

APRIL 10, 2016 | THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

JESUS SAID TO SIMON PETER,  
“SIMON, SON OF JOHN,  
DO YOU LOVE ME  
MORE THAN THESE.”

– John 21:15



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# St. Christopher Parish

538 Brewer Street

East Hartford, CT 06118

860-568-5240 (Phone) • 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. John Gwozdz, Pastor

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

## 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



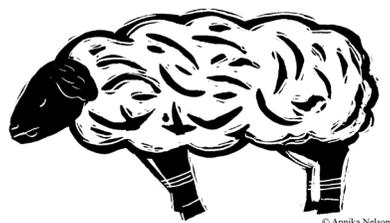
## ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

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



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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



**Third Sunday  
of Easter**  
**April 10, 2016**

*“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and blessing.” – Revelation 5:12*

*Mass*  *for the  
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, April 9 – 4:00 p.m.

**Biagio Governale**  
*(Fred & Pat Clark)*

Sunday, April 10 – 8:00 a.m.

**Joseph Leonardo**  
*(Mom & Daughters)*

Sunday, April 10 – 10:30 a.m.

**Jose Maria Sousa**  
*(Family)*

Monday, April 11 – 7:30 a.m.

**Frank Wroniak**  
*(Grandparents)*

Tuesday, April 12 – 7:30 a.m.

**Jose Maria Sousa – 1st Anniversary**  
*(Family)*

Wednesday, April 13 – 7:30 a.m.

**Mark Tardiff & Debbie Fallacaro**  
*(Family)*

Thursday, April 14 – 7:30 a.m.

**Diane Olinatz**  
*(Family)*

Saturday, April 16 – 4:00 p.m.

**Bernard Casey – 9th Anniversary** *(Family)*

Sunday, April 17 – 8:00 a.m.

**Joseph Chesery – 21st Anniversary**  
*(Daughter Madeline & Santo Cassarino)*

Sunday, April 17 – 10:30 a.m.

**André Charron – 5th Anniversary**  
*(Wife & Children)*

## PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (April 3): \$ 5,821\*  
What We Need for General Expenses: \$ 6,500

\*Includes \$1,093 received through our Online Giving program and \$720 from mail-in offerings.

## PARISH SCHOOL SUPPORT

The second collection being taken up at all Masses this weekend supports our parish school. Thank you!

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

There is much to digest (literally) in today’s Gospel Reading from St. John. It reports the third time that Jesus appeared to His Apostles. According to the Gospel Jesus had breakfast with them, and then He poses the question to Peter specifically, “Do you love me?” The exchange between the Lord and Peter is carefully narrated, as are Jesus’ responses. However, at the end of the Gospel Reading for today, Jesus says two simple words to Peter, “Follow Me.” Of course, these are the same two words with which we are familiar that Jesus used to call Peter and the others in the beginning.

We need to understand that these instructions from Jesus are not just for the Apostles but for us as well. How have we responded to that call? Our reaction does not have to be as dramatic as Peter’s and the others, who abandoned their lives and their livelihood and became total followers of Christ. However, we, too, need to find the strength and the commitment to follow the Lord. How we carry that out is our stewardship, how we live our lives.

## ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

In just a few short weeks, our parish has pledged \$14,919 for the 2016 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. In these trying times, the need of our surrounding community grows and the assistance provided by the Appeal is crucial. If you have not yet made your commitment to this year’s Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

The lamp beside our church tabernacle reminds us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. If you would like to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication, please contact the parish office.



Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce that Kathleen M. Welch has been hired as principal of our parish school effective July 1, 2016.

In January our current principal, Mrs. Kathleen Madej, made known her intent to retire at the end of this school year. Her announcement thus marks the completion of twenty-seven years of devoted service to the school that began when she was a parent enrolling her first child. As a school parent, Mrs. Madej started the After School Program, co-chaired the Home and School Association, and served on the School Board. Six years later, Mrs. Madej was hired as a teacher at the school, and for the past fourteen years, she has applied her unique and extensive knowledge of the school in her role as principal. How can we thank her enough? She will be feted with a retirement party on Friday, May 13.

Once Mrs. Madej's intent to retire was announced, the process to select a new principal began under the guidance of the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools. A committee of seven was formed to advise me on prospective candidates. Each member of this group was chosen to represent a cross section of the school community. Candidates were vetted by the archdiocese before their resumes were submitted to us for our consideration. After many weeks of interviews and discussion, the committee reached a consensus. Mrs. Kathleen Welch was offered the position and she accepted it.

