



# St. Christopher Parish

538 Brewer Street • East Hartford, CT 06118  
860-568-5240 (Parish 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  
*Administrator*

## MASS SCHEDULE

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



## 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



## FUNERALS

We will help you plan the Mass  
of Christian Burial for your loved  
one after arrangements have been  
made with a funeral home.



## BAPTISM

By appointment; please call  
the parish office to schedule.



## MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office  
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)



**Sunday  
of  
Divine Mercy**  
**April 12, 2015**

*“Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”*

– Psalm 118:17

*Mass for the  
Intentions for the  
Week*

Saturday, April 11 – 4:00 p.m.

**Jose Figueiredo** (*Wife Maria*)

Sunday, April 12 – 8:00 a.m.

**Emele Batista** (*Family & Friends*)

Sunday, April 12 – 10:30 a.m.

**Nancy Valente** (*Dave & Chickie Amberg*)

Monday, April 13 – 7:30 a.m.

**Mark Tardiff** (*Family*)

Tuesday, April 14 – 7:30 a.m.

**Lucien Lavertu**

(*Wife Joan & Children Paul & Carol*)

Wednesday, April 15 – 7:30 a.m.

**Rev. Joseph F. Gorman**

Thursday, April 16 – 7:30 a.m.

**Stanley Walter Kronen – 62nd Anniversary  
and Helen Kosiorek Kronen**  
(*Son Joe & Carolyn Kronen*)

Friday, April 17 – 7:30 a.m.

**Mary Rogosky Verotsky – 18th Anniversary  
and Charles George Verotsky**  
(*Daughter Carolyn & Joe Kronen*)

Saturday, April 18 – 4:00 p.m.

**Bill Mallon – 10th Anniversary** (*Wife & Children*)

Sunday, April 19 – 8:00 a.m.

**Joseph Chesery – 20th Anniversary**  
(*Daughter Madeline & Santo Cassarino*)

Sunday, April 19 – 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 (April 5): \$ 10,533\*

What We Need for General Expenses: \$ 7,317

What We Collected (March 29): \$ 6,052\*\*

What We Need for General Expenses: \$ 7,317

\*Includes \$789 received through our Online Giving program.

\*\*Includes \$543 received through our Online Giving program.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

For those who practice stewardship as a way of life every passage from Holy Scripture contains a stewardship message. That is especially true of today’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles which speaks to the sense of unity and teamwork of the early Church. The early believers in Christ, in total stewardship, did not claim earthly possessions as their own. As Christian stewards, we understand that all our gifts are to be shared with others and that people are more important than things. As difficult as this may be for us, that is to what we are called.

**ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE**

The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal (AAA) changes live through service to the Lord. In addition to assisting the underserved in our communities, your gift helps those discerning a vocation to priesthood. Next month, three more men will be ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Hartford and nearly 30 men are in seminary training. Your gift to the AAA is an investment in the future of our archdiocese, the Catholic Church and our faith. Thank you to the parish families and individuals who have made a gift or pledge to the 2015 AAA. If you have not yet made your pledge or gift, please prayerfully join in this campaign this week. Every dollar you give – no matter the amount! – is stretched to help the most people.



**SANCTUARY LAMP**

The lamp beside our tabernacle remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

✠ The candle in the church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of Jimmy Shepley**  
(*Grandmother*)

### **EASTER GRATITUDE**

Thanks to everyone who participated in any way in helping with our Holy Week and Triduum celebrations. My gratitude goes out to our altar servers and their parents who had them at the church for rehearsals as well as for the various liturgies • The men and women who clean the church and decorated it for Palm Sunday and Easter; there were many compliments on the beautiful flowers and the overall appearance of the church • Everyone who made memorial donations so we could purchase the wide variety of spring flowers • The Leonard family • Parishioners Dan McKennie/Birchwood Landscaping and Peter Marra/Peter Marra Landscaping, for all their work beautifying the parish campus prior to Easter • Parishioners Stephen Roczynski and Travis Simpson for helping hang the Easter banners (twice!) • The Poirier and Gay families for arranging the Easter egg hunt • The chancel and children's choirs and Music Director Roberta De Fiore • All those who participated in the Living Stations • Our ushers, readers and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist • And the St. Christopher Parish staff.

A parish thrives on prayer and service. During this Easter season, this time of rebirth and renewal, consider ways you might like to deepen your commitment to the parish. There are many standing committees in need of fresh insights, but there may be new ways to serve, so that together we can further the growth and mission of St. Christopher Parish.

As always, remember to pray for our parish family and ask God's blessings as we build his kingdom here. Please know that I am praying for you, and I ask for your prayers for me, that together through the intercession of St. Christopher, our patron, and united in the Eucharist, we will be Christ-bearers to all we meet and serve.

### **BECOME AN EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Would you like to serve St. Christopher's as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion? The Archdiocese of Hartford will be holding a training session for new eucharistic ministers in the afternoon on Sunday, April 26, at St. James Parish in Rocky Hill. If you feel that you may be called to serve the parish in this way, please contact Father Tim no later than April 15.

### **FROM LENT TO EASTER TO PENTECOST: Spiritual Growth Happens Every Day**

Now that we've finished Lent, many of you may wonder, what's next? How do I maintain the spiritual momentum I developed during Lent? The Easter season continues through the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday May 24. The best way to carry on spiritual progress is to commit to one practice right now. For instance, read through the Gospel of Mark, one chapter per day. Or once a week, spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament; we have Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday night beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by the praying of the rosary and our Miraculous Medal novena. Or decide to attend one extra Mass each week. Or pray one rosary each day, maybe in your car. All of these are simple, straightforward ways to deepen your spiritual life.

