



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 – 860-568-5023

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

**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

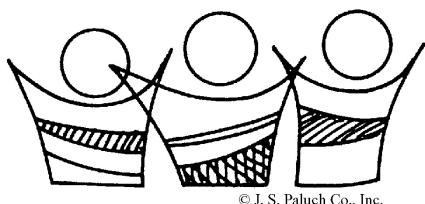
PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC
WOMEN** www.nccw.org



**Sixth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
February 16, 2014**

“What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love [God], this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.”

– 1 Corinthians 2:9-10



Saturday, February 15 – 4:30 p.m.
Paul Crowley – In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Wife Irene)

Sunday, February 16 – 8:00 a.m.
Frank Wroniak
(Grandparents)

Sunday, February 16 – 10:30 a.m.
Norman Girardin – 5th Anniversary
(Family)

Tuesday, February 18 – 7:30 a.m.
Paul E. Franklin
(Wife Claire)

Wednesday, February 19 – 7:30 a.m.
Alan Thibodeau
(Mother)

Thursday, February 20 – 7:30 a.m.
Francis Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Saturday, February 22 – 4:30 p.m.
Eleanor Curran
(Members of the Adult Social Club)

Sunday, February 23 – 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Edward G. Pfnausch

Sunday, February 23 – 10:30 a.m.
John Connors – 4th Anniversary
(Wife & Family)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (February 9):	\$ 5,450
What We Need:	\$ 7,317
Parish School Collection:	\$ 1,662

2013 ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL

Although not as successful as in previous years, our 2013 Annual Parish Appeal produced a significant response. Your support of the Appeal will enable our parish and staff to grow together spiritually, to maintain our physical plant in good order, and to envision the possibility of new programs, and a greater outreach to others, to the glory of God.

We are pleased to share with you the following information and extend our appreciation to all our parishioners.

2013 Annual Appeal

Campaign Statistics as of 2/11/2014

Total # of Parish Families:	1,092
Total # Pledged:	245
% of Participation:	22.4%
Total Amount Pledged:	\$31,405
Total Amount Paid:	\$30,955
Average Pledge:	\$128
% of Pledges Collected:	98.57%

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
Marianne Harden – 5th Anniversary**
(Mom & Family)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

For All Who Are Struggling This Winter

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



PRESIDENTS' DAY

Please note that our daily Mass will not be celebrated on Monday, Feb. 17. In addition, our parish office will be closed on Monday,

Feb. 17. We will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 8:00 a.m.

ST. CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB

Special Messages



Our parish Mass next Saturday, Feb. 22, at 4:30 p.m. will be offered for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Eleanor Curran. This Mass has been requested by the members of the Adult Social Club. Pews will be reserved at the Mass so the members can sit as a group. We invite all our members to attend this Mass and to sit in one of the reserved pews.

We are planning to have another Club Auction at our **April** meeting. We are asking members to bring to the **March** meeting an item that they would like to donate to the Club Auction. It doesn't have to be new; but it should be in good condition. This will give us time to sort and categorize the items for the **April** auction. More information about the next meeting on March 3 will be in a future bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the auction or the club, please feel free to contact **Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.**



HELP NEEDED

Our Altar Committee is seeking individuals who are available to help prepare our church for our weekend liturgies. The members of the Altar Committee typically meet on Friday mornings. If you are available and interested in helping, even if it's only for short term, please call Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240. Thank you.

EVENING OF MUSIC & REFLECTION

Our music ministry is pleased to present their annual "Evening of Music & Reflection" to be held on Saturday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m., following the Knights of Columbus' Mardi Gras Dinner.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our monthly Children's Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, Feb. 23 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall and is being hosted this month by families with children in Grades K, 1 & 8. Everyone is invited!

