

Pentecost
SUNDAY
May 15, 2016

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There appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
Acts 2:3

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



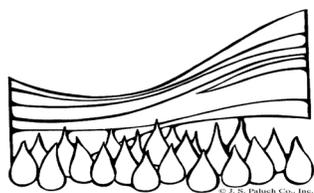
ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

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



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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



Pentecost Sunday
May 15, 2016

“[I]n one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.”

– 1 Corinthians 12:13a

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Saturday, May 14 – 4:00 p.m.

Adrienne Brumbaum

In Remembrance of Her Birthday

(Sister Omerine & Elmer Gendreau)

Sunday, May 15 – 8:00 a.m.

Adrien, Rena, Jim and Louise Cyr

(Paul & Angie Parent)

Sunday, May 15 – 10:30 a.m.

Moises Roque, Jr. – 1st Anniversary

(Mom, David, Evelyn & Jennifer)

Luz Perez

(Sister, David, Evelyn & Jennifer)

Monday, May 16 – 7:30 a.m.

Stanley Walter Kronen – 63rd Anniversary

and Helen Kosiorek Kronen

(Son Joe & Carolyn Kronen)

Tuesday, May 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Diane Olinatz – 3rd Anniversary *(Family)*

Wednesday, May 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Mary Rogosky Verotsky – 19th Anniversary

and Charles George Verotsky

(Daughter Carolyn & Joe Kronen)

Thursday, May 19 – 7:30 a.m.

Dinis Leonardo *(Wife & Family)*

Saturday, May 21 – 4:00 p.m.

Charles Bernard – 11th Anniversary

(Wife & Family)

Sunday, May 22 – 8:00 a.m.

Antonio Leonardo *(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, May 22 – 10:30 a.m.

Morene Roadman *(Al & Sally Labieniec)*

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (May 8): \$ 5,361*

*Includes \$643 received through our Online Giving program and \$700 from mail-in offerings.

Ascension of the Lord: \$ 904

Thank you for your support of our parish family.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign. Because of your support, which totaled \$1,084, millions of faithful will have the opportunity to deepen their faith through daily resources on television, radio, social media, podcasts, and print media. Remember, half of your donations are staying in our Archdiocese to support local communications needs. To learn more about the important work supported by this collection, please visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today is the Solemnity of Pentecost, one of the most ancient feasts of the Church. Pentecost is often called the “birthday of the Church” as it was on this day – with the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and about 120 followers of Christ, including our Blessed Mother Mary and other men and women – that Christ's mission on earth is completed. However, that mission continues with us. We, too, have received the power of the Holy Spirit through Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, and other sacraments. It is this Holy Spirit that allows us to be the Lord's Disciples actively working in today's Church and today's society. Nevertheless, we must accept and recognize that fact.

– www.thecatholicsteward.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

Jimmy Shepley

(Grandma)

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**Sunday ~ May 15**

This Sunday is a busy day here at our parish. We welcome Archbishop Blair who will celebrate our 10:30 a.m. Mass. We also welcome several priests and deacons who have served our parish family over the years. Immediately following the celebration of Mass, we will process out of the church to the Marian Garden for a Blessing Ceremony. After the ceremony, everyone is invited to attend a luncheon being held in our parish school's gymnasium. Although there is no fee to attend the luncheon, a free will offering will be accepted at a suggested offering of \$5 per person (12 and under are free and \$20 maximum per family).

PIN MINISTRY NEWS

Our Parishioner in Need ministry is currently assisting a parish family who is going through a difficult time. Through your generous donations and support of our yearly bake sale, we're able to provide this family with grocery gift cards to help ease their financial struggles. The family is also in need of the following:

- Girl's clothing in size 2T-4T (gently used is okay)
- Outdoor yard toys (gently used is okay)
- Store coupons (i.e. diapers)

If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact PIN committee member Toni Mintel at 860-569-7593 (evenings). We wish to remind you that at every church entrance there are PIN ministry donation envelopes you may use to make a monetary donation at any time. Your donation will enable us to continue to help ease the suffering of parish families as they face difficult times. In this year of mercy and compassion, can we say, "Here I am Lord, I come to do your will?" And as always, please continue to keep our parishioners in need in your prayers.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETIN

Each weekend we offer copies of the Children's Worship Bulletin for the young people of our parish. There are two versions - one for ages 3-6 and another for ages 7-12. These bulletins contain age appropriate activities that reinforce the weekend's Gospel message. We're excited to let you know that these bulletins now contain a secret code that unlocks games that can be played online. You will find copies of these bulletins at the main entrance.

STAMP OUR HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

This weekend our local letter carriers held their 24th annual *Stamp Out Hunger* Food Drive. Our Food Bank – the St. Christopher/South Congregational Food Bank – receives food donations from this drive. **Volunteers are needed to help unpack and sort the donations.** If you have any time available this Tues., May 17 and/or Wed., May 18 to help with this task, please contact Kim at South Congregational Church at 860-568-5150. She will be able to coordinate a time that is convenient for both parties. Please remember: Many hands make light work!

