



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
 Scott Gay, Grand Knight – 860-670-8898

PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

www.nccw.org



**Fourth Sunday
of
Easter**

May 11, 2014

“He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.”

– 1 Peter 2:24a

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 10 – 4:30 p.m.

Dinis Leonardo

(Wife & Family)

Sunday, May 11 – 8:00 a.m.

Joseph Leonardo

(Mom & Daughters)

Sunday, May 11 – 10:30 a.m.

Mildred Buccino

(Richard & Mary Burke)

Monday, May 12 – 7:30 a.m.

Veronica Vance

(Pamela Vance & Carol Stacey)

Tuesday, May 13 – 7:30 a.m.

Frank Wroniak

(Grandparents)

Wednesday, May 14 – 7:30 a.m.

Joseph Bernard Burns – 23rd Anniversary

(Carolyn & Joe Kronen)

Thursday, May 15 – 7:30 a.m.

Kenneth Johnson

(Virginia Mallon)

Saturday, May 17 – 4:30 p.m.

Roland L. Pepin – 3rd Anniversary (Children)

Sunday, May 18 – 8:00 a.m.

Anita Hebert (Solange & Gilles Hebert)

Sunday, May 18 – 10:30 a.m.

Alfred P. Granato (Dave & Chickie Amberg)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (May 4):	\$ 6,418
What We Need:	\$ 7,317

PARISH SCHOOL SUPPORT

The second collection at all Masses this weekend supports our parish school. Thank you!

JESUS – OUR GOOD SHEPHERD

Jesus knows each of us by name and has called each of us individually. In today’s Gospel Jesus is more than the shepherd; He is also the gatekeeper. We are called by name, but we must respond to that call, and we must recognize that it is through the gatekeeper, through Jesus, that we can gain access to heaven and to holiness. Jesus is more than the shepherd and the doorkeeper though. He is also the door itself. In some cases there were sheepfolds in the fields used exclusively by a particular shepherd and his flock. After the sheep were inside for the night, the shepherd would literally lay across the door to protect them. That is Jesus to us; He is not only our shepherd and the one who controls the entrance, He is the door itself. It is well to remember on this Fourth Sunday of Easter what the Lord first told us: “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

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 Jeanne Phipps

(Beverly Connors)

✠ The candle in the chapel burns this week

For Young Men and Women

That God may give them the gift of understanding to discern their service in the Church, the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrate life; and for the gift of courage to follow His call.

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

Prayer for Mother's Day

Thank you God for all mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, and those who have provided love, support, time and talents to each of us. We ask for your blessing on those living and not living and for mothers to be. We pray they always turn to you in times of joy and sorrow and that they continue to be a source of strength in leading us to you. May all mothers know your loving and gentle presence. We ask this in your name. Amen.



Fr. Curran, Deacons Ed Giard and Tom Breen, and the entire parish staff wish all the mothers of our parish a Happy Mother's Day!



Our parish is helping to make a difference in the lives of millions of people around the world suffering from poverty and hunger. To ensure that our Rice Bowl donations will be put to use as soon as possible, please return your Rice Bowl to the collection box at the front of our church by May 18. Thank you for your generosity!

HAPPY 65th ANNIVERSARY!

On May 14, Tom and Jill Hurley will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary. We join with their family and friends in offering our sincere congratulations, along with our prayers for God's blessing on them and their loved ones.

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Registration Deadline: May 31

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 both a Pre-School and a Middle School program. For more information or to register, please visit our website stchrisvbc.weebly.com.

FOOD BANK REPORT

For April 2014

Requests: 35 Adults: 51 Children: 22

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

HOMEFRONT

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

Another HomeFront project completed and I have many people to thank. First I want to thank Fr. Curran, Deacon Ed and Deacon Tom for supporting our participation in the HomeFront project. Next our House Captain, Norm Cote who joyfully expended so much energy and time to help make our HomeFront ministry successful and our Assistant House Captain, Tony Sousa who was such a valuable asset to the success of this project; Tony does a great job of keeping us on task! Although an aggregate thank you to our tremendous crew might be adequate, I feel compelled to mention each by name: Roger Messier, David Boardman, Barbara Ruocchio, Roger Dionne, Howard Wilmes, Kevin Hadyka, Dave & Chickie Amberg, Lori Brunette, Steve Araujo, Frank Vignati, Sharon Hayward, Frank Ivancsics, Rich Kehoe, Claudette & Larry Flanigan, Steven Heath, Catherine & Michael Aboumrad, Real & Nathalie Laprise, Andrew Sargent, Ashleigh Sargent, Ernie & Toni Intel, Deacon Tom Breen, Dan Valente, a teacher at St. Christopher School and two of his students, Samantha Bessette and Austin Heath.

