

“I am the good shepherd,
and I know mine and mine know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I will lay down my life for the sheep.”

John 10:14-15

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
860-568-4100



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Maria Sousa, *Coordinator*
860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com

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
Website: www.stchris-eh.org



Fr. Tim S. Hickey
Administrator



**Fourth Sunday
of
Easter**

April 26, 2015

“See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.”

– 1 John 3:1

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 25 – 4:00 p.m.

Robert Fillatti – 9th Anniversary
(Wife & Daughter)

Sunday, April 26 – 8:00 a.m.

Joseph Leonardo (Mom & Daughters)

Sunday, April 26 – 10:30 a.m.

Cassandra Browne – 11th Anniversary
Gerard Cormier – 10th Anniversary
(Your Loving Family)

Monday, April 27 – 7:30 a.m.

Rev. Joseph F. Gorman

Tuesday, April 28 – 7:30 a.m.

Rev. Peter S. Dargan

Wednesday, April 29 – 7:30 a.m.

Richard Sullivan
(Suzanne Martel)

Thursday, April 30 – 7:30 a.m.

Rev. James G. Fanelli

Friday, May 1 – 7:30 a.m.

Vocations to the Priesthood

Saturday, May 2 – 4:00 p.m.

Jerry Millstein – 6th Anniversary
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, May 3 – 8:00 a.m.

Rena Vaillancourt – 25th Anniversary
(Family)

Sunday, May 3 – 10:30 a.m.

**For the Children of Our Parish
Who Will be Making Their
First Holy Communion on This Day**

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (April 19): \$ 5,106*

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

*Includes \$723 received through our Online Giving program.

COLLECTION FOR HOMEFRONT

This weekend we will take up a special collection to support this year’s HomeFront project. The monies collected will assist with the required Team Sponsorship Donation that helps make this HomeFront project possible. More information about this years HomeFront project can be found on page 5 of this bulletin.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Throughout this Easter Season we celebrate that one mystery – that Christ gave His life for us on the Cross. If we accept the fact that He is our Savior and that He is our Shepherd, we are better able to serve as shepherds to one another. Stewardship is a life of giving self, a life of self-giving. We must constantly work to live up to the Lord’s expectations of us, but we also must always know that He is our shepherd, our Good Shepherd, and He is always there for us.



SANCTUARY LAMPS

The lamps beside our tabernacles remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

✠ The candle in the church
burned last week and again this week

**In Loving Memory of
Bernard Casey – 8th Anniversary**
(Family)

✠ The candle in the chapel
burned last week and again this week

**In Loving Memory of
André Charron – 4th Anniversary**
(Wife Lise)

Please contact the parish office to schedule a dedication. The suggested offering for a dedication is \$15.

YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Help to plan the future of our Archdiocese!

In several weeks, you will be invited to take an online pastoral planning survey. The results of this survey will help inform how we can best work together to reposition our Archdiocese in ways that will ensure the success of our mission, for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

The link to the pastoral survey will be published in the parish bulletin in early May, and access to the survey will be available on the Archdiocesan website at: archdioceseofhartford.org. Paper copies will be offered at parishes for those who do not have online access. We ask that you take the time to fill out this 20-minute survey. If you recall, in a February letter to parishioners, Archbishop Leonard Blair indicated that: "... pastoral planning is meant to be consultative and collaborative at every level, especially the local level." Together, we will thoughtfully and carefully seek to discern the will of God, and strengthen our Archdiocese for future generations.

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR PAPAL BUS TRIP

The Archdiocese of Hartford has extended the deadline to register for a three-day pilgrimage to attend a Papal Mass celebrated by Pope Francis as well as a spiritual conference during his upcoming apostolic visit to the United States, Sept. 25-27. The pilgrimage package includes: roundtrip bus transportation with Premier Bus Lines, four-star hotel accommodations, two breakfasts, one boxed lunch, and two dinners. A pilgrim kit and taxes are also included. Visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org for the specific itinerary, cost, registration forms and other details. Reservations and a deposit are required. Join the more than 200 Catholics from throughout the archdiocese who have already signed up to take part in this historic event.

BLOOD DRIVE

Friday ~ May 1 ~ 1:30 – 6:15 p.m.
St. Christopher Church Hall

Please call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767)
to make an app't. or log onto redcrossblood.org.

GIFT CARDS

After All Masses This Weekend!

Gift Cards will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekend. These cards not only make wonderful gifts, they are also great for you to use to make your everyday purchases. You can help support St. Christopher School by purchasing these gift cards. For more information or to purchase gift cards at other times, please contact parishioner and school parent Ania Simpson at 860-966-9825.