Mrs. Welch grew up "east of the river" in nearby Portland and now resides with her family in Kensington. She currently teaches history, geography and religion in the middle school grades at Southington Catholic School. Previously, Mrs. Welch taught the same subjects for five years at the now closed Saint John Paul II School (Holy Cross) in New Britain. She began her work at that school three years earlier as an art teacher (K-8) and administered their School Readiness program for two years.

Mrs. Welch obtained a BA degree in General Studies at UConn and completed three years of Classical Studies at McGill University in Montreal. She received a Master's degree in Religious Studies from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. In 2014 she was named the Connecticut History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

And so, as it turns out, this is the year of the "Two Kathleens" at our parish school. I know you will join me in wishing Kathleen Madej a fond farewell and thanking her for her remarkable devotion to our school while offering a joyful and supportive welcome to Kathleen Welch as she begins her work to provide the "Saint Christopher's Difference" to the children of our area for many years to come.

– Father John

### **ST. CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB**

➤ *Rescheduled due to last week's winter weather.* ◀

**Monday – April 11 – 1:00 p.m. – Church Hall**

Afternoon at the Movies Fundraiser

Featuring "Moonlight Bay" with Doris Day

Everyone is invited to join us for this fun afternoon... members and non-members are welcome. Admission is \$1, plus .50 for the optional use of a seat cushion (while supplies last, so come early). All refreshments will be \$1 and will include popcorn, chips, pretzels, candy, soda, and coffee. 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 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.

### **RETIREMENT PARTY**

**In Honor of Mrs. Kathleen Madej**

Friday ~ May 13 ~ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ~ School Gym  
Please join us as we celebrate Mrs. Madej and her many years of dedicated service to our parish school.

### **MARIAN GARDEN UPDATE**

We are pleased to report that we have received many orders from our recent Marian Garden brochure mailing. We take this opportunity to thank all those who gave their time so generously to help us with this mailing. We couldn't have done it without you! We are looking forward to Sunday, May 15, when Archbishop Blair will be with us as we observe our parishes 50th anniversary and celebrate the dedication of the Marian Garden.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
JEAN NOWIK-MARTOCCI**

Next Sunday, April 17 at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral, Archbishop Blair will award the 2016 St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation to dedicated parishioners from across the Archdiocese who share their time and talents with their parishes. Congratulations to St. Christopher's deserving recipient, Jean Nowik-Martocci! Among Jean's many activities in the parish is her role as Coordinator of our Bereavement Ministry. She meets with families to plan the funeral liturgies, is present with the family during the Mass and calls on them afterwards. She also coordinates our special Mass for All Souls. She is actively involved in our Hospitality Committee, is a member of our Parish Council, and serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. She is always supportive of other ministries and events in the parish. Thank you, Jean, for your compassionate and generous service to St. Christopher's!

**SCRAP METAL, BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE**

**Saturday ~ April 23 ~ 9:00 am – 1:00 p.m.**

Support the students of our parish school by donating your refundable bottle and cans as well as any scrap metal you have lying around. Please bring your donations to the front of the school on April 23.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY PASTA DINNER**

**Saturday ~ April 30 ~ 5:00 p.m.**

**St. Christopher School Gym**

Come support the young adults from our parish by attending this pasta dinner fundraiser being held to raise money for their trip to Poland this July to see Pope Francis and to celebrate their faith with millions of other young Catholics from around the world! Dinner includes pasta, meatballs (beef and vegetarian), salad, bread, dessert, etc. Lots of raffle prizes available! \$8/adults, \$5 children (ages 3-12), \$25 max for a family. Tickets will be available for purchase after all Masses the weekends of April 16/17 and April 23/24.

**REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED**

Now is the time to register your child for our 2016/2017 religious education program. Returning families are asked to submit a new registration form each year. First Communion and Reconciliation preparation is a two-year program beginning in Grade 1. Call Maria at 860-895-8692 for more info.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet one time this month. We will meet on **Monday, April 18** from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in our church hall. This is due to the rescheduling of the Adult Social Club's monthly meeting to April 11 and the Town of East Hartford's use of our parish hall on April 25. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in May as usual.

**PLEASE HELP US HELP A NEIGHBOR**

HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 7, 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 a 67 year old man who is an Army veteran and resident of East Hartford. The following are some of the projects that we could be tackling if we have sufficient volunteer participation:

- Replace garage door and track
- Unclog bathtub drain
- Remove wallpaper in bathroom, sand the walls and paint
- Paint some ceilings
- Replace two storm doors
- Replace several light fixtures
- Yard cleanup and cleaning of walls in the home
- Remove clutter in basement, garage and other areas of house

We need both skilled professionals as well as folks who can rake, paint, clean and help remove clutter. We could use a plumber, a professional garage door installer and some people who are experienced with storm door installation. We already have an electrician who has volunteered to assist!

Please consider assisting us with this very worthy 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 by e-mail at [imgoose@comcast.net](mailto:imgoose@comcast.net).

**A meeting for HomeFront Volunteers will be held on Thursday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. in our church hall.**

**SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP**

Monday, June 20 – Friday, June 24

Mark your calendars. More information to come.

## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday Third Sunday of Easter	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 5: 27-32, 40b-41,	Acts 6: 8-15	Acts 7:51 - 8:1a	Acts 8: 1b-8	Acts 8: 26-40	Acts 9: 1-20	Acts 9: 31-42	Acts 13: 14, 43-52
Psalm 30: 2, 4-6, 11-13	Psalm 119: 23-24, 26-27, 29-30	Psalm 31: 3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab	Psalm 66: 1-3a, 4-7a	Psalm 66: 8-9, 16-17 20	Psalm 117: 1bc, 2	Psalm 116: 12-17	Psalm 100: 1-3, 5
Revelation 5: 11-14							Revelation 7: 9, 14b-17
John 21: 1-19	John 6: 22-29	John 6: 30-35	John 6: 35-40	John 6: 44-51	John 6: 52-59	John 6: 60-69	John 10: 27-30

### 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 17, 2016 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

The actions of the local folks in today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles are clear: they wanted to expel Jesus from their town, by killing him if that was necessary. Consider your own actions. Do you realize that you expel Jesus from your life every time you choose to sin? How often have you taken him to the brink of your heart, and given him that eternity-losing push? The Good News is that this Messiah always gives you one more chance. It is up to you to take it.

## 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

Elizabeth Rowe ~ 203-685-0645  
lawlizard80@yahoo.com

### HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Barbara Casey ~ 860-568-4638

### PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

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

*"...but not too busy to take your prayer requests!"*

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION

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

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Mary Priest ~ 860-569-0087

### BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Jean Nowik-Martocci ~ 860-568-8873

### PARISH/SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

Dianne Rumsey

### CHURCH CUSTODIAN

Roger Dube

### SCHOOL MAINTENANCE

Roger Dionne

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Roberta H. De Fiore  
203-630-9295/Roberta9700@yahoo.com

### PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Phil Gosselin ~ 860-568-5001

### FOOD BANK MINISTRY

New Coordinator Needed

### 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 ~ 860-568-1303

### BUILDING & GROUNDS

Stephen Roczynski ~ 860-250-0640



*Saint Christopher School*  
*570 Brewer Street*  
*East Hartford, CT 06118*  
*www.saintchristopher.org*  
*(860)568-4100*

**Where God  
and  
Greatness  
Are  
Experienced**

April 2016

Dear Friends of St. Christopher School,

On Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 10:00 am, Saint Christopher School will host our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament at the East Hartford Golf Club in East Hartford. Last year's tournament was a success and we would like for this year to be a greater success.

In the past 25 years, the money raised at this annual outing has benefited the young people of our school. We have completely revised our technology program, updated textbooks, and perhaps most importantly, have been able to offer additional tuition assistance to deserving families. This year we are hoping to make environmental changes throughout the school as well as continuing to assist deserving families with tuition.

All of this work is made possible by the generosity of many people including you. We invite you to participate as a sponsor in our Golf Tournament this year and we offer the following means to become a benefactor of this popular event:

- ***Tee Signs - \$200***  
- Includes 1 Tee Sponsorship and recognition in event publications
- ***Bronze Sponsor - \$350***  
- Includes 2 Tee Sponsorship and recognition in event publications
- ***Beverage Sponsor - \$500***  
- Includes Sponsorship banner at beverage cart and recognition in event publication
- ***Silver Sponsor - \$650***  
- Includes 2 Tee Sponsorship and recognition in event publications  
- 2 golfers in the tournament and all tournament activities – Buffet lunch
- ***Golf Cart Sponsor - \$850***  
- Includes company advertising sign in all golf cars and recognition in event publications  
- 2 golfers in the tournament and all tournament activities - Buffet lunch
- ***Gold Sponsor - \$1200***  
- Recognition as Foursome Sponsor in event publications.  
- A foursome in the tournament and all tournament activities. – Buffet lunch  
- All GOLD Sponsors will be recognized during Reception lunch.



\*Sponsorships will be reflected on attractive Signs that are prominently displayed on the course. Each sign will recognize the level of participation and sponsors will receive special recognition in the tournament handbook and Lunch.