HOMEFRONT THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Another HomeFront project is completed and I have many people to thank. First I want to thank Fr. John for supporting our participation in the HomeFront project. Next my gratitude to our House Captains, Lori Brunette and Stephen Roczynski who invested so much of their time and effort in our project. Although an aggregate thank you to our tremendous crew might be adequate, I feel compelled to mention each by name: Roger Dionne, Susan Potter, Troy Himmel, Dave & Chickie Amberg, Claudette & Larry Flanigan, Mary & John Lawson, Real & Nathalie Laprise, James Stengel and his son James, Deborah Thompson, Barbara Ruocchio, Andrew and Kristie Sargent, Ruby Birdseye, Frank Drake, Hector Morera, Scott Gay, Mike Bisson, Paul Roczynski, Joseph Amirault, Michael Gay, Eric Rowe and Rich Kehoe.

Thank you to Joanne and Philip Hadyka for preparing and delivering lunch to our hungry crew, Kristie Sargent for donating and delivering our breakfast items to get us off to a great start and Pat Clark for bringing us brownies and cookies! Kudos to Chickie Amberg for assisting with laundering curtains and purchasing replacement shades and blinds. A very special thanks to Lori Brunette for securing donations from Home Depot and Target to purchase items to help our homeowner! Thank you to Peter Marra Landscape for his donation of time and merchandise! Thank you to Bonnie Szalay for all she does to make things happen behind the scene. And last, but not least, thank you to the St. Christopher parish community for financially supporting our efforts through the special collection for HomeFront and for your prayers!

Thank you and God bless you all!

Peace, Phil Gosselin, Volunteer Coordinator

DEACON ORDINATION

We are honored to announce that our parishioner Phil Gosselin will be ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Hartford during a special Mass being celebrated on Saturday, June 4 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. All are invited. Phil will be ordained alongside nine of his classmates, all of whom have participated in a five-year long program of spiritual, pastoral and academic courses. We offer our prayers and blessings to Phil and his wife Alice as they embark on this journey of service to the church. Congratulations Phil!

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Announcing the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pope Francis challenged us to proclaim God's mercy "to everyone without exception . . . again and again, with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12). Pentecost proclaims that the door locked for fifty days is thrown open at last. No longer closed in on itself, the community speaks to crowds from different backgrounds, distant lands, exotic languages. Everyone hears their native language. The Spirit does not restore Babel's uniformity, but forges unity-in-diversity of language, race, nationality – embracing all without exception. During this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pentecost's Spirit summons us afresh from mediocrity and isolation to share God's mercy with the world. "This is our mission!" Francis exclaims. We are "given the gift of the 'tongue' of the Gospel and the 'fire' of the Holy Spirit, so that while we proclaim Jesus risen, living and present in our midst, we may warm . . . the heart of the peoples, drawing near to Him, the way, the truth, and the life" (*Regina Coeli* address, Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015).

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
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26th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT Registration Deadline Drawing Near!

Please respond by May 20

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.

MOTHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCES

The following mothers were inadvertently left off of the list that was inserted into last weekend's bulletin. We apologize for the oversight.

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Fernanda Alves | Lillian B. Jones |
| Elizabeth Barno | Marie Manager |
| Felicita Cardona | Mary A. Martino |
| Fran Craft | Louise Olinatz |

May these and all mothers who have gone before us find rest in the loving arms of our Father.

BABY BOTTLES FOR BIRTHRIGHT

We thank those of you who took a baby bottle last weekend. Please fill the bottle with your spare change (cash or a check) and return it next weekend, May 21-22. This is an opportunity for the St. Christopher community to have hands-on involvement in a project that helps save the lives of unborn children and makes a difference in their mothers' lives, too.

PATRIOTIC MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Our Chancel Choir will be singing a few short patriotic selections before our 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 29. While we know the Church bows to no government but God's, it is right and fitting to acknowledge that we live in a country with a constitutionally guaranteed right of freedom of religion. With this brief Memorial Day program, we wish to honor and thank all the men and women throughout our history who have fought and died for our flag to secure that right to all of us, along with all the other rights and privileges we enjoy in this great nation. Please join us at 10:15, and remember that governments notwithstanding, Jesus is always King!

– Roberta De Fiore, Director of Music

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The 2016 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, *God's Mercy at Work* presents each of us with the opportunity to give back to the Lord by helping those in need in our communities. Know that your financial support will touch the lives of thousands of people who are served in our Archdiocese through the Appeal. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Appeal packets are available at the main entrance of the church or visit www.archdioceseofhartford.com.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

| Sunday <small>Pentecost Sunday</small> | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday <small>Most Holy Trinity</small> |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Acts 2: 1-11 | James 3: 13-18 | James 4: 1-10 | James 4: 13-17 | James 5: 1-6 | James 5: 9-12 | James 5: 13-20 | Proverbs 8: 22-31 |
| Psalm 104: 1, 24, 29-31, 34 | Psalm 19: 8-10, 15 | Psalm 55: 7-11a, 23 | Psalm 49: 2-3, 6-11 | Psalm 49: 14-20 | Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-9, 11-12 | Psalm 141: 1-3, 8 | Psalm 8: 4-9 |
| 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13 | | | | | | | Romans 5: 1-5 |
| John 20: 19-23 | Mark 9: 14-29 | Mark 9: 30-37 | Mark 9: 38-40 | Mark 9: 41-50 | Mark 10: 1-12 | Mark 10: 13-16 | John 16: 12-15 |

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 22, 2016 – Most Holy Trinity

Today we reflect on how great and beyond our comprehension is our God. At the same time, we recognize His closeness to us. God has revealed His very nature as Trinity and invites us into a relationship with Him — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is seeking you. Will you seek Him?

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