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 Welch, Principal
Audrey Cesana, Secretary
www.saintchristopherschool.org
860-568-4100

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

He will either hate one and love the other,
or be devoted to one and despise the other.
You cannot serve both God and mammon.
Luke 16:13
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 18, 2016

“God . . . wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.”

– 1 Timothy 2:4

Mass for the Week

Saturday, September 17 – 4:00 p.m.
Jose Figueiredo (Wife Maria)

Sunday, September 18 – 8:00 a.m.
Adrien, Rena, Jim and Louise Cyr (Paul & Angie Parent)

Sunday, September 18 – 10:30 a.m.
Clifford Vaillancourt – 10th Anniversary (Family)

Monday, September 19 – 7:30 a.m.
Maureen Harden Desrosiers In Celebration of Her Upcoming Birthday (Mom & Family)

Tuesday, September 20 – 7:30 a.m.
Debbie Fallacaro (Family)

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

Thursday, September 22 – 7:30 a.m.
John & Louise Olinatz (Children)

Saturday, September 24 – 4:00 p.m.
Sandra Leonard DeVivo – 10th Anniversary (Family)

Sunday, September 25 – 8:00 a.m.
Joseph Leonardo (Mom & Daughters)

Sunday, September 25 – 10:30 a.m.
Velma Peila (Joe & Jean Martocci)

PARISH SUPPORT
This bulletin was transmitted prior to Bonnie being out of the office this past week for a well-deserved vacation. A report of last weekend’s collections will be published in next weekend’s bulletin.

LOUISIANA FLOOD SPECIAL COLLECTION  
This Weekend – September 17/18

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has called for an emergency collection this weekend to support the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted Catholic dioceses. Join the Church in being a visible witness to the healing presence of Jesus alive in the world through this special collection being taken up this weekend.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Holy Scripture is often filled with references to stewardship and what it means. Today’s Gospel from St. Luke that includes the Parable of the Dishonest Steward is more pointed and direct than many of those references.

The whole concept of stewardship is clear in today’s parable. The steward is the manager (not the owner) of the master’s gifts. God is, of course, the manager, and we are the stewards who are charged with the responsibility of overseeing our gifts of time, talent, treasure, and perhaps even influence. Do we use those gifts wisely and with justice? That is the point we must get from this Gospel. Our Holy Father Pope Francis understood the significance of being a steward when he recently said, “In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection, and all of us are responsible for it. Be protectors of God’s gifts.” As the Lord says to the steward in today’s Gospel, “The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones.”

– www.catholicsteward.com/blog

SANCTUARY LAMP

The lamp beside our church tabernacle reminds us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

 phi The candle in our church burns this week

In Loving Memory of  
Rudolph Emerick – 3rd Anniversary  
(Wife & Family)
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The Parish Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, September 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory basement meeting room. Parish Council meetings are open to all parishioners. If you are interested in attending this next meeting, please contact Parish Council president Lori Brunette at 860-655-9367 or lab-1963@sbcglobal.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Our St. Christopher Council #4 invites all Knight families of the parish, regardless of council affiliation, and our widows to join us in a family pot-luck supper on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 6:00 PM in the church hall. The main entree will be roasted turkey. Our agenda includes:

- Presentation of the Family of the Month Award to the Keith Garabedian Family.
- Presentation of a Deacon’s Dalmatic set to Deacon Phil Gosselin.
- Presentation of a Honorary Life card to Father John Gwozdz.
- Presentation of Past Grand Knight Gifts to Scott Gay.

Presentation of the Council Memorial Plaque including deceased members:

  - Jack R. Ramsey
  - André Charron
  - Francis W. McMahon
  - James E. Kaldy
  - Rev. James G. Fanelli
  - Moises Roque, Jr.
  - Lionel J. Lessard, Sr.

To coordinate the side-dishes and desserts, please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkowitz as soon as possible at 860-568-5452 to plan the head-count and food.

MORE BACK TO SCHOOL NEWS
What a great start to the school year we've had at Saint Christopher School! Grade 4 led a thoughtful prayer service outside one morning to commemorate the National Day of Prayer for Peace in our Communities. The 4th grade students challenged the rest of the school community to think of something they could do to bring peace to others. Perhaps this is something we could all think about and act on.

ST. CHRISTOPHER COMMUNITY FAIR
Join us for a fun-filled afternoon!
Sunday ~ September 18
11:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Rain or Shine
Fun for all ages with games, face painting, bounce house and more!
Tickets will be sold for food, beverages and games.
Bring the whole family!

ST. CHRISTOPHER PARISH GREETERS
As autumn begins and we find ourselves rested from the summer months and anxious to give of our time and talent, have you considered the ministry of being a Parish Greeter? If so, please plan to join us this Monday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall when we will welcome back our current greeters, welcome in new greeters and provide information to those who wish to learn more about this ministry. The scheduling of greeters for September through May will also be discussed at this gathering.

On the following Monday, September 26, at 7:00 pm in the church hall an Evening of Prayer and Reflection: The Season of Autumn and Being a Parish Greeter, based on 1 Timothy 6:11-16 and the Apostle Paul, will be held for all current and new greeters. For more information, please contact Anne Marie Volowski, Coordinator of Parish