



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.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

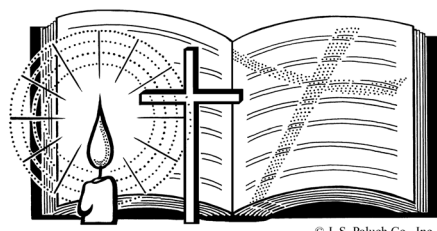
PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN www.nccw.org



**Second Sunday
of
Lent
March 16, 2014**

“Christ Jesus . . . destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

– 2 Timothy 1:10b

*Mass for the
Intentions for the
Week*

Saturday, March 15 – 4:30 p.m.

Dominick Natalie – 4th Anniversary
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, March 16 – 8:00 a.m.

Theresa Marcello (Josephine Briggs)

Sunday, March 16 – 10:30 a.m.

Rita Thiery – 2nd Anniversary
(Husband & Family)

Monday, March 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Diane E. Olinatz
(Family)

Tuesday, March 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Paul E. Franklin
(Wife Claire)

Wednesday, March 19– 7:30 a.m.

**In Thanksgiving and In Honor of St. Joseph
and In Memory of Father Ron Osborne**

Thursday, March 20– 7:30 a.m.

Francis Vance
(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Saturday, March 22 – 4:30 p.m.

Andre Charron
(Wife Lise)

Sunday, March 23 – 8:00 a.m.

Francis & Olga Ostrowski
(Francis – 13th Anniv. & Olga – 37th Anniv.)
(Family)

Sunday, March 23 – 10:30 a.m.

Jean-Nil Hugron (Suzanne Martel & Family)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (March 9):	\$ 5,324
What We Need:	\$ 7,317
Parish School Support:	\$ 1,685

SNOW REMOVAL DONATIONS

We wish to express our gratitude to those parishioners who so kindly and generously responded to our call for help to offset the high cost of snow removal we've experienced this winter. Donations totaling \$885 have been received. If you would like make a donation, we invite you to make one in any amount that is comfortable for you. You may place your donation in an envelope marked "Snow Removal" and put it in any weekend's collection basket. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

It is never too late to commit ourselves to try to be more holy, and to try to be better stewards of the incredible gifts we have received from the Lord. Today's Gospel gives us just a glimpse of the glory which awaits in Heaven. St. Peter's offer to construct three shelters to preserve this Heavenly experience and Jesus' ignoring that is a reminder to us that we cannot have Heaven on earth. Nevertheless, this Lenten season is a time for us to seek holiness and commit to lives of stewardship as we await and seek our eternal reward.

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
Eleanor G. Curran**
(The Tardiff Family)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For Us All That We Accept God's Invitation
This Lent to Enter the Desert and Just BE**

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

SOUP AND STATIONS

Our *Soup & Stations* is a sharing of simple soup and bread (with conversation and sharing with fellow parishioners) at 5:30 p.m. in our church hall followed by Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:30 p.m. in our church This will take place on the following Wednesday evenings during the season: March 12, 19, 26 and April 2. Children from our parish school and religious education program will lead us once again in the Stations.



So...dig out your favorite soup recipes and mark your calendars to keep Wednesday evenings free. "Be church" with us and get to know the people in your church family.

Volunteers are needed to prepare soup and/or bread for each Wednesday. You may simply bring with you to the church hall the item you wish to share on the Wednesday evening that works best for you. Soup and bread are all we will need. No desserts please.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLY THURSDAY

During the Mass of the Lord's Supper being celebrated at 7:00 p.m. on Holy Thursday, April 17, there is the ritual of the washing of the feet. We are seeking up to 12 volunteers who are interested in participating in this ritual and having their feet washed. Please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692 or at stchrisre@gmail.com if you are interested.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The 2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are continued and carried forward. If you would like to make a gift, simply mail in your pledge card. (Extra Appeal packets are available at the main entrance of our church.) You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at archdioceseofhartford.org, or call the Appeal Office at 800-781-2550. Prayerfully consider supporting this year's Appeal.

GIFT CARDS

After All Masses This Weekend!

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards after all Masses this weekend, March 15 and 16. 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.



HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A CALL TO THE PRIESTHOOD?

If you have ever thought that God might be calling you to the priesthood, now is a time to explore that calling. We invite men 18 years and older to come and spend some time exploring and discerning God's call in a relaxed and peaceful environment. Friday, March 21 at 6:00 p.m. through Sunday, March 23 at 12:00 noon. Montfort House at Lourdes, 83 Montfort Road, Litchfield, CT. For reservations call the Vocation Office at 860-242-5573. Cost for the weekend is \$40.

**FIFTY & FABULOUS
15th Annual Auction
Saturday ~ April 5**



Our parish school will be holding its 15th Annual Auction on Saturday, April 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Murphy Hall in St. Christopher School. It's an evening for adults that's full of fun, good food, great items up for bid, raffles and excitement. Silent & Live Auction. Tickets are \$25 per person / \$20 per person for Seniors (65 & up). Tickets may be obtained online by going to www.saintchristopherschool.org or by calling the school at 860-568-4100.

