



## 2014 Thanksgiving Prayer

from  
**Archbishop Leonard Blair**

O God, ever good and merciful,  
look graciously upon us as we celebrate Thanksgiving Day.

Our nation has been richly blessed,  
and we thank You for the necessities of life  
that so many of us enjoy in abundance.

May we never take these gifts for granted  
or forget that they come from You, the Creator and Author of Life.

We pray for those among us who suffer  
as a result of material, spiritual or moral poverty.  
Enkindle in us a greater charity toward our neighbor in need,  
and help us as a people to build  
a more just and peaceful society and world.

We pray in a special way for those who are persecuted  
for their faith throughout the globe.

Thank you, Father, for all Your blessings,  
In the Name of Christ Our Lord. Amen.

# St. Christopher Parish

538 Brewer Street • East Hartford, CT 06118

860-568-5240 (Office) • 860-568-0673 (Fax)

E-mail: [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.stchris-eh.org](http://www.stchris-eh.org)



Fr. Tim S. Hickey

Deacon Thomas F. Breen

## MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sundays: 8:00, 10:30 a.m.  
Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.  
Holy Days: As announced



## CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.  
or by appointment



## WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Exposition and  
Adoration • Scriptural Rosary •  
Perpetual Novena in Honor of Our  
Lady of the Miraculous Medal •  
Benediction



## BAPTISM

By appointment; please call  
the parish office at  
860-568-5240 to schedule.



## MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish  
office at 860-568-5240  
at least six months in  
advance of your intended  
wedding date.



## OFFICE MANAGER

Bonnie Szalay  
860-568-5240



## ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

Mrs. Kathleen Madej, *Principal*  
Audrey Cesana, *Secretary*  
[www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org)  
860-568-4100



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Maria Sousa, *Coordinator*  
860-895-8692  
[stchrisre@gmail.com](mailto:stchrisre@gmail.com)



**Our Lord  
Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe**  
November 23, 2014

*“I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink.”*

– Matthew 25:35



Please contact the parish office to schedule a Mass intention. The suggested offering for a weekday Mass is \$15 and \$25 for a weekend Mass.

Saturday, November 22 – 4:00 p.m.

**Deceased Members of the Carrubba Family**  
(*The Miano Family*)

Sunday, November 23 – 8:00 a.m.

**Mary Kelley Maloney**  
(*The Murphy Family*)

Sunday, November 23 – 10:30 a.m.

**David Markie** (*Mom & Family*)

Monday, November 24 – 7:30 a.m.

**Vincent Mondo** (*Suzanne Martel*)

Tuesday, November 25 – 7:30 a.m.

**Molly McGlinchey – 2nd Anniversary**  
(*Daughter Colette & Rene Letourneau*)

Wednesday, November 26 – 7:30 a.m.

**Paul E. Franklin** (*Wife Claire*)

Thursday, November 27 – 9:00 a.m.

**Parish Mass of Thanksgiving**

Friday, November 28 – 7:30 a.m.

**Deceased Priests of the Archdiocese**

Saturday, November 29 – 4:00 p.m.

**Paul Crowley – 9th Anniversary**  
(*Wife Irene*)

Sunday, November 30 – 8:00 a.m.

**Rev. James H. Smith** (*Marjorie Macko*)

Sunday, November 30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Lucille Serruto – 6th Anniversary**  
(*Husband & Family*)

### PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (November 16):	\$ 5,434
What We Need for General Expenses:	\$ 7,317

**NO CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION**  
Please be advised that we will not be taking up the Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection.

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.” Jesus does not make it easy for any of us when He says that. Even those of us who practice stewardship faithfully, even the best among us, have times when we may turn our backs on those in need. The Solemnity that we celebrate today is popularly known as Christ the King.

It is in Church terms relatively new. Instituted in 1921 by Pope Pius XI, it was originally on the last Sunday of October. It was renamed in 1969 by Pope Paul VI and moved to its present date, which is the last Sunday in the liturgical year, the last Sunday before Advent. The edict issued by Pope Pius XI in 1925 was called *Quas Primas*. It stated “It has long been a custom to give to Christ the metaphorical title of ‘King.’ He is King of Hearts by reason of His ‘charity which exceedeth all knowledge’.”