### **WORLD YOUTH DAY PASTA DINNER**

The next fundraiser to help the pilgrims from our parish who will be traveling to World Youth Day in Kraków, Poland will be a Pasta Dinner on Saturday, April 25 in the school gym, right after the 4:00 p.m. vigil Mass. There will be pasta, meatballs (beef and vegetarian), salad, bread and desserts. There will also be raffle prizes! The cost of tickets will be \$8 for adults, \$5 for children (ages 3-12), and \$25 maximum for a family. Tickets can be purchased this weekend after all Masses.

### **PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT EVENING**

The Archdiocese of Hartford Vocation Office will be holding its monthly Priesthood Discernment Evening on Thursday, April 16, 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 him and his Church as a priest. Pizza will be served. Please call the Vocation Office at 860-242-5573 for more information.

### **VACATION BIBLE CAMP**

**June 29 – July 3**

Registrations are now being accepted for this summer's Vacation Bible Camp being held from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. each day. Please visit our parish website ([stchris-eh.org](http://stchris-eh.org)) and click on the Vacation Bible Camp link on the left. Registration forms can also be found on the bulletin board in the church hall.

## **GOING THE DISTANCE FOR ST. CHRIS SCHOOL**

In the pews there are pledge envelopes for Father Tim's upcoming 350-mile bike pilgrimage for our parish school. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution using the envelope provided; pledges of prayer are also most welcome! You may also pledge online by visiting the parish Web site ([stchris-eh.org](http://stchris-eh.org)) and follow the "Online Giving" link and instructions from the home page.

## **HOMEFRONT DAY IS COMING!**

HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 2, will be upon us before we know it. For those who are not familiar with the HomeFront project, it is a community outreach, a one-day repair blitz for a neighbor in need, where St. Christopher Church will form a crew to perform necessary home repairs and the HomeFront organization provides the materials. The typical HomeFront recipient is elderly, disabled or a single parent and their total household income must qualify as low-income within their community.

If you would be willing to assist, there are many ways to get involved. We always need skilled persons such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc., but we also need folks who can do tasks such as raking, painting, pulling weeds, mowing the lawn, cleaning, etc.

Please consider assisting us with this very worthy project. A big part of the success of our project is feeding our hardworking crew with a simple lunch on HomeFront Day, and if possible, to provide them with some coffee and pastries or something similar in the morning while we are getting ready for our day. If there is a group in our parish or a parishioner who is a member of an outside organization that would assist us with these needs, we would be so grateful!

Also, in the near future we will be conducting a second collection to assist with the sponsorship fee that helps make HomeFront possible. Your donations assist our parish in making this outreach a reality. Thank you for your past and future support of this project of neighbor helping neighbor.

We can make a difference, but it won't happen without you. Please say **YES!** For more information or to volunteer, please contact Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or [imgoose@comcast.net](mailto:imgoose@comcast.net).

## **ST. CHRIS SUMMER CAMP**

This summer St. Christopher School will inaugurate its "St. Chris Cougar Cub Summer Program," a child-learning program for children ages 4 to 6. The summer camp will run daily from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., beginning June 22 and concluding August 14. The summer camp will include plenty of fun, educational activities built around weekly themes. There will also be ample time for outdoor play. The summer camp will offer a flexible weekly option format, which meets the needs of busy families during the summer break. In addition to the camp program, before and after-care programs will also be offered to give parents the option of having their child in a safe, caring environment from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call St. Christopher School at 860-568-4100 or visit the school Web site at [www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org).

## **DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

The fight for religious freedom is not a Catholic issue, not a Jewish issue, not an Orthodox, Mormon, or Muslim issue. It is an American issue. The passage of the Affordable Care Act has dangerous implications on all religions. If we permit the government to have the final say on what type of health care coverage a religious organization must provide, we are basically enabling them to interfere in all religious liberty concerns in areas such as immigration and humanitarian services. If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let her know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

## **MINISTRY OF GREETERS**

Do you want to give hospitality by serving your parish as a greeter? To offer the hospitality of greeting means to stand by the doors of God's House to welcome either a long-time parishioner or the visitor to our parish, to offer a smile, to be of help if any needs arise and lastly, to bid farewell once the Mass has ended. If you sense God is calling you to the Ministry of Greeters, be as an individual or as a family, to serve right before and right after Mass at one of our church entrances on a rotating basis, please contact ministry coordinator, Anne Marie Volowski at [annemarievolowski@yahoo.com](mailto:annemarievolowski@yahoo.com) or at 860-461-0449.

## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday Sunday of Divine Mercy	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 4: 32-35	Acts 4: 23-31	Acts 4: 32-37	Acts 5: 17-26	Acts 5: 27-33	Acts 5: 34-42	Acts 6: 1-7	Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19
Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24	Psalm 2: 1-3, 4-9	Psalm 93: 1-2, 5	Psalm 34: 2-9	Psalm 34: 2, 9, 17-20	Psalm 27: 1, 4, 13-14	Psalm 33: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19	Psalm 4: 2, 4, 7-9
1 John 5: 1-6							1 John 2: 1-5a
John 20: 19-31	John 3: 1-8	John 3: 7b-15	John 3: 16-21	John 3: 31-36	John 6: 1-15	John 6: 16-21	Luke 24: 35-48

### 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, April 19, 2015

Our risen Lord stands in our midst in today's Gospel and asks each of us directly: "Why are you troubled?" The Lord is present in the Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle; it is his Real Presence. We can come to him with all our troubles and know that he will hear us and heal 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

### 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

### 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

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Santa Vallone ~ 860-569-1772

### GREETERS' MINISTRY

Anne Marie Volowski ~ 860-461-0449