Thank you to Joanne and Philip Hadyka for preparing and delivering lunch for our hungry crew and Kristie Sargent for donating and delivering coffee, donut holes and donuts to get us off to a great start! A very special thanks to Lori Brunette for planning all the landscaping efforts as well as securing donations from Home Depot, Target, Leonard's Farm & Greenhouse and Agway – thank you donors! Thank you to Bonnie Szalay for all she does to make things happen behind the scene. And last, but not least, thank you to the St. Christopher parish community for financially supporting our efforts through the special collection for HomeFront and for your prayers! Thank you and God bless you all! Peace,

– Phil Gosselin, Volunteer Coordinator

HOMEFRONT COLLECTION

We are pleased to report that a total of \$1,182 was collected last weekend which will be used to help offset the required Team Sponsorship Donation that helped to make this year's HomeFront project possible. Thank you for your generosity!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer is observed each year on what is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The purpose of this day is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. For more information about vocations, please contact Fr. Anthony Smith in the Vocation office at 860-242-5573 or by email at frsmith@aohct.org.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Building Hope... Providing Help

This month, after years of study, seven men are being ordained to the priesthood. During their years of preparation for this vocation, they were supported by family and friends – and by everyone who made a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. When you make a gift to the Appeal, **you** help meet the cost of priestly formation and education. Please support our seminarians by making a gift to the Appeal today. For more information please visit the Appeal website at archdioceseofhartford.org. If you have not yet made your gift or pledge, please pray about your decision and consider making a pledge or one-time gifts. Simply mail in your pledge card. (Extra Appeal packets are available at the main entrance of our church.) If you have already sent in your gift, thank you! Every gift makes a difference.

EDUCATION AND CRAFT FAIR

An Education and Craft Fair will be held at Holy Apostles College and Seminary, 33 Prospect Hill Rd, Cromwell on Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 a.m. –12:00 noon. Lots of used books, homemade crafts, baked goods and much more! Free admission, free goodie bags and kids are welcome. For more information contact Grace at 610-256-8422 or at mommygm@gmail.com.



(III) Eric Anthony Proia & Nicole Marie Donato



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our monthly Children's Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall. We invite everyone to attend and to bring a baked good to share. Food donations can be dropped off in the church hall prior to Mass.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Next week our parish will take up the Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). This Collection communicates the Gospel through Catholic social media activities and enriches our faith through Internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of all proceeds will remain in our Archdiocese and support local needs, so please be generous in this collection. CCC equips us to share our experience of faith, worship, and witness with the world.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and have it to the full." Good stewards are grateful for the gift of life and joyfully share their abundance with others.



PENTECOST SUNDAY

We are seeking individuals who would be interested and willing to serve as readers at our 10:30 a.m. Mass on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. Several readers are needed to proclaim the Old and New Testament readings as well as the General Intercessions in different languages! The variety of languages expresses the Church's catholicity, that is, her universality. People of every race, nation, and tongue enrich the Church. At Pentecost, from many languages and peoples, God brought together in unity the Church. If you would like to assist us, please contact the parish office at stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net or at 860-568-5240.

MOUNT ST. JOSEPH REUNION

The Mount St. Joseph Academy Class of 1964 will hold its 50th reunion on Saturday, September 20, 2014. The committee is seeking all fellow graduates. Please call Barbara Sullivan at 860-224-1581 for details.

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER



This weekend we have the opportunity to support Birthright's service to pregnant women in crisis. Members of St. Christopher's Pro-Life Committee will distribute baby bottles (one per family) after all Masses this weekend as part of a fundraiser for Birthright. We ask that you take the bottle home, fill it with coins, cash or a check and return it to the specially marked baskets by Sunday, June 1. As you will see from the insert inside the bottle, you may make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one. Birthright will send an acknowledgement card of your gift of life.

This is a great opportunity for our church families to have hands-on involvement in a project that saves the lives of unborn children and makes a lasting difference in the mothers' lives. Birthright thanks you for any help you can give.

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK

To my fellow parishioners,

I want to thank you once again for all your notes, cards, words of love and support, Masses and donations made in my mom's memory. Though I am not able to respond to you in person, I want you to know how much you and these acts of kindness have helped me. Let's continue to pray for one another.

All my love, Fr. Curran



GIFT CARDS

Next Weekend After All Masses

Volunteers from our parish school will be selling gift cards again after all the Masses the weekend of May 17 and 18. **This is will be the last weekend of after Mass sales until school resumes in the fall.** Please help support our parish school by buying gift cards for gifts and/or for your everyday purchases. For more information contact school volunteer Ania at 860-569-0686 or at simpsonania@sbcglobal.net.

COUNTING SHEEP

*"When at night you cannot sleep,
talk to the Shepherd and stop counting sheep."*

– Anonymous

BLESSING BAGS

We are collecting items for the homeless. Each student at Saint Christopher School will receive a blessing bag to put in their family's car. When they see a homeless person on the streets and don't have anything to give them, they can give them a blessing bag, which contains everyday personal care items. Also included will be information about soup kitchens, homeless shelters, notes of inspiration, and prayer cards.

We especially need to collect gallon size Ziploc bags, prayer cards, and rosaries. The following items will help make this project a success: small sticks of deodorant, single packages of bar soap, mini/travel size shampoo, travel size tooth paste, toothbrushes, granola bars, Chap Stick or lip balm, 12 oz. bottles of water, tube socks, and combs. **All items need to be collected by Sunday, May 18, 2014.** Please place all donations in the box marked "Blessing Bags" in the church hall.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Dan Valente, Religion teacher at our parish school at valented@saintchristopherschool.org or call him at 860-384-5097.

God bless you and thank you for your generosity!

– The 8th Grade Class of 2014

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 bcr29@hotmail.com or call her at 860-432-1530.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

The 5th Annual Bishop Peter Rosazza Social Justice Conference will be held at St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol on Saturday, June 14 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Conference includes a Nationally-Recognized Keynote Speaker, Fair Trade Food and Craft Sale, Workshops and Exhibits, Information, Conversation and Inspiration! For more information and to register by June 9, visit them at: www.catholicsocialjustice.org/2014-conference.html