FIRST COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS

At the 4 p.m. Mass this weekend, we welcome Giuseppe (Joseph) Morfea Jr., who has been receiving instruction from Fr. Tim in preparation for completing his sacraments of initiation (first Eucharist, reconciliation and confirmation); he was baptized as an infant but did not receive the other sacraments. Joseph is receiving his first Communion at the 4 p.m. Mass, and is scheduled to be confirmed in May. We welcome him to St. Christopher's, along with his family and friends for this important day in his life as a Catholic.

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) 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.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP WISH LIST

Our VBC decorating team is seeking green artificial Christmas trees. Arrangements can be made to pickup and return your tree. If you do not need to have the tree back, then our decorating team will plan to spray the tree with snow spray. If you are able to help, please call the parish office.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We welcome everyone who is interested in glorifying God through song and who desires to serve our parish in a way that truly makes a positive difference in our worship experience. There are no auditions or prior experience required, only a genuine love of music and the Lord! There is still time to join us now for the rest of our rehearsal season! Please see Roberta after Mass or contact her at 203-630-9295 or Roberta9700@yahoo.com.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

As the active portion of the 2015 Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) begins to draw to a close, I want to express my gratitude to those parishioners who have already made a gift or pledge. Each parish is asked to raise its fair share of the overall AAA goal of \$8.5 million. Our parish goal is approximately \$40,000, and to date we have raised approximately 50%, with gifts from 133 families and individuals here in St. Christopher's. If you have not yet made your contribution to the AAA, please take a few moments in the next few days to prayerfully consider your gift decision. Your help – regardless of the amount – is still very much needed! Each contribution supports the vital ministries, programs and charitable services of our archdiocese. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you, Archbishop Blair, our archdiocese and our parish.

– Fr. Tim S. Hickey, Administrator

THANKS FOR OPPOSING ASSISTED SUICIDE

Michael C. Culhane, executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Conference, shared this correspondence with all pastors/administrators in the Archdiocese of Hartford. His gratitude extends to all people of good faith who opposed the proposed legislation. He writes: "The proposal dealing with Physician-Assisted Suicide failed to secure the support of the state Judiciary Committee and on April 13 the bill died without a vote. Please know how grateful we are for your assistance in helping us defeat this bill, as your support clearly was instrumental in achieving this result. I know that your phone calls, emails, your testimony at the Public Hearing and your signatures on the Conference's petitions created a 'voice' that made the difference. Our elected senators and representatives clearly listened to you and for that, we are most grateful."

MINISTRY OF GREETERS

Do you want to give hospitality by serving your parish as a greeter? If you sense God is calling you to the Ministry of Greeters, please plan to attend **an information session being held on Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.** For more information, please contact ministry coordinator, Anne Marie Volowski at 860-461-0449 or by e-mail at annemarievolowski@yahoo.com.

LIVING ROSARY

St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury, extends a warm welcome to parishioners of St. Christopher Church to our Living Rosary, Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday, May 4, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. As each bead of the rosary is prayed, a candle is lit, forming the shape of a rosary around the church. Children are welcome and are encouraged to attend accompanied by their parents. Refreshments will be served after the service. Please join us for this inspirational and prayerful evening!



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

Carmen Vivianne Paradis

ST. CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB

Monday ~ May 4 ~ 1:00 p.m.

Members are requested to "bring a friend" to our next meeting. We will be having "An Afternoon at the Movies-Circa 1959." Our feature film will be "North by Northwest." Admission ticket will be \$1.00, which was what it was when the movie came out in 1959. Refreshments, consisting of popcorn, candy, chips, and soda, will run from 5-25 cents, depending upon what you purchase. This should be a fun afternoon. Dues of \$10 for the 2015 calendar year were due January 1st. If you have not already made your payment, please do so at the May meeting. If you know someone who might be interested in joining the club, bring them along to see if we are a good fit for them. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support of our Holy Father's charitable works in the Peter's Pence Collection. Your contributions, which totaled \$1,260, will be combined with those of our brothers and sisters around the world to help Pope Francis provide essential relief to people in need. Your generosity is an act of solidarity with the universal Church, answering the call to be a witness of charity. May God bless you.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4: 8-12	Acts 11: 1-18	Acts 11: 19-26	Acts 12:24 - 13:5a	Acts 13: 13-25	Acts 13: 26-33	Acts 13: 44-52	Acts 9: 26-31
Psalm 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29	Psalm 42:2-3; 43:3, 4	Psalm 87: 1b-7	Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8	Psalm 89: 2-3, 21-22, 25, 27	Psalm 2: 6-11ab	Psalm 98: 1-4	Psalm 22: 26-28, 30-32
1 John 3: 1-2							1 John 3: 18-24
John 10: 11-18	John 10: 1-10	John 10: 22-30	John 12: 44-50	John 13: 16-20	John 14: 1-6	John 14: 7-14	John 15: 1-8

