

OCTOBER 25, 2015 | THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE BLIND MAN SAID,

"MASTER, I WANT TO SEE."

JESUS TOLD HIM,

"GO YOUR WAY;

YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU."

— Mark 10:51-52

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sundays: 8:00, 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Thursday: 7:30 a.m.



## CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.



## 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 860-895-8692  
stchrisre@gmail.com

# St. Christopher Parish

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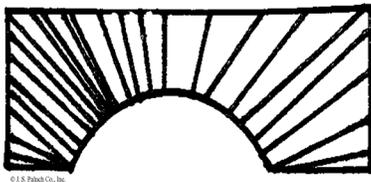
E-mail: [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net)

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



Fr. John Gwozdz, Pastor

E-mail: [pastorstchris@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorstchris@hotmail.com)



**Thirtieth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
October 25, 2015**

*“The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.”*

– Psalm 126:3

*Mass for the  
Intentions*  *for the  
Week*

Saturday, October 24 – 4:00 p.m.

**Eddy Lapid**  
*(Family)*

Sunday, October 25 – 8:00 a.m.

**Father James Fanelli**  
*(Don & Jackie Luizzi)*

Sunday, October 25 – 10:30 a.m.

**Mary Moren**  
**Alice & Fred Rockwood**  
*(Mr. & Mrs. Peter Samiotis)*  
*(Mr. & Mrs. Peter Anselmo)*

Monday, October 26 – 7:30 a.m.

**Diane Olinatz** *(Family)*

Tuesday, October 27 – 7:30 a.m.

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

Wednesday, October 28 – 7:30 a.m.

**Antonio Irace** *(Richard & Mary)*

Thursday, October 29 – 7:30 a.m.

**Lucy Viglione** *(Jean Walker)*

Saturday, October 31 – 4:00 p.m.

**Marie Saucier**  
*(Michele Hurteau & Phil Gravel)*

Sunday, November 1 – 8:00 a.m.

**Shirley Call** *(Marion Sullivan)*

Sunday, November 1 – 10:30 a.m.

**All the Faithful Departed  
of Our Parish**

(November 1, 2014 – October 31, 2015)

### PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (October 18): \$ 6,688\*  
What We Need for General Expenses: \$ 6,500

\*Includes \$1,483 received through our Online Giving program and \$720 from mail-in gifts.

### THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous response to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith last weekend on World Mission Sunday. Our parish collected a total of \$1,559. Some people are called to go to serve in other countries to develop the Church and serve its people, but all of us can pray and support the Missions from right here in the parish.

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Most of us are accustomed to being called Christians – that is, followers of Christ. However, the Lord’s first followers were not called by that name at all.

After Jesus responded to the blind man’s calls for mercy and healing, and the Lord has told him that it was his faith which had saved him, the Gospel tells us of the former blind man, “Immediately he received his sight and followed him (Jesus) on the way.” What is noteworthy about this is at that time and for the first years after Jesus’ Resurrection, His disciples were called “followers of the way.” They recognized Jesus as the way to live and the way to salvation. (Jesus stated more than once, “I am the way.”)

Thus, the man became not just healed but a follower of the Lord. Jesus healed the man on His way from Jericho to Jerusalem, where He would be crucified. The man most likely was with Him all the way. Would we be willing to follow the Lord on such a journey? That is exactly what He is asking us to do.

– www.catholicsteward.com

### SANCTUARY LAMP

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



✠ The candle in our church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of  
Rudolph Emerick – 2nd Anniversary**  
*(Wife Marjorie)*

To schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication, please call the parish office. The suggested offering is \$15.

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS**

The All Souls Memorial Mass in memory of our beloved departed will take place at the 10:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, November 1. A candlelight service within the Mass will commemorate each of the deceased. We invite parishioners who have lost a family member or close friend this past year, even though they were not buried from St. Christopher’s, to join us for this liturgy and to bring with you that morning a photo of your loved one with a name card to be placed on our Memory Board. Please arrive early so your picture can be placed on the board before Mass begins. If you lost a loved one this past year who was not buried from our parish and you’d like his/her name to be included in the program, please call the parish office by October 28. Please note that this Mass is likely to be a bit longer than a regular Sunday Mass to allow for all those who wish to come forward to light a candle.

