June 19, 2016 ~ Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Rev. John P. Gwozdz, Pastor
E-mail: pastorstchris@hotmail.com

Mr. Philip J. Gosselin, Deacon
E-mail: imgoose@comcast.net

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
Mass for the
Intentions of the Week

Saturday, June 18 – 4:00 p.m.
Joseph & Eva Bergeron
(daughter Irene Crowley)

Sunday, June 19 – 8:00 a.m.
Adrien, Rena, Jim and Louise Cyr
(Paul & Angie Parent)

Sunday, June 19 – 10:30 a.m.
Mr. Daniel F. Colbert
(Family)

Monday, June 20 – 7:30 a.m.
Mary Coiteux
(Members of Adult Social Club)

Tuesday, June 21 – 7:30 a.m.
Dinis Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Wednesday, June 22 – 7:30 a.m.
Frank Wroniak
(Grandparents)

Thursday, June 23 – 7:30 a.m.
Justina Almada
(Maria Leonardo)

Saturday, June 25 – 4:00 p.m.
Adrienne Brumbaum – 1st Anniversary
(Sister Omerine & Elmer Gendreau)

Sunday, June 26 – 8:00 a.m.
Edmond Guerin (The Guerin Family)

Sunday, June 26 – 10:30 a.m.
Charles Stebbins (Family)

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 19, 2016

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither
slave nor free person, there is not male and
female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
– Galatians 2:20

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (June 12): $ 4,577*
Parish School Collection: $ 1,245**

*Includes $603 received through our Online Giving program and $123 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $100 received through our Online Giving program.

Thank you for your support of our parish family.

ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM
Online Giving is all about convenience for you and consistency for the parish. It’s safe and secure and helps you stay on track with stewardship even when you are unable to attend Mass, especially during these summer months when you are likely to travel out of town.

Visit www.stchris-eh.org and click on the bright blue box marked “Online Giving” and then the link at the top of the page marked “Create New Account.” Our parish staff will happily answer any questions you have; for assistance call 860-568-5240.

JESUS IS THE PATH!
To press forward in faith, to advance in the spiritual pilgrimage which is faith, is nothing other than to follow Jesus; to listen to him and be guided by his words; to see how he acts and to follow in his footsteps; to have his same sentiments. And what are these sentiments of Jesus? Humility, mercy, closeness to others, but also a firm rejection of hypocrisy, duplicity, and idolatry. The way of Jesus is the way of a love which is faithful to the end, even unto sacrificing one’s life; it is the way of the cross.

– Pope Francis, Address, Marian Day, October 12, 2013

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
John Simone
In Remembrance of Our Wedding Anniversary
(Wife Simone)
**MASS OF THE OPEN SEAS**
I am very grateful to St. Christopher Parish for this opportunity to share my composition – *Mass of the Open Seas*. I hope the music touches you in some special way, just as the seashore may in the months to come. May you find the entire composition simple and soothing to hear, yet inviting to venture in and vocally participate. May you find the melody to flow in a way that reflects the tide, reaching and receding; back and forth; just as God gives and we receive day in and day out. Our relationship with God can be turbulent or calm. It can be a spiritual struggle when our spirit is low; it can be a loving dance when our spirits are high. Yet, like the tide, God remains by our side as our support below the surface...a strength beyond measure and the source of all life. May the *Mass of the Open Seas* remind us of that.

– Antoinette Mintel  
(Leader of Music ~ 8:00 a.m. Sunday)

**FOOD BANK NEWS**
As you food shop for yourselves during these summer months, please consider purchasing an item or two to donate to our Food Bank. Donations of non-perishable items such as peanut butter, jelly, pasta, sauce, corn muffin mix, tunafish, macaroni and cheese, canned soup and vegetables helps us to keep our less fortunate brothers and sisters well fed and our shelves stocked. Donations can be left in the area near our candle station. Thank you for your help!

**FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM**
Each year dioceses around the country observe the importance of defending religious freedom. The Fortnight for Freedom is from June 21 – the vigil of the Feasts of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More – to July 4, Independence Day. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has available information about this important initiative – fact sheets, prayer resources, reflections and ways that you can take action. You are encouraged to visit their website during these next couple of weeks: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org), and select the link to Fortnight for Freedom.

