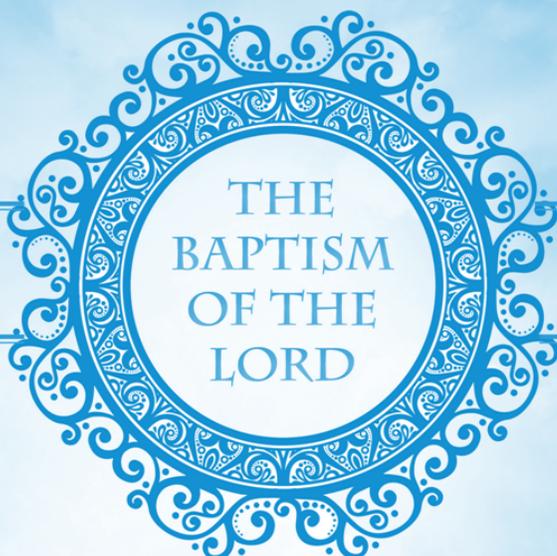


JANUARY 11, 2015



“One mightier than I  
is coming after me . . .  
I have baptized you  
with water;

he will baptize you  
with the Holy Spirit.”  
— Mark 1:7, 8

# 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)



**The Baptism  
of the Lord**

**January 11, 2015**

“All you who are thirsty, come to the water!”

– Psalm 72:11

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

Saturday, January 10 – 4:00 p.m.

**Frank Wroniak – 1st Anniversary**  
*(Grandparents)*

Sunday, January 11 – 8:00 a.m.

**Robert Boardman, Sr.**  
**In Remembrance of His Birthday**  
*(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, January 11 – 10:30 a.m.

**Bonnie St. Onge** *(Family)*

Monday, January 12 – 7:30 a.m.

**Edward T. Doyle** *(Sisters)*

Tuesday, January 13 – 7:30 a.m.

**Manuel Machado** *(Wife Maria)*

Wednesday, January 14 – 7:30 a.m.

**Mark Tardiff** *(Family)*

Thursday, January 15 – 7:30 a.m.

**John & Louise Olinatz** *(Children)*

Friday, January 16 – 7:30 a.m.

**Clarence Saucier** *(Wife & Family)*

Saturday, January 17 – 4:00 p.m.

**John St. Onge – 4th Anniversary**  
*(Wife Simone & Family)*

Sunday, January 18 – 8:00 a.m.

**Carmelo Gallo** *(Mike & Maria Gallo)*

Sunday, January 18 – 10:30 a.m.

**Antonio & Filomena Freitas**  
**Antonio & Maria Jacinta Sousa**  
**All Deceased Members of**  
**the Freitas & Sousa Families** *(Family)*

**PARISH SUPPORT**

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| What We Collected (January 4):     | \$ 4,607   |
| What We Need for General Expenses: | \$ 7,317   |
| Solemnity of Mary Collection:      | \$ 1,464   |
| What We Collected (December 28):   | \$ 5,033   |
| What We Need for General Expenses: | \$ 7,317   |
| Christmas Collection:              | \$ 12,704* |

\* includes one gift of \$2,500, one of \$1,000 and one of \$500.

Many thanks for your generous support of our parish through these collections.

Our thanks also to those parishioners who kindly sent in generous year-end gifts. Included were one gift of \$1,250 and one gift of \$500.

**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, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 or at stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and an appreciation of the Holy Trinity, we need to supplement that with our appreciation of two facets of our faith — prayer and liturgy. St. Therese of Lisieux called prayer “a surge of the heart.” Stewardship, of course, involves a conversion of the heart. Each of must strive for that conversion, and it is most easily accomplished through prayer and liturgy. – www.thecatholicsteward.com

**SNOW STORMS AND DAILY MASS**

Daily Mass will be offered at 7:30 a.m. regardless of any overnight or early morning snow storms this winter. However, those who attend daily Mass are urged to use prudence and caution in deciding whether or not to attend.