A reception will be held in our church hall following this Mass on November 1. We kindly request donations of baked goods and finger foods that can be served at this reception. All donations may be left in the church hall prior to the start of Mass. We thank you for your support!

– Eugenia Nowik-Martocci, Consolation Minister

**WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISER**

Tickets for the World Youth Day Polish Dinner will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. The dinner will be held on Saturday, November 7 in the school gymnasium immediately following the vigil mass. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for children (3-12) and free for children under 3. Thank you for your support!

**MASS INTENTIONS – 2016**

We are now scheduling Mass intentions for 2016. The weekend Masses for next year are filling up quickly, so if there is a particular date and Mass time for which you hope to schedule an intention, please call the parish office at your earliest convenience to avoid any disappointment.

**✠ IN MEMORIUM ✠**

Please pray for these recently departed loved ones:

**Delfino Barone • Roberta Vetica**

*“If Christ is my life, then death is my gain.”*  
– Philippians 1:21

**MARIAN GARDEN**

After the 10:30 a.m. Mass this Sunday, we will be celebrating a Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Marian Garden – a project to commemorate our parish’s 50th anniversary. Lori Brunette, our parish council president, shared with us last weekend how we will all have the opportunity to help create this Marian Garden by purchasing a brick in memory of or in honor of a loved one. The details are close to being finalized. Please watch the church bulletin for further information.

Many parishioners have been busy working on this project and we are most grateful for all their assistance. We especially thank the Knights of Columbus St. Christopher Council #4 for making possible the promotional sign on the front lawn of the church.

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The Parish Council is scheduled to meet again this Monday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. in our church hall. This meeting is open to all parishioners. If you have any concerns or questions you would like the Parish Council to address, please contact Parish Council President, Lori Brunette at 860-655-9367. **NOTE:** The minutes from the last meeting held on September 22 are now available. Copies can be found at the entrances to the church.

**ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB**

**It’s Members’ Bingo time at the Social Club!**

Please note that, because of elections, our November meeting will take place on **Monday, November 9**. So join us then at 1:00 p.m. for our annual Bingo Games. First card is free, additional cards are \$1 each. Don’t miss the fun. As usual, the meeting will be accompanied by delicious refreshments. We are always eager to welcome new members, and it’s a bargain at only \$10 per year. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.

**OFFERTORY GIFTS**

We invite you to participate in our weekend liturgies by bringing up the gifts of bread and wine to be offered at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. If you’re interested, please take the wooden fish from the gift table before the start of Mass.

**GIFT CARD SALES**

**After All Masses this Weekend**

Gift cards will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. These cards not only make great gifts, but they're also great for you to use to make everyday purchases such as groceries, gas, etc. With the holidays just around the corner, we invite you to stop by to see the inventory of cards available (some are in stock and some can be ordered). 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](mailto:simpsonania@sbcglobal.net).

**VENDOR FAIR**

Our parish school will be hosting a Vendor Fair on Saturday, November 21 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the school's gymnasium. If you know someone (perhaps it's you!) who is a crafter or sells Pampered Chef, Stella and Dot, Tupperware or any other home parties of that sort, please contact our parish school's HSA committee at [stchrishsa@gmail.com](mailto:stchrishsa@gmail.com) to reserve a spot today! You may also contact the school office at 860-568-4100.

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

Every Wednesday night we meet for *Podcast and Pizza* in the Parish Center (the building to the right of the school, upstairs – use the turnaround driveway). We meet from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. We eat pizza, share what's going on in our lives, and talk about anything and everything – no topic is off-limits!! We finish with prayer. This evening is open to ALL high school students. We would love to have you join us! Please RSVP each week to [stchrisym@gmail.com](mailto:stchrisym@gmail.com) so we are sure to order enough pizza. If you are able, please bring \$3 towards the cost of the pizza.