“[May] you defend these rights, especially your religious freedom, for it has been given to you by God himself.” – Pope Francis, Independence Hall, Philadelphia | Saturday, September 26, 2015

**NEW PARISH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**
2016/2017 School Year
St. Christopher School is pleased to announce that Mrs. Kathleen Welch will be our new principal for the 2016/2017 school year. Mrs. Welch is currently a middle school teacher at Southington Catholic School and was named Connecticut History Teacher of the Year in May of 2014. She is a graduate of Mercy High School, went on to study classical languages at McGill University and received her degree in general studies from UCONN. She has a master’s degree in religious studies and has experience as a visiting committee member of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). She began her teaching career at John Paul II School in New Britain as the art teacher for Pre-K-8th grade and in 2010 became one of their middle school teachers. She is the mother of four children and understands the value of Catholic education, both as a teacher and as a parent. St. Christopher School, the only Catholic school in East Hartford, is very excited about her experience and enthusiasm for Catholic education and her focus on community service. We believe her vision for the school will help us fulfill our mission to prepare students, with the support of their families, to live as Christ-bearers through the daily interaction of faith, service, and academic excellence, and through the development of their God-given talents. We are now accepting registrations for the 2016-2017 school year. For additional information, please contact the school office at 860-568-4100 (summer hours: Tues., Wed. and Thurs. from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon) or you may visit: [www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org).

**LIVING GOD’S WORD**
We pray that we may walk the way of Christ together with Christ, taking up our cross today. We pray to understand what it means to “put on Christ” and to live “in Christ,” and to have that faith that allows us to know God as a loving, gracious God.
FATHERS
Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.
Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children’s lives. Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely chose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their stepchildren’s love and respect.
Let us praise those men who have “fathered” us in their role as mentors and guides.
Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.
And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

Father John and the entire parish staff wish the fathers of our parish a Happy Father’s Day!

RELIGIOUS ED POSITION AVAILABLE
St. Paul Church in Glastonbury and St. Augustine Church in South Glastonbury seek a part-time Coordinator for Religious Education (CRE). The primary responsibility of the CRE is to coordinate the parish faith formation program for children to adolescents, as well as to identify, train, supervise, and evaluate catechists. The successful candidate for the position will be knowledgeable about the Catholic Faith, Liturgy, teachings, and social justice doctrine of the Church; have the ability to evaluate age appropriate curriculum, programs, and experiences for faith formation classes; have experience in religious education/faith formation; have excellent computer and communication skills; and, possess good personal organizational skills. The CRE is expected to have a minimum of three years of teaching experience and one year of administrative experience. Please send a resume with salary requirements to kdidominzio@stpaulglastonbury.org.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION
Today’s Gospel reading finishes with the Lord telling us, “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.” If we truly wish to follow Him, we must die to what we once may have been, or in some cases to what we may think we want to be. We have to learn to look at ourselves as the Lord might look at us.

HEALING MASS
A Healing Mass will be celebrated this Tuesday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. The celebrant will be Rev. James Shanley. Trained prayer teams will be available to pray after the celebration of Mass. Rosary at 7:00 p.m.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT NIGHTS
Monday ~ July 11 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Mary Church, 626 Willard Ave., Newington
Monday ~ August 8 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Dominic Church, 1050 Flanders Rd., Southington
Have you figured out yet what you want to be when you “grow up”? More importantly, have you figured out why? Men ages 16-35 are invited to join us for an informational gathering where there will be a short talk with practical suggestions for “discerning” the call that God has in store for you, some time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, a chance to hear the story of the vocation journey from a few of our seminarians, and we will play a round of “Stump the Seminarian” giving you the chance to bring your questions to them. There’s even free pizza, so why not swing by? To reserve your spot, please call 860-761-7457 or use the form at www.hartfordpriest.com.

BECOME A VOCATION ADVOCATE
Join Today!
Join the St. John Vianney Vocation Prayer Society (SJVVPS), a new apostolate of the Office of Vocations of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Members of the society will commit to pray daily for vocations for the priesthood and the consecrated life, and may offer practical support to seminarians. As a member of the society, you will be invited to Holy Hours, Ordination Events, and a special Day of recollection with our seminarians. You will also share in the spiritual fruits of the society. The Vocation Director of the Archdiocese will offer a monthly Mass for you, your family, and all your prayer intentions. To register email: vocations@aohct.org with your name, address, and phone number and visit: www.hartfordpriest.com for more information.

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

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### LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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### 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."

#### 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, June 26, 2016 – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Elisha sacrificed his oxen and answered the call to become Elijah’s disciple. The young man called by Jesus put a higher priority on other demands, good though they may have been. St. Paul reminds us that we are free; we are not disciples of Law which only defines the minimum required. We are free, but we must learn how to use that freedom: the way of love, which never asks what is the least I have to do, but rather: What else can I do?