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, May 3, 2015

Jesus says to us in the Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Easter: "Remain in me, as I remain in you." Teachers pass along truths and the knowledge they have gained from study, but Jesus imparts his very self, through his teachings that have been captured in the Gospel and, most importantly, through his Body and Blood. Like fruit that shrivels when it is severed from the branch or vine, so too do we when we do not remain in Christ, the true vine.

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

HOMEFRONT

Please Help us Help a Neighbor

HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 2, is coming soon and we need help! HomeFront is a community outreach, one-day repair blitz for a neighbor in need. Our HomeFront recipient this year is an East Hartford neighbor; she is widowed and is struggling to keep up with repairs to her home. Some of the projects that we will be tackling if we have sufficient volunteer participation are:

- Replace/repair deck stairs and other sections that are rotted and stain/waterproof, if possible
- Replace the toilet, side storm door and pre hung entry door
- Replace ceiling fan/light in kitchen and door bell system
- Paint kitchen and living room walls and ceilings
- Install rear gutter and two closet doors
- Paint front stairs and foundation
- Repair kitchen cabinets and kitchen floor
- Yard/property cleanup/landscaping

We do have some volunteers who have already committed to being members of the St. Chris crew, but we still need a plumber to install the toilet, a painter to lead our volunteers with the kitchen and living room projects, a person or two with carpenter skills and of course, we can always use the assistance of good-hearted folks willing to clean, rake, paint, and throw unwanted items in the dumpster.

We are having a crew meeting on Monday, April 27 at 6:30 pm in the church hall to discuss the project and assign volunteers to the various tasks. This meeting is very helpful to the success of our project so please attend is at all possible. 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 by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net.

BLUE MASS SCHEDULED

On Sunday, May 3 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Archbishop Leonard Blair will preside at the seventh annual Archdiocesan Blue Mass. At this liturgy we remember the sacrifice that our police officers, firefighters and emergency first responders make each day for the good of our communities. Traditionally, Blue Mass honorees march in procession in front of the cathedral on Farmington Avenue before the start of Mass; this is a powerful witness by them of their commitment to serve us. It is also thrilling to see, especially for youngsters. Please consider attending the Blue Mass this year to pay your respects to those who serve our community. We ask the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, patron saint of police and safety personnel, and that of St. Florian, patron saint of fire personnel, to guard and protect the men and women who serve us.

PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION

On May 23-24 we will celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost. This is the birthday of the Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. People from many nations were gathered in Jerusalem for the feast day, and after the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and the Blessed Mother, the Apostles went out into the crowds and preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Each person, regardless of their country of origin, heard this Good News in his or her own language, despite the fact that the Apostles spoke in Aramaic (Hebrew).

What is your native tongue? Would you volunteer to read one of the Scripture readings at Mass that weekend in your native tongue? Would you be willing to offer a petition during the Universal Prayer (Prayers of the Faithful) in your native tongue?

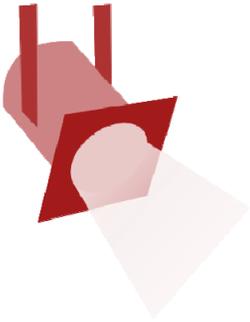
St. Christopher's is blessed to be an ethnically diverse parish. We have parishioners who speak French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, African and Indian dialects and more. Please call the parish office and volunteer to be a reader or offer an intercessory prayer at one of the Masses on May 23-24. We will get the reading or intention to you in plenty of time to practice it.

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.saintchristophersschool.org.

*Please see the flyer on the reverse side
for information about an exciting event
being held on Saturday, May 2.*

ATTN: ST. CHRIS PARISHIONERS



Come One, Come All

SATURDAY, MAY 2



It's a

Launch Party for Father Tim's Ride!

Augie & Rays ~ 314 Main Street ~ East Hartford

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Join the fun and show your support
for Father Tim and St. Christopher School
Live Band ~ Great Food Available ~ Raffles**

Another Great Event ~ Annual Talent Show

Saturday, May 2 ~ 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM ~ School Gym

**Come see the St. Christopher School
students showcase their talent!**