**SANCTUARY LAMPS**



The lamps beside our tabernacles remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. If you would like to schedule a weekly dedication for either the church or chapel sanctuary lamp, please call the parish office. The suggested offering for a lamp dedication is \$15.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING IS COMING!**

This weekend, January 10 and 11, after all the Masses, Mike Munley, our finance council president, will be in the Parish Wing giving a demonstration on how simple it is to enroll in our new online giving program. He will discuss the benefits to you and the parish when you sign up for online giving. If you have questions or are unsure about how it will work, please stay after Mass this weekend for this brief educational session.

**IN APPRECIATION**

To all of our faithful parishioners, friends & guests;

To all of our altar servers, lectors and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist;

To all our staff, ushers, teachers, volunteers and everyone who share their time, talent, or means in service of the Church; and

To all our choir members, organist/music director, cantors, and visiting musicians:

Thank you for your selfless dedication and service to St. Christopher Church and parish. It is your continued faith in action that makes us a strong and dynamic spiritual family. You are very much appreciated. Happy New Year!

~ Fr. Tim S. Hickey

**LORD WHEN WE PRAISE YOU  
WITH GLORIOUS MUSIC**

By Bryan Jeffery Leech

Lord, when we praise You with glorious music,  
Using our giftedness solely for You:  
When we return to You songs that exalt You,  
When they inspire all the things we do:  
Life has a fullness, Life has excitement,  
For we are learning the glory is Yours!  
And in our hearts we are looking for heaven,  
When we shall give You unceasing applause.

Please congratulate again the St Christopher Chancel Choir for their annual Christmas prelude concert, and another glorious success. With my sincerest admiration and unceasing applause for their good cheer, hard work and devotion. It is an honor and a privilege to direct them. Hats off!

~ Roberta H. De Fiore, Director of Music

**YOUR IDEAS NEEDED –  
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL**

St. Christopher Parish and School are exploring running a pre-K summer camp program. This would be an amazing opportunity for the school, plus a huge help to working parents who have to figure out what to do with their young ones during the day. We are putting together a committee to help get this initiative off the ground for this summer. If you want to lend your ideas and assistance, please contact school board member Travis Simpson at [Travis.Simpson@windstream.com](mailto:Travis.Simpson@windstream.com) or 860-966-9824. Your input is vital and time is of the essence. Please respond this week.

**2015 and 2016 MASS BOOKS**

We are now taking Mass intentions for 2015 and 2016. Please contact the parish office at your earliest convenience. The weekend Mass intentions fill up quite rapidly, so please call once you know when you would like a Mass to offered.

**FOOD BANK REPORT  
for December 2014**

Requests: 32 Adults: 45 Children: 16

Christmas Food Baskets: 62

We thank Elena Millstein and Sandra Shinder for their recent monetary donations to our food bank. We also thank all those who donated turkeys and non-perishable food items and those who kindly helped to pack and deliver the Christmas food baskets. We appreciate your support of our food bank so we can continue to help feed those in need!

**CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULES**

**Chancel Choir**

*(Students in Grades 6 – Adult)*

Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

**Children’s Choir**

*(Students in Grades 2 – 5)*

January 10 – February 7: Saturdays, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

February 14: No Rehearsal

February 21 and forward: Saturdays, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.



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

**Zia Elizabeth Clark**

### **A CALL TO SERVE**

At the start of a new year, please consider volunteering here at St. Christopher's. Open your heart and help serve those in need in our parish and community. We are always looking for additional lectors, choir members, "go-to" men and women for odd jobs and technical support, new members of the Knights of Columbus, etc. For more information on how you can make a difference, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240.

### **PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT EVENINGS**

The Vocation Office will be holding monthly Priesthood Discernment Evenings at St Thomas Seminary (467 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield CT) for men between the ages of 18 and 55 who would like to get information about the Catholic Priesthood and meet with other men who feel God might be calling them to serve as a priest. The next meeting is Thursday, January 22, 6:00-7:30. Pizza will be served. Please call the Vocation Office at 860-242-5573 for more information.