TAX STATEMENTS

We are happy to provide tax statements to our parishioners who request one. If you regularly use your envelopes to make your offerings to our parish and wish to receive a tax statement, then please contact Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240 or at stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL 50th Anniversary Mass & Reception

Sunday ~ March 2

To the Parishioners of St. Christopher Church:

Thank you so much for the kindness and generosity you have shown our parish school over the past fifty years. As was announced last weekend, Archbishop Blair will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary Mass on Sunday, March 2 at 10:30 a.m. Please spread the word to our alumni and past parents who may have left the area. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for this joyous occasion.

A reception will follow in Murphy Hall at the school and everyone is invited. We will need some help, however. If you are planning to attend, and we hope you are, we are asking each family to bring a donation of food or beverages to the school prior to the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Volunteers will be at the school beginning at 8:30 a.m. to accept contributions.

Thank you again. We feel truly blessed to be a part of this great St. Chris community.

God Bless,

Kathleen E. Madej, Principal

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The Parish Council will meet again on Monday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory dining room. The meeting is open to all parishioners.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

OFFERED AT THE SACRED SELF, LLC!

It's time to get up and out again and The Sacred Self, LLC is ready to help make that happen! Our second Wellness Program will begin in March and run for five weeks...ending with optional participation in the Spicy Green Bean Diva run on April 6! The program meets on Saturday mornings beginning March 8 and ending with the final session on Saturday, April 5 and then the race Sunday morning April 6. For details, please see Charleen Miele (at the piano!) NOTE: This program is open to both men and women and there are two options... a running group and a walking group. All fitness levels can participate!

Charleen Miele
The Sacred Self, LLC
109 Main Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-614-8382

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.



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 brcr29@hotmail.com or call her at 860-432-1530.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. will award three scholarships of \$1,000 each to Catholic students who are high school seniors and who plan to attend a four-year college in the fall of 2014. The applicants must reside in Hartford County. Students are chosen on the basis of financial need, scholarship, character, leadership, and achievement. Information can be obtained at the following website: www.Catholicgraduatesct.org. Deadline for submittal of scholarship applications is March 15, 2014.

PALLIUM PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

With Archbishop Leonard Blair

Join Archbishop Blair on Sunday, June 29 as Pope Francis confers the Pallium upon him. The Pallium is a sign of apostolic authority to Archbishop Blair. During this pilgrimage, visit Rome, the Vatican City, Orvieto and Assisi. Mass will be celebrated each day at such churches as St. Peter, St. Mary Major, Basilica of St. John Lateran and the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. For itinerary, cost and other details, please visit www.archdioceseofhartford.org. Deadline for registration is Friday, March 7, 2014.

GIFT CARDS

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses next weekend, 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. Orders are placed every Monday, so contact Ania if you would like to receive cards at other times.



MERCY & XAVIER HIGH SCHOOLS PRESENT

“Les Miserables”

Friday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 2 at 2:00 p.m.

\$10 Admission

Mercy High School Auditorium

Info: mercyhigh.com & xavierhighschool.org

MARDI GRAS DINNER

Saturday ~ March 1 ~ 6:00 p.m.

The men of St Christopher's Knights of Columbus Council #4 are preparing a delicious feast before our Lenten fast. The Louisiana themed Mardi Gras Dinner menu will include:

- Gumbo - seafood soup
- Jambalaya - chicken & sausage & rice
- Muffuletta sandwiches - crusty bread with salami, ham, provolone and chopped olive salad
- Cajun shrimp boil - shrimp, corn and potatoes simmered in a spiced broth
- Homemade macaroni and cheese
- Desserts including king cake, carrot cake and more desserts
- Beverages

Cost is \$10 per person, and \$5 for children under 10 years old. Adults are invited to BYOB. **Reservations must be made in advance by February 27.** To reserve your seat at the feast, please contact any member of the Knights or you can contact Scott Gay, Grand Knight, at 860-670-8898 or at scottgay95@gmail.com. We hope to see y'all there!



