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

St. Christopher Church

June 26, 2016 | Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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
"No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God."


Mass Intentions for the Week

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)

Monday, June 27 – 7:30 a.m.
John & Louise Olinatz
(Children)

Tuesday, June 28 – 7:30 a.m.
Velma Peila
(Members of St. Christopher’s Adult Social Club)

Wednesday, June 29 – 7:30 a.m.
Diane Olinatz
(Family)

Thursday, June 30 – 7:30 a.m.
Edmond Guerin
(The Guerin Family)

Saturday, July 2 – 4:00 p.m.
Dominick Natalie
In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Family)

Sunday, July 3 – 8:00 a.m.
Michael Halle (Norman & Edith Daigle)

Sunday, July 3 – 10:30 a.m.
Bruce Robinson (Chickie Amberg)

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (June 19): $5,130*
*Includes $633 received through our Online Giving program and $81 from mail-in offerings.
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.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION
“No one who sets a hand to the plow, and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God.”

Jesus was fond of using agricultural terms and images when teaching His Apostles and His followers, and this quote, which comes at the end of our Gospel Reading from Luke today, is an excellent example of that.

In fact, you almost have to have had experience with farming and plowing to understand what it means. It is important for the health and sustenance of crops that the furrows made by a plow, and in which the seeds will be planted, are straight. Whether plowing in Jesus’ time either by hand or with a plow pulled by oxen, in order to plow straight rows, someone had to focus on where he was going, not on where he had been. It has not changed with our modern farm equipment today.

In other words, the secret is to look forward, and to assure that you are going in a straight line. Looking back invariably made the person plowing lose focus. That is Jesus’ point to us. As good stewards we must keep our focus on Him, on following Him, and on being His disciple. That allows us to move toward our goal of holiness and of being the kind of disciple He wants us to be.
PARISH SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN
Please invite your family and friends to check out the amazing things our school is doing to see if it is the right choice for them! Registrations are now open for the 2016-2017 school year. For more information, please call the school office at 860-568-4100 or visit saintchristopherschool.org. (Office hours during the summer are Tues.-Thurs., 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon each day.)

NEWS FROM THE TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD

Free Summer Meals for Kids and Teens
Meals are being served Monday - Friday, rain or shine, at a number of sites throughout East Hartford. All children age 18 and under are welcome at every site. This program is federally funded through the USDA. No registration required and no ID required. More information can be found on the posted flyers at the side entrances of our church or by calling 211 or visiting www.CTSummerMeals.org. Please share this information with families you know who could benefit from this program.

Adult and Youth Bicycle Safety Courses
The Connecticut Department of Transportation has established a Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). SRTS is a federally funded initiative with the goal of enabling and encouraging children in grades K-8 to walk and bicycle to school. In order to ensure the safety of cyclists in East Hartford, a free Adult and Youth Bicycle Safety Course will be offered at the East Hartford Cultural Center on several dates in August. For more information about this FREE course, please see the flyers and brochures available at all church entrances. Space is limited. Register today by contacting Bridget Boucaud at bboucaud@vnengineers.com or at 203-234-7862. Participants must have properly fitted helmets and bicycles.

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 learn more by visiting their website this coming week: www.usccb.org, and select the link to Fortnight for Freedom.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM
Are you looking for inexpensive things to do this summer with your family? How about a trip to the Knights of Columbus Museum, 1 State Street in New Haven? FREE admission, FREE parking and it’s air-conditioned. Their current exhibits include:

Fleeing Famine
This exhibit centers on the hardships and perils that Irish immigrants endured on so-called “coffin ships” as they crossed the Atlantic Ocean on route to North America in the mid-19th century. This exhibit includes a large-scale replica of a sailing ship.

Mission of Faith
Mission of Faith: The Coming of the Gospel to America traces the work of Catholic missionaries as they spread Christianity across the continent.

For more information about the Knights of Columbus Museum, please call 203-865-0400 or visit them at kofcmuseum.org.

LIVING GOD’S WORD
Jesus sends off seventy-two disciples in our Gospel today. He instructs them in advance not to expect success in all of their endeavors. So when they fail, they are to “shake the dust from their feet” and move on. It is an instruction to be heeded by any who fail.

FAILURE
“Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead end.”
– Denis Waitley
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, tuna fish, 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!

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.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE
The Catholic Biblical School, offered by the Archdiocese of Hartford, provides an opportunity for adults to come to know, love, and live scripture through an in-depth Bible study from a Catholic perspective. Classes will begin in mid-September and applications are due by August 15. The tuition cost is very affordable. Please contact Barbara Jean Daly Horell at 860-242-5573 for more information or to make an appointment. Deacon Phil is our parish contact and he can be reached at 860-568-5001 if you would like talk to him about the Catholic Biblical School experience. You may also visit www.orehartford.org 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.

MARIAN GARDEN
We are still accepting orders for our Marian Garden. We have many orders for granite slabs and bricks that will be incorporated into the Garden this summer. Now is a great time to submit your order. For more information about the options available, please visit stchris-eh.org/mariangarden.php to download the order form or you may call the parish office at 860-568-5240 for assistance.

VOCA TION D ISCERNMENT 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.

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.

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.
### Parish Contacts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARISH TRUSTEES</td>
<td>Marie Gallo-Garabedian</td>
<td>860-655-9367</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lawlizard80@yahoo.com">lawlizard80@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard “Mac” McCarthy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Lori Brunette</td>
<td>860-655-9367</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN</td>
<td>Michael Munley</td>
<td>860-683-8594</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Elizabeth Rowe</td>
<td>203-685-0645</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lawlizard80@yahoo.com">lawlizard80@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEBOUND MINISTRY</td>
<td>Barbara Casey</td>
<td>860-568-4638</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRAYER LINE MINISTRY</td>
<td>Sue Ward</td>
<td>860-633-2930</td>
<td><a href="mailto:toobusysue@gmail.com">toobusysue@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>“...but not too busy to take your prayer requests!”</td>
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<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION</td>
<td>Kristina Gillespie</td>
<td>860-895-8692</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stchrisym@gmail.com">stchrisym@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</td>
<td>Mary Priest</td>
<td>860-569-0087</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY</td>
<td>Jean Nowik-Martocci</td>
<td>860-568-8873</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARISH/SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT</td>
<td>Dianne Rumsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHURCH CUSTODIAN</td>
<td>Roger Dube</td>
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<td>SCHOOL MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>Roger Dionne</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</td>
<td>Stephen Roczynski</td>
<td>860-250-0640</td>
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### Lectio Divina & Daily Readings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Sunday Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16b, 19-21</td>
<td>6-10, 13-16</td>
<td>3:1-8:</td>
<td>4:11-12</td>
<td>1-11</td>
<td>10-17</td>
<td>4-6, 9-12</td>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>10-14c</td>
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<td>1-2, 5, 7-11</td>
<td>16bc-23</td>
<td>4b-8</td>
<td>2-9</td>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131</td>
<td>9ab, 10-14</td>
<td>1-7, 16, 20</td>
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<td>Galatians 5:</td>
<td>Galatians 6:</td>
<td>2 Timothy 4:</td>
<td>6-8, 17-18</td>
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<td>1, 13-18</td>
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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."

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, July 3, 2016 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah describes in the first reading the joy and peace that exiled Israel will possess in the new Jerusalem of redemption and restoration. Early Christians experienced this peace and joy in the new life given them by Christ's cross and resurrection. Do those who come into contact with you sense that you possess the peace and joy that comes from trust in and commitment to the Cross of Christ?