Today’s readings trace our Lord Jesus Christ from “the shepherd who tends his flock” to the “first fruits” to the “king.” As stewards of His Word, His Kingdom, and His Hope, He invites us to see Him in everyone we see and everyone we encounter so that we can finally hear His glorious declaration, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father.”

– [www.thecatholicsteward.com](http://www.thecatholicsteward.com)

### 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**  
(*Lillian Jones & Janette Forte*)



### THANKSGIVING DAY

**Parish Mass – 9:00 a.m.**

The parish Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27, 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.

### THE GUILD OF ST. AGNES

The Guild of St. Agnes wishes to thank you for your support during their membership drive. As we remember you and yours in prayer at our monthly Mass, may the Lord bless you. Thank you again.

– Marion Sullivan, Parish Representative

### SEMINAR ON ASSISTED SUICIDE

Connecticut Catholic Alliance is sponsoring an Advent Seminar at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell on Saturday, December 6 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Speaker: Sister Suzanne Gross, Pro-life Director, Hartford Archdiocese speaking on “Death and Dying, What’s Wrong with Assisted Suicide?” Registration: 9:30 a.m. \$15. 12:00 Mass, celebrant Father John Paul LC. For more info call Maryalyce Lee at 203-272-9421.

St. Christopher Church Hall

**Friday ~ December 5, 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).



### PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

One of the spiritual works of mercy is to pray for the dead. During the month of November, it is traditional to pray for our deceased friends and family. The envelopes on the altar record the names of your friends and relatives that were submitted to the parish on All Souls’ Day. They will be remembered at every Mass through the remainder of the month.

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Our parish is actively seeking students in **Grades 4 and above** who are interested in becoming an Altar Server. If you would like to learn more about the Altar Server ministry, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail to [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net). A training session will be held in the near future.



### FAIR TRADE SALES

**After All Masses this Weekend**

Fair Trade items will be available for purchase at wholesale prices after all Masses this weekend. We’ve expanded our inventory this month, so please come by the church hall to see what’s available. These items make great hostess gifts! Your purchase of Fair Trade items helps small farmers remain an active part of the world’s marketplace.

### UPDATE ON THE ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to the hundreds of parishioners who have made a commitment to our parish through the Annual Appeal. We are most thankful to each of you for your generosity, and it is heartening to see each day’s mail and your gifts.

This past week a reminder mailing was sent to all registered parishioners who have not — as of this writing — returned their pledge form or contribution. Our goal for this Annual Appeal is 100% participation from our families — regardless of the amount! We can get there with your help. If you have not given yet, please prayerfully consider making a commitment to our parish. If you’ve misplaced your pledge card, extra appeal packets are available at the main entrance to the church

Remember all funds collected will be used here at Saint Christopher’s as we continue to expand our programs and activities. Thank you for the deep love you have for this parish.

### COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

East Hartford Interfaith Ministries, of which St. Christopher’s is a member, is holding a Community Thanksgiving Worship service this Sunday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Isaac Jogues Church, 1 Community Street, East Hartford. Non-perishable food items collected will benefit our town’s soup kitchen. Monetary donations will benefit the EHIM Human Needs Fund.

### HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

We want to update our list of homebound parishioners. If your relative or neighbor can no longer join us for Mass on the weekend, please call the parish office with this information during the month of November. This is especially helpful for arranging Communion calls and other pastoral visits.

### MUSIC NEWS

Next weekend we will welcome the parish's new music director/organist, Roberta De Fiore. Roberta comes to us after years of faithful and fruitful service in parishes throughout the archdiocese. Roberta has had extensive voice training and choral conducting experience, and has studied piano, organ and opera. Her many professional accomplishments include: directing multi-cultural and bilingual (English/Spanish) liturgical Christmas concerts and Holy Week liturgies, directing a bilingual children's choir, directing an ecumenical festival choir and presenting choral programs at nursing homes. Additionally, Roberta is a private vocal and piano teacher offering instruction for everyone ages 7 to adult. St. Christopher's is hugely blessed to have Roberta De Fiore on staff; her talent, her striving for excellence through music, and her appreciation of hymn selection and liturgy planning are huge assets.