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Our RCIA journey will continue today, Sunday, Feb. 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center community room. Light Refreshments will be served. New candidates always welcome.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Editorials in the mainstream media such as the *Chicago Tribune* and *USA Today* have recently addressed the issue of religious freedom and the Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate as a violation of the first amendment, which protects this right. The message is that every American has rights of conscience on the issues of contraception, abortion, and sterilization. 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 our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

WELLNESS DAY

AT ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

On Saturday, March 1, we will hold our first (hopefully the first of many!) Wellness Day at St. Christopher Church. Please note that this is a day open to both MEN and WOMEN and you can participate in any or all of the programs available! The schedule is as follows:

- 9:00 am: Stretch and Relaxation Class (including a singing bowl meditation and music!)
 - 11:00 am: Healthy Cooking Presentation by "Healthy Essentials" (with yummy samples!)
 - 12:30 pm: Chew and Chat (table discussions and sharing!)
- (break for the afternoon)
- 7:30 pm: Our annual "Evening of Music and Reflection" presented by the Music Ministry and Liturgical Dance Teams! Theme: "Welcome the Light...Carry the Light...BE the Light!"

There will also be the Knights of Columbus Mardi Gras Dinner immediately following our 4:30 p.m. liturgy, so feel free to make an evening of it!

We are looking for an idea of how many people are interested in participating in each event for planning purposes. Sign up sheets are available at the piano. Feel free to come even if you don't sign up...we will plan for more than expected!

Questions?...see Charleen (at the piano!)

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2014/2015 school year will begin on Sunday, March 9. Maria Sousa, our Religious Education Coordinator, will be in our church hall after the 10:30 Mass on the following Sundays: March 9, 16, 23 and 30.

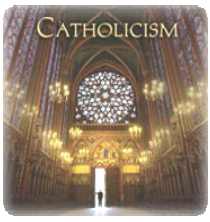
WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the men and women of our armed services who bravely fought and gallantly died while serving our country, and all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

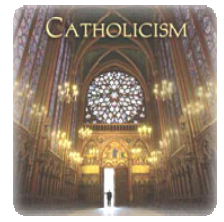


Pray for Peace





"Catholicism"



Series Beginning

You may be asking yourself, "How can I deepen my faith this Lent?" We have an answer for you! Join us on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in our church hall beginning February 25 as we explore our faith with "Catholicism." Listed below is a preview of the "Catholicism" series' ten episodes we'll watch and discuss. ALL are invited to attend! You may attend as many or as few evenings as you wish. The evenings will be hosted by Dan Valente, a teacher in our parish school. If you have any questions or are interested in helping to share this program, you are encouraged to contact Dan Valente at 860-384-5097 or at valentedmsc@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Episode One: "Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man" - February 25

The strange and dangerous words of Jesus of Nazareth set up a drama that will culminate in a surprising battle between two kings, and in the wake of this conflict, an empire will be defeated – and the world will be changed. Father Barron illuminates and explains the conviction of the Catholic Faith that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised Messiah, and the revelation of God become man. He shows how Jesus fulfills the four tasks of the Messiah, according to the Old and New Testaments, and how the living legacy of Christ, God and Messiah, is proclaimed by the Church. Join Father Barron as he addresses some of the most controversial questions about the life and identity of Jesus Christ and travels through the mysterious and sacred places of the Holy Land of Israel and the eternal city of Rome.

Episode Two: "Happy are We: The Teachings of Jesus" - March 4

The revelation of Jesus as God is accompanied by a stunning invitation to a unique new way of life, explained in the teachings of Jesus. To every generation, the words of Jesus have proven fascinating, disorienting, sometimes confounding, deeply transformative, and always unforgettable. Father Barron highlights the Beatitudes, the path of non-violence and lessons of forgiveness, care for the poor and our relationship with God as presented in the parables. Jesus' teachings are illuminated during Fr. Barron's pilgrimages to Poland, Germany, Spain and New York City. Commentaries at these sites also show how the Catholic Church is a living culture, which gives witness to the inviolable dignity of the human person.

