

APRIL 17, 2016 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“ MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE;
I KNOW THEM,
AND THEY FOLLOW ME. ”

John 10:27



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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

Website: www.stchris-eh.org



Fr. John Gwozdz, Pastor

E-mail: 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



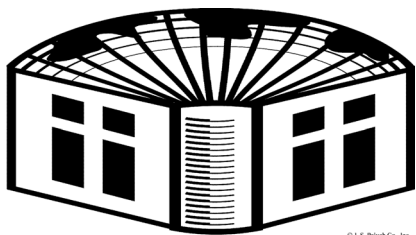
ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

Mrs. Kathleen Madej, Principal
Audrey Cesana, Secretary
www.saintchristopherschool.org
860-568-4100



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Maria Sousa 860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com



**Fourth Sunday
of Easter
April 17, 2016**

“I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 13:47b

Mass Intentions for the Week

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)

Monday, April 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Ulysse Leger
(Norman & Edith Daigle)

Tuesday, April 19 – 7:30 a.m.

Dinis Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Wednesday, April 20 – 7:30 a.m.

Deborah Fallacaro
(Thursday Morning Hospitality Group)

Thursday, April 21 – 7:30 a.m.

John & Louise Olinatz
(Children)

Saturday, April 23 – 4:00 p.m.

Jim White *(Family Friend)*

Sunday, April 24 – 8:00 a.m.

Thomas Fitzgerald *(Kevin Casey)*

Sunday, April 24 – 10:30 a.m.

Cassandra Browne – 12th Anniversary
Gerard Cormier – 11th Anniversary
(Your Loving Family)

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (April 10):	\$ 5,323*
What We Need for General Expenses:	\$ 6,500
Parish School Collection:	\$ 1,203**

*Includes \$578 received through our Online Giving program and \$35 from mail-in offerings.

**Includes \$125 received through our Online Giving program and \$15 from mail-in gifts.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

It is not easy being Christian and Catholic in today’s world. Our society, because of the critical nature of the media in large part, tends to view people of faith and morals with some distrust. That is a challenge for us.

Paul and Barnabas experience something similar in today’s First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. The people of Antioch in Pisidia “expel (them) from the territory.” No one likes or appreciates rejection. It is humiliating and discouraging. There may be times in our own lives when we follow firmly our Catholic beliefs and experience something similar. However, like Paul and Barnabas, we need to become even more determined in our desire to be a Disciple of the Lord.

In their case, they moved on to Iconium and continued their ministry and their message. In fact, Holy Scripture adds, “The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.” We, too, need to seek that joy and to understand that we have been blessed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Blessed Mother Teresa said, “Give yourself fully to God. He will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in His love than in your own weakness.” Like Paul and Barnabas, and Mother Teresa, we need to seek and utilize God’s strength.

–www.thecatholicsteward.com

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.



THE GIFT

“The artist is nothing without the gift, but the gift is nothing without work.” – Emile Zola

PETER’S PENCE COLLECTION

Through the second collection today, we are supporting Pope Francis in his charitable works. The Peter’s Pence Collection is taken up worldwide to support our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the collection is an opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous in today’s collection.

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. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in May as usual.

ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

Surpasses 7 Million Dollars!


Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2016 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. We encourage you to visit ortv.org/aaa.htm to view the 2016 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal impact video. If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully considering doing so. Appeal packets are available on the tables at the main entrance.

With gratitude to Almighty God
you are cordially invited
to join in the celebration of our parish’s
Fiftieth Anniversary
on Pentecost Sunday ~ May 15, 2016.
The Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford
will officiate at Holy Mass at
10:30 in the morning.

Following the Mass there will be a
Dedication of the Marian Garden
to Commemorate this Milestone and
to Honor our Blessed Mother.

The Festivities will conclude
at Noon with a Luncheon in the
Rev. Henry J. Murphy Hall at the School.

Bearing Christ to the World for a Half Century.



CHILDREN’S LITURGY
The last Children’s Liturgy of this school year will be celebrated next Sunday, April 24 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall. Everyone is invited. If you wish to donate a baked good, please bring your donation to the church hall before Mass.