### **DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

Last month, the Little Sisters of the Poor appeared before an appeals court, asking the court to protect them from the federal health care mandate, because the mandate threatens their 175 years of service to the poor and dying. Let's pray for a decision that will honor our First Amendment right to religious freedom. 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 U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

### **CATHEDRAL MASS TO HONOR MLK**

On Monday, January 19 at 9:00 a.m., the Cathedral of St. Joseph will celebrate an Archdiocesan Mass in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy. Msgr. John J. McCarthy will be the celebrant and Deacon Arthur Miller will be the homilist. Everyone is welcome!

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

St. Christopher Church Hall  
Friday, February 13 ~ 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Call **1-800-Red Cross** to make an appointment.

### **PARISH SCHOOL AUCTION**

Our Annual St. Christopher Parish School Auction is coming up on Saturday, March 21, in our school auditorium. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with great food, raffles, silent and live auctions. The Annual Auction is our parish school's biggest fundraiser of the year and we would love the support of all our parishioners. If anyone would like to attend, place an ad in the evening's program book, become a sponsor, or donate an item for the silent or live auction (theatre or sports tickets, electronics, golf experiences, gift items, bottles of wine and other gifts), please contact Kate Darcy Hohenthal: 860-568-4100 or [darcyhohenthalk@saintchristopherschool.org](mailto:darcyhohenthalk@saintchristopherschool.org). Donated items can be dropped off at the school at any time! More information is available on our school's website at: [www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org). We hope to see many of you there!

### **PURGATORIAL SOCIETY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH**

This year at St. Christopher's we are inaugurating a new memorial program for you to honor your deceased loved ones. The "Purgatorial Society of St. Christopher Church" is an opportunity for you to have your loved one(s) remembered at a special Mass being celebrated at 8:30 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of every month all throughout the year.

The suggested donation for enrolling a deceased loved one is \$20. Please submit those names as soon as possible as the monthly Mass will commence on Saturday, January 24 at 8:30 a.m. Simply place your donation and the name of your loved one in an envelope in the collection basket, or visit the parish office to enroll your deceased loved one(s). You may enroll them at any time during the year, and their name will be added to the list of remembrances. We will acknowledge your enrollee with a special certificate.

The Church considers the Mass to be the greatest possible prayer of intercession insofar as it is the perfect offering of Christ to the Father. At the Purgatorial Society Masses we will ask Christ to intercede on behalf of your loved ones that *"Perpetual light will shine on them, and that their soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, will rest in peace."*

## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

| Sunday<br><small>The Baptism<br/>of the Lord</small> | Monday                       | Tuesday                 | Wednesday              | Thursday           | Friday                    | Saturday              | Sunday<br><small>Second Sunday in<br/>Ordinary Time</small> |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Isaiah 55:<br>1-11                                   | Hebrews 1:<br>1-6            | Hebrews 2:<br>5-12      | Hebrews 2:<br>14-18    | Hebrews 3:<br>7-14 | Hebrews 4:<br>1-5, 11     | Hebrews 4:<br>12-16   | 1 Samuel 3:<br>3b-10, 19                                    |
| Isaiah 12:<br>2-3, 4bcd, 5-6                         | Psalm 97:<br>1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9 | Psalm 8:<br>2ab, 5, 6-9 | Psalm 105:<br>1-4, 6-9 | Psalm 95:<br>6-11  | Psalm 78:<br>3, 4bc, 6c-8 | Psalm 19:<br>8-10, 15 | Psalm 40:<br>2, 4, 7-10                                     |
| 1 John 5:<br>1-9                                     |                              |                         |                        |                    |                           |                       | 1 Corinthians 6:<br>13c-15a, 17-20                          |
| Mark 1:<br>7-11                                      | Mark 1:<br>14-20             | Mark 1:<br>21-28        | Mark 1:<br>29-39       | Mark 1:<br>40-45   | Mark 2:<br>1-12           | Mark 2:<br>13-17      | John 1:<br>35-42  |

### 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, January 18, 2015

"What are you looking for?" That's the question Jesus poses to us in next week's Gospel. What are we looking for when we come to Mass? What are we looking for when we try to live as faithful Catholics? A New Year is a great time to start or recommit oneself to journeying with Jesus. "Come and you will see," is the Master's invitation to us.

## 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!"*

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roberta H. De Fiore ~ 203-630-9295  
E-mail: Roberta9700@yahoo.com

### 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