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

#### PRO-LIFE MINISTRY
Phil Gosselin ~ 860-568-5001

#### Food Bank Ministry
Diane Warner ~ 860-202-8462

#### 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

### Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW
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Blessed be all fathers who have come into our lives, whose kindness, care and loving remain with us to guide.

As a spiritual gift, these fathers – both living and deceased – will be remembered in the Masses celebrated in our parish this Father’s Day weekend.

Living

Michael Aboumrad  Santo Cassarino  Walter Gerstenlauer  Joseph Verotsky Kronen  Emmanuel Nadeau  Alexander Plefka, Jr.  Matthew Wilmes

All My Many Fathers

Scott Cassarino  Agustin Gonzalez  Roland LaPorte  Gilbert Oliveira  Ray Schultz  Michael Wilmes

Bill Brunette  Peter Cecchini  Fred Gosselin  Réal Laprise  Frank Pezzente  Ray Schultz, Jr.  Jacob J. Zocco

Tom Cantone  Ryan Cyr  Shaun Kinney  Steve Laprise  Gregg Pezzente  Paul Trueman  James M. Zocco

Michael Cassarino  Bruce Daugherty  Joseph Henry Kronen  Robert Muszynski  Joe Pezzente  Howard Wilmes

Deceased

James Aboumrad  Herman A. Cadorette  Patrick Cyr  Maurice Harden  Joseph Martocci  Paul C. Roadman  Jeremiah B. Sullivan

Enrique Aillon  George Caron  Henry Dawson  Jean Hebert  Patrick Marquis  Francisco Rosa  Stephen Swakko

All My Many Fathers

Joseph Carron  Thomas DelRocco  Thomas Hurley, Sr.  Hector Jandreau  Walter Marszałek  Romeo Roy  John M. Sydor

Albin Anderson, Sr.

Salvatore Cassarino  Virgilio Dell’Nave  Edward McNamara  Joseph Michaud  Burton Schultz  Settimo Tamiso

Antonio Bairros  Dominick Cervini  Thomas D’Onofrio  Kenneth O. Johnson  Edward McNamara  Emanuel Schifer  Kory Telaga

Manuel Bairros  André Charron  Joseph Dulude  Edwin G. Jones  John Keegan  Fred Schifer  Hilaire Thibodeau

Eddie Bartold  René Charron  Marcel Dulude  Edwin Kennison  Michel Kepinski  James P. Murphy  Joseph A. Thibodeau

Michael Barbo  Joseph Chersery  Dominick Fuschetti  Thomas Flaherty  Henry Knap  Alfred Hadeau  Charles Tillem, Sr.

Amemee Belanger  George F. Claffey, Jr.  Michael Fuschetti  Thomas Flaherty  Neil Knotts  Dean Nadeau  Carl Toratiro

Leo Belanger  Daniel Cleaves  Walter S. Forrest  Stanley Walter Kronen  John Olnantz  Patrick Shea  Stan Traynor

Leo J. Belanger  Daniel F. Colbert  Walter S. Forrest  Frank Fronczek  James P. Murphy  Florien St. Laurent  Arthur Tremblay

Charles B. Bernard  Howard Collins  Frank Fronczek  Edward Kupidara  Louis Plenizio  John St. Onge  Louis Trevison


Russell Bilodeau  John F. Connors  Salvatore A. Gallo, Sr.  Wilfred Lamonda  Frank Pezzente, Sr.  Angelo Stanizzi  William Vasko

Joseph Blondin  Robert "Bob" Connors  Salvatore A. Gallo, Jr.  Benoit Landry  Alexander Plefka, Sr.  Frederick Stark  Charles George Verotsky

Patrick Bouchard  Levite Cormier  Joseph Gaudette  Estem Lavertu  Louis Plenizio  John Jom, Angelo,  Ralph Viola

Antonio Braga  Dr. Joseph Corosso  Willie Gendreau  Lucien Lavertu  Valentine Povinelli, Sr.  Ralph, Frank, Joe Stanizzi  Vincent E. Volowski

James Bradley  Robert Corosso  Alex Golas  Philip Lombardi  Michael G.P. Procaccini  Ray Stanizzi  Howard J. Wilmes

Austin Brimley  Edward Cowing  George Grivois  John Luizzi  James Reardon  Berton Stebbins  Carmen C. Zocco

Kenneth Brunette  Leo P. Cummiskey  Edmond Guerin  James H. Manship  Femando Rendeau  John Stepfen  Sebastian Zocco


"Blessed be all fathers who have come into our lives, whose kindness, care and loving remain with us to guide."