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

**Emma Elizabeth Chamberland**

**MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS**

We invite all adults and middle and high school students to join our Chancel Choir. We rehearse on Thursdays in the church from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

We invite students in grades 2 and up to join the Children's Choir. We rehearse on Saturdays from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**FOOD BANK COORDINATOR**

We are still seeking a Food Bank Coordinator for our parish. This position can be filled by an individual, a couple of friends or a married couple. To learn more about the responsibilities of the Coordinator, please contact Dave Gaudreau at 860-569-4325.

**ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL**

Our Annual Parish Appeal is underway! Letters were sent out this past week to all parish families on record. If you did not yet receive one, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240. As you know, the money raised by this appeal is very important to the financial health of our parish family. To keep costs down, the mailing is managed by parish volunteers; for them we are most grateful. Please pray for the success of this important effort.

**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.



**COUNTERS MINISTRY**

In the weeks ahead we will begin work on the 2016 schedule for our Counters Ministry. Now is the perfect time to express interest in joining this ministry. It's also a good time for current members to let us know if they don't plan to return in 2016. Please call Tom Hurley at 860-568-6263 for more information.

**VOCATION REFLECTION**

*"You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."* On this Priesthood Sunday, let us pray for an increase to the vocation of priesthood, and pray for the priests who serve us. If you are considering discerning a vocation to priesthood or religious life, call Vocations Director Fr. Jeffrey Gubbiotti at 860-242-5573 or visit the web at [www.vocationshartford.org](http://www.vocationshartford.org).

**LIVING GOD'S WORD...** *Today's first reading reminds us to be mindful of our responsibility as good Christian stewards to console, comfort, and pray for those who are experiencing difficult times.*

## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 31: 7-9	Romans 8: 12-17	Romans 8: 18-25	Ephesians 2: 19-22	Romans 8: 31b - 39	Romans 9: 1-5	Romans 11: 1-2a, 11-12, 25-29	Revelations 7: 2-4, 9-14
Psalm 126: 1-6	Psalm 68: 2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21	Psalm 126: 1b-6	Psalm 19: 2-5	Psalm 109: 21-22, 26-27, 30-31	Psalm 147: 12-15, 19-20	Psalm 94: 12-13a, 14-15, 17-18	Psalm 24: 1-6
Hebrews 5: 1-6							1 John 3: 1-3
Mark 10: 46-52	Luke 13: 10-17	Luke 13: 18-21	Luke 6: 12-16	Luke 13: 31-35	Luke 14: 1-6	Luke 14: 1, 7-11	Matthew 5: 1-12a

### 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 1, 2015 – All Saints

Who are these saints who go marching in? They are not just the canonized ones, notable for their heroic virtue. They are people from every race and social condition, the poor in spirit, the peace makers, those who hunger and thirst, those who give themselves in love for their neighbor. Their efforts, like ours, were not always perfect. Many of them, like us, stumbled and fell, but they asked for forgiveness and continued to work at it. So should we. Like them, we place our trust and hope in God, knowing that only by his grace and love can we be washed clean and join in their number.

## PARISH CONTACTS

### PARISH TRUSTEES

Marie Gallo-Garabedian  
Richard "Mac" McCarthy

### PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Lori Brunette ~ 860-655-9367

### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Michael Munley ~ 860-683-8594

### SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Bridget Messier-Cooke

### PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

Sue Ward  
860-633-2930  
toobusysue@gmail.com

*"...but she's never too busy to  
receive your prayer requests!"*

### 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

### PARISH/SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

Dianne Rumsey

### CHURCH CUSTODIAN

Roger Dube

### SCHOOL MAINTENANCE

Roger Dionne

### 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 ~ 860-906-2618

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Santa Vallone ~ 860-569-1772

### GREETERS' MINISTRY

Anne Marie Volowski ~ 860-461-0449