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

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



LIVING STATIONS

The dramatic presentation of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection has become a beautiful tradition here at St. Christopher parish; we hope this tradition will never cease. The Living Stations cannot happen without the involvement of many people from our St. Christopher community. What are the needs? We need folks to portray the various individuals that played a role in the Stations of the Cross: Jesus, Mary, Simon, Veronica, Pilate, Roman soldiers, and various citizens of Jerusalem. We also need a narrator and numerous readers. The presentation will be Good Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. We typically have an organizational meeting at the start of Holy Week and a dress rehearsal in the middle of Holy Week. If you are willing to help make this a reality, please contact Phil or Alice Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net.

"CATHOLICISM" SERIES

You're invited, ALL are invited (yes, **you** reading this!). Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in our church hall from February 25 – April 29. Join us anytime! 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 about each week's episode can be found on our website at www.stchris-eh.org. Select the "Catholicism Series" link on the left. For more info., contact Dan Valente at 860-384-5097 or at valentedmsc@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU!

To the Parishioners of St. Christopher Church,

I can't thank you enough for the support you have given St. Christopher School over the past fifty years. This community has been so kind and generous to the children. On March 2, we were honored to have Archbishop Leonard P. Blair celebrate our 50th Anniversary Mass. Once again, the St. Chris community was there providing us support through their presence, prayer and wonderful offerings of food. Thank you for all that you have done for our parish school. We are blessed to have you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen E. Madej, Principal
St. Christopher School

THE NONVIOLENT LIFE

Mark your calendars! St. Bridget's in Manchester will host acclaimed author and peace advocate John Dear on Friday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. Nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Rev. Desmond Tutu, John is known throughout the world as an ardent voice and witness for nonviolence. John is a popular speaker, lecturer, retreat leader, and the author/editor of 30 books. John's most recent book, *The Nonviolent Life*, will be available for purchase and signing at the presentation.

In the book, John maps out a simple vision of nonviolence that any of us can follow. How can I become more nonviolent toward myself, my family, my community, and my world? Like Jesus, John challenges us to become the people of peace that our world desperately seeks. Let's take up this call to peace together.



This week, CRS Rice Bowl invites us to enter into solidarity with the people of Kenya and Guatemala. We are encouraged to reflect on the Catholic social teaching principles of *Sacredness and Dignity of the Human Person* and *Rights and Responsibilities*. We're reminded that our inherent dignity comes from our creation as children of God and not from any of our own actions and that as Christians, we are called to uphold and protect the basic rights of others. Let us pray this week for our brothers and sisters in Kenya and Guatemala and all around the world, that we may respect and uphold the sacredness of life and dignity of all people and come to know and protect the rights of all people.

INTO THE DESERT...

Last week we entered the season of Lent. This season is usually known for its invitation to enter the desert...to make space...to be quiet...to pray...to meditate. The music ministers performed a piece last weekend as a prelude to each Mass, but I am not sure you were able to truly understand the words they sang. The words speak so beautifully to the season...to the invitation we receive from our God to enter the desert and just BE. I thought I would share the words with you this week so you could use them, if you like, in your daily prayer this season. Enjoy.

Come, Beloved and rest your mind;
Leave the things of this world behind.
Here I will be your daily bread...all that you need.

Into the desert I will lead;
Here in the silence, my Word will speak.
And you will find the strength you need;
Here in the desert.

Stay, Beloved and lose your fear;
There is healing and mercy here.
Here I will be a living stream...all that you need.

Into the desert I will lead;
Here in the silence, my Word will speak.
And you will find the strength you need;
Here in the desert.

From this desert your life will bloom;
Out of despair is hope renewed.
And from this death you shall arise...arise with me!

Into the desert I will lead;
Here in the silence, my Word will speak.
And you will find the strength you need;
Here in the desert.

– Peace be your journey, Charleen

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

It is beginning to warm up and summer is just around the corner. St. Christopher's will be holding Vacation Bible Camp from **June 23 – June 27**. This year we are building our program with the addition of a Pre-School and Middle School program. If you would like more information or if you would like to register please visit our new website stchrisvbc.weebly.com or pick up a registration form at the back of the church.



JOYFUL GESTURERS

Calling all children ages eight and older...teenagers welcome too! Brand-new to St. Christopher's Parish, our very own youth praise team! "Joyful Gesturers" is looking for boys and girls ages 8 and up who would love to praise God with movement! No dance experience required! We will be focusing on movements & gestures (similar to those used in the song we sing at Vacation Bible Camp). If there are children who are interested in participating with true dancing, we will be happy to incorporate that in as well for those children. Our "Joyful Gesturers" will share their praise movements periodically throughout the year. It is NOT a weekly commitment. Since it is brand new, we will play it by ear, but we don't want families to think it is a huge commitment. We will be coordinating with the children's liturgy committee and music ministry teams to see how and when we can best praise God with our movements! My vision is to share our talents a few times a year, but it will be a work in progress to see what fits our parish families best! If your child, son or daughter, is interested, please call me, Bridget Cooke, at 860-202-3692.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

Let the light in this Lenten season by going to confession. Every Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation Mondays from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit Light4you.info.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

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



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.