praise our God at the same time!

Peace, Charleen

### DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, has sent a letter to President Obama asking that, in light of concessions made to others in the implementation of the health care law, the administration also temporarily exempt religious institutions from crippling fines if their insurance plans exclude sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs and contraceptives. If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the HHS 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 our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

### TRUE VOCATION

*"The vocation of every man and woman is to serve other people."* – Leo Tolstoy

### FOOD BANK COORDINATOR NEEDED

We are seeking a Food Bank Coordinator for our parish. The Coordinator position can be filled by an individual, a couple of friends or a married couple. Our current coordinator, Dick Domler, has been serving in this capacity for many years. His wife Eleanor served alongside him until she passed away in February 2012. Due to physical limitations, Dick is no longer able to keep this position. We are most grateful to him and his wife for all their years of service to this ministry.

This is an important ministry serving those in need in our community. The responsibilities of our Food Bank are shared with the members of South Congregational Church. If you would like to learn more about the responsibilities of the Coordinator, please contact Dick Domler at 860-569-7396.

### A PARISHIONER'S THANK YOU

*Dear St. Christopher Parishioners,*

*Thank you so much for your generous support of my alternative spring break trip to Appalachia this March. I greatly appreciate your generosity and am very excited to have this opportunity. I am looking forward to serving others as well as learning a great deal while on this trip.*

*Thanks again, Lindsay Cadwallader*

### GIFT CARDS

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses the weekend of February 22 and 23. Please help support our parish school by buying gift cards for gifts and/or for your everyday purchases. For more information contact Ania at 860-569-0686 or by e-mail at [simpsonania@sbcglobal.net](mailto:simpsonania@sbcglobal.net). Orders are placed every Monday, so contact Ania if you would like to receive cards at other times.



### WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This year's World Day for Consecrated Life is being celebrated this Sunday, February 2. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.



**Mardi Gras Dinner**  
Saturday ~ March 1 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Hosted by St. Christopher Knights  
of Columbus Council #4

Followed by our Music Ministry's  
**Evening of Music & Reflection**

More information to come!

**FIRST RECONCILIATION**

Last Saturday, January 25, a Reconciliation service was held in our church with the second grade students from our parish school and religious education program and their families. 15 young people received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. These same young people are also preparing to make their First Communion which will be celebrated here in our parish in May. We ask that you please keep these young people and their families in your prayers.



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN  
INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

Our RCIA journey will continue today, Sunday, Feb. 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center community room. Light Refreshments will be served. New candidates always welcome.

**A THANK YOU FROM A PARISHIONER**

*I wish to thank Maria Sousa and Toni Mintel of the PIN Committee for their help in packing my belongings for my new home and helping me decorate my new apartment. Their help was greatly appreciated due to my mobility limitations. I encourage the parishioners of St. Christopher's to support the PIN Committee as they perform a worthwhile service.*

*With much gratitude, Michele Hurteau*

**NEW DAY PROGRAM**

The St. Bridget Church Bereavement Ministry will be offering "New Day" which is a nine week program for people who have suffered a loss and who wish to do grief work with others having the same experience. The program starts on Tuesday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Bridget Parish Office, 80 Main St., Manchester. For more information and/or to register, please call Marguerite Demarse at 860-432-5355 or 860-967-4117.

**WE REMEMBER**

We remember in prayer **Chief Petty Officer Edward Balli** (age 42) of our armed services who bravely fought and gallantly died on January 20 while serving our country, and all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

**THE UNSPOKEN SERMON**

A member of the church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the pastor decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his pastor's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The pastor made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the pastor took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then, he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead. Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Pastor glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. The pastor reached the door to leave. With a tear running down his cheek, the host said, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday."

We live in a world today, which tries to say too much with too little. Consequently, few listen. Sometimes the best "sermons" are the ones left unspoken.