Episode Three: "That Than Which Nothing Greater can be Thought: The Ineffable Mystery of God" - March 11

Father Barron considers St. Anselm's description of God as "that than which nothing greater can be thought," and goes on to explain St. Thomas Aquinas' arguments which support the claim that God truly exists. He also speaks from the Catholic tradition about the nature of God and the challenging question of evil and the existence of God. To provide a vision of the ineffable majesty and mystery of God, Father Barron invites us to the heights of the Sinai desert and makes his way to mysterious Istanbul, walks the glittering streets of Paris and then captivates the viewer with the glories of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Episode Four: "Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast: Mary, the Mother of God" - March 18

In this episode, Father Barron masterfully correlates the Catholic Faith's testimony to the revelation of God in Christ with the vivid practices of reverence offered to his Mother. Mary is explained as "an on-going presence, an actor in the life of the Church." Father Barron journeys to the humble remains of Mary's house in Nazareth, to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe to explain the Church's teachings about Mary as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception and the dogma of the Assumption.

Episode Five: “The Indispensable Men: Peter, Paul and the Missionary Adventure” - March 25

Father Barron calls Peter and Paul “two indispensable men, the ones without whom the church never would have emerged and survived.” In telling each man’s story, Father Barron shows how the Holy Spirit worked through all the apostles and disciples to build the Church. Following the trail of these apostles as they took the Gospel to the ends of the earth, Father Barron presents the foundations of the apostolic faith, particularly the revelation of Christ’s resurrection from the dead.

Episode Six: “A Body Both Suffering and Glorious: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church” - April 1

Clearly answering the question, “What is the Church?” Father Barron presents the reality of the Church as “one, holy, catholic and apostolic.” The Body of Christ can be seen on earth from the Church’s center in Rome to the cities of New York, Sao Paolo, Manila, Namugongo and Uganda, while still escaping total understanding as the mystical union between Christ and his Church. Father Barron also explores the Catholic conviction that the life and presence of Christ continues to embrace humanity in all its joys and sorrows through the presence of the Church.

Episode Seven: “Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven: The Mystery of the Church’s Sacrament and Worship” - April 8

Father Barron explores the ancient practices of the Church’s worship that endure to this very day, and the notion that “all value is summed up in the liturgy, the supreme act by which we commune with God.” Considered by the Catholic Faith to be “the source and summit” of its identity and mission, the Eucharist is the central practice of the Church’s culture. Father Barron describes all the parts of the Mass, and shows how the Sacred Liturgy embodies the whole of the Faith in diverse places as Jerusalem, Rome, Chicago, Orvieto, Mexico City.

Episode Eight: “A Vast Company of Witnesses: The Communion of Saints” - April 15

The story of the Church is told in the examples of those men and women who dedicated their lives to knowing and serving Jesus Christ. The Catholic Faith is made visible in real human lives. Father Barron gives consideration to some of the Church’s greatest heroes, and demonstrates how their extraordinary examples display both the passion and creative potential of the Catholic Church. Highlighting Katharine Drexel, Therese of Lisieux, Edith Stein, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Father Barron tells the story of the Church as a vast company of witness who are called by Christ to be a Communion of Saints.

Episode Nine: “The Fire of His Love: Prayer and the Life of the Spirit” - April 22

In this lesson, Father Barron explores Catholic spirituality, which is centered on prayer. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: “Prayer is the lifting up of the mind and the heart to God.” On pilgrimage to the places where the great saints and spiritual masters lived, Father Barron explores the different types of prayer: contemplation; adoration; petition; and intercession. In telling the stories of Catholics like Thomas Merton, St. Theresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross, Fr. Barron demonstrates how the human person can be transformed through prayer that manifests a deep, spiritual commitment centered in Christ.

Episode Ten: “World Without End: The Last Things” - April 29

Explore the Church’s conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come – a supernatural destiny. Father Barron presents the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as he journeys to Florence, Ireland and Rome. The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Father Barron shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.