### 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 next weekend, November 29 and 30. If you are interested, please call Bonnie at the Parish Office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail to the parish office at stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net.

### ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Monday ~ December 1 ~ 12:00 Noon**

If you are a Social Club member and have not already signed up for the Christmas Party, our Telephone Committee will be contacting you. If you have not heard from them, please contact Joan or Frank at the number below as soon as possible. The meal is catered, and we would like a head count as soon as possible. Cost is \$5 for members. We will gather in the church hall for a wonderful meal catered by Casa Mia, followed by musical entertainment and surprises. Don't forget to bring your toy for the toy collection. All you snowbirds are encouraged to pay your \$10 dues for 2015 before you fly away to warmer climates. Do you have questions regarding the club? Please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

### GIFT CARDS

**After All Masses this Weekend**



Gift cards will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekends. These cards not only make great gifts, but also are great for you to use to make everyday purchases such as groceries, gas, etc. You can help support our parish school by purchasing these gift cards. For more information, please contact school volunteer Ania Simpson at 860-966-9825 or at simpsonania@sbcglobal.net.

**NOTE:** With the holiday season approaching and for your convenience, gift cards will be available for purchase after all Masses the weekends of December 6/7, 13/14 and 20/21.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

St. Christopher School Cafeteria

**Sunday, December 7 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

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 stchrissha@gmail.com by December 5.



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

**Alexander Christian Vega**

### EAST CATHOLIC ENTRANCE EXAM

The entrance exam for eighth graders will be given on Saturday, December 6, at 8:00 a.m. at East Catholic High School. Pre-registration for the exam is advised but not required. Visit [www.echs.com](http://www.echs.com) or call their Admissions office at 860-649-5336, ext. 6456 for more information.

### SPONSOR A CHILD CAMPAIGN

Students from our parish school and religious education program are asking for your help by donating any pennies you may have lying around at home. Containers marked "SPONSOR A CHILD CAMPAIGN" have been placed at the entrances to our church. Please help our students by donating your pennies to sponsor children in the Diocese of Kumbakonam, India. **UPDATE:** You have already donated \$283 towards this campaign. \$200 provides a child with food, lodging and education for one full year. \$100 provides the same for six months.

## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

<b>Sunday</b> Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b> First Sunday of Advent
Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17	Revelations 14:1-3, 4b-5	Revelations 14: 14-19	Revelations 15: 1-4	Sirach 50: 22-24	Revelations 20: 1-4, 11-21:2	Revelations 22: 1-7	Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Psalms 23: 1-3, 5-6	Psalms 24: 1bc-4ab, 5-6	Psalms 96: 10-13	Psalms 98: 1-3ab, 7-9	Psalms 145: 2-11	Psalms 84: 3-6a, 8a	Psalms 95: 1-7ab	Psalms 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28				1 Corinthians 1: 3-9			1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Matthew 25: 31-46	Luke 21: 1-4	Luke 21: 5-11	Luke 21: 12-19	Luke 17: 11-19	Luke 21: 29-33	Luke 21: 34-36	Mark 13: 33-37

### What is Lectio Divina?

While reading sacred scripture, read the words with a love and sense of discovery until something seems to strike home. Sit with the passage as one would with a good friend-not just thinking or analyzing, but instead remaining in a quiet, listening spirit, so the word can nurture and challenge you.

**Call to Prayer:** "Let us take a moment in the midst of all our activity to prepare ourselves for prayer."

Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW  
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www.paulistpress.com

**The Word of God:** Choose one of next Sunday's readings. One person reads the scripture aloud as others are attentive to a word, phrase, or theme that is meaningful to them. Allow for a minute of silent reflection. Have another person read the same scripture a second time.

**Faith Sharing:** Begin with an open ended question such as "What strikes you from this reading?" and/or you can use the "Reflection Question" found below. Allow time for reflection & sharing.

**Closing Prayer:** At the end of the faith sharing, invite participants to pray aloud for any particular petitions or praises they may have. Feel free to close with: The Lord's Prayer or spontaneous prayers or a faith-based song.

### Reflection for Next Sunday, November 30, 2014

For Your Reflection: There was a song popular a few years ago called "Constant Craving." Our desire is for the Infinite – for God himself. Still we settle time and again for less – to satisfy our cravings. Advent is a time to re-orient ourselves in Jesus, who alone satisfies our hungry hearts.



## PARISH CONTACTS

### PARISH TRUSTEES

Marie Gallo-Garabedian  
Richard "Mac" McCarthy

### PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Madeline Cassarino ~ 860-568-5023

### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Michael Munley ~ 860-683-8594

### SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Richard Oliveira ~ 860-568-2341

### SCHOOL ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR

Dr. Kate Darcy Hohenthal  
860-568-4975

### SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

Karen Santacross ~ 860-568-4975

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION

Kristina Gillespie – 860-895-8692  
E-mail: stchrisym@gmail.com

### MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Jean Nowik-Martocci ~ 860-568-8873

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Mary Priest ~ 860-569-0087

### HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Barbara Casey ~ 860-568-4638

### PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

Sue Ward ~ 860-633-2930  
toobusysue@gmail.com  
"...but she's never too busy to receive your prayer requests!"

### MINISTRY OF GREETERS and PRAYERSHAWL MINISTRY

Toni Amberg ~ 860-568-9069

### PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Phil Gosselin ~ 860-568-5001

### FOOD BANK MINISTRY

David Gaudreau ~ 860-569-4325

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**St. Christopher Council #4**  
Scott Gay, Grand Knight ~ 860-670-8898

### PARISH & SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

Dianne Rumsey

### CHURCH CUSTODIAN

Roger Dube

# News from Girl Scout Troop #10327

We are a Girl Scout Troop, based here at St. Christopher Church, with girls from 13 to 15 years old. Our primary focus this year is on community service, and we are presently working on a project, partnering with the Elks Club of Glastonbury.

The Elks Club is providing a dinner in early December for approximately 50 veterans from the Rocky Hill Home. We are working with the Elks to provide activity and comfort items. The veterans will be able to select from the variety of items that are provided and fill their personal needs.

Our troop is seeking product donations from companies and individuals to assist with this request. We will be holding a holiday wreath sale to assist in raising funds to provide the requested items. Kindly consider making a donation from the following list. If this is not convenient for you, you can choose to purchase a wreath, or make a cash donation.

We will be available in the church hall after the Thanksgiving Day Mass and after all Masses the weekends of November 29/30 and December 6/7 to accept your donations or to help you purchase a wreath. You may see more information about the wreath sale on the reverse side.

For more information, you may reach us at 860-597-9735.

Your contributions will be greatly appreciated!

## Veterans' Wish List

### **Recreational Items:**

Paint-By-Number Sets, "Fuzzy" Poster Art Kits (Adult Subjects), other adult craft kits  
Model kits, such as cars and planes, assembled without glue  
Sudoku, Crossword or Word Find Puzzle Books - large print  
Paperback Dictionaries  
Colored Markers  
Scenic Posters for rooms  
Ear Phones  
Scenic 2015 calendars

### **Sundries:**

Batteries (AA, AAA)

### **Comfort Items:**

Socks – Diabetic, Crew, Tube, Ankle or Dress  
Gloves/Baseball Caps/Belts  
Sweatshirts – XL, 2XL and 3XL



## **Balsam Christmas Wreath Sale** (Made at Botticello Farms)

Beautiful, locally made balsam Christmas wreaths are on sale beginning with the Thanksgiving Day Mass, and following all Masses through December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Live wreaths will be available for sale and immediate pickup; orders may also be placed for pickup by noon on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

If you wish to see a greater variety of wreaths, or need a different size, we will have available wreath coupons. Purchase a wreath coupon and bring it to Botticello Farms to shop from a wider selection.

Decorate your homes early for the holiday season.

Wreaths are available in 12" and 18" sizes and come with either a bow or fully decorated. Wreaths with bows are \$14.75 and \$26.50, fully decorated wreaths are \$19.50 and \$37.00.

Checks should be made payable to: GS of CT (Girl Scouts of Connecticut).

Thank you for your support!