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 this weekend and next weekend.

26th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

On Saturday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m., our parish school will host their 26th Annual Golf Tournament at the East Hartford Golf Club here in town. We invite you to participate in this year’s Tournament as either a golfer or as a sponsor. A lunch only option is also available. More information can be found on the flyers at all church entrances. Please respond by May 20.

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. Registration forms are available on the table in the church hall and for your convenience, Maria Sousa, Coordinator of Religious Education, will be in the church hall after the 10:30 Mass this Sunday to assist you and to answer any questions.

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.

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

CATHOLIC CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Choosing a family lot is inevitable. To make an important decision more calmly, prudently and economically, the Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford suggests pre-need cemetery arrangements. For a limited time, all Catholic families have the opportunity to purchase pre-need graves with interest free installment payments for 24 or 36 months at St. Mary's cemetery in East Hartford. For more information, please call Amy Chester, Family Service Advisor at 203-507-7509 or visit their website at www.ccacem.org.

SCHOOL MASS

A Mass will be celebrate with the students and staff of our parish school this Tuesday, April 19, at 8:30 a.m. All are invited.

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. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in May as usual.

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.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

This Sunday celebrates Jesus as “the Good Shepherd.” When announcing this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pope Francis focused on Jesus’ “lost sheep” parable in Luke. “[Who] among you,” Jesus asks, “having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?” (Luke 15:4). A reasonable answer? “No responsible shepherd who wants to keep the job!” Yet Jesus considers *one* lost person supremely important and suggests blaming the shepherd. The sheep didn’t “go astray,” the shepherd “lost” it. Thus, “when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy” (15:5). That tender image of Jesus adorns the simple cross Pope Francis has always worn, the Good Shepherd gently carrying the lost sheep home on his shoulders. During this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, may we, who once were lost ourselves but now are found, join Jesus in seeking, finding, and gently carrying home at least one precious lamb.

– Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



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

Colin Charles Paul

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Monday, June 20 – Friday, June 24

This year’s theme is *Barnyard Roundup* where kids will learn that Jesus loves them, always and forever, no matter what.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 13: 14, 43-52	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 14: 21-27
Psalm 100: 1-3, 5	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 145: 8-13
Revelation 7: 9, 14b-17							Revelation 21: 1-5a
John 10: 27-30	John 10: 11-18	John 10: 22-30	John 12: 44-50	John 13: 16-20	John 14: 1-6	John 14: 7-14	John 13: 31-33a, 34-35

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 24, 2016 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today's Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to "love as I have loved you." Loving as Jesus has loved means telling the truth with compassion, forgiving, working at trust and holding on to faith in the face of difficult times. Jesus does not promise us that this commandment is easy, just necessary if we are to love as he loves us.

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 26th 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.

Schedule of Events:

10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

3:00 p.m. Lunch, 50/50 Raffle Drawing

Other Raffle Prizes in the Clubhouse

Golfers: Foursome and Individual

Golf Foursome Sponsorship: \$525

- Recognition as Foursome Sponsor in event handbook
- A Foursome in the tournament and all tournament activities

Individual Golfer: \$150

Please match me with a golfer.

Lunch only option: \$40

OUTING SPONSORS

Gold Sponsor \$1,200

Golf Cart Sponsor \$850

Silver Sponsor \$650

Beverage Cart Sponsor \$500

Bronze Sponsor \$350

Tee Signs \$200

Prize Donor/ description of items _____

Cash Donor/Amount _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Company _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Player 1 Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City/St _____

Player 2 Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City/St _____

Player 3 Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City/St _____

Player 4 Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City/St _____

Payment Information Check Enclosed

Charge: Visa MC Account Number:

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Card Holder Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Security code (3 digit code back of the card)

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Please return a copy of this letter with a check made payable to St. Christopher School and mail by May 20, 2016 to: **Golf Committee at St. Christopher School, 570 Brewer Street, East Hartford, CT, 06118 or scan and email to: stchrsgolf16@gmail.com.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the committee through the school at (860) 568-4100 (weekdays between 8:00 –1:30).

Sincerely,

Kathleen E. Madej

Principal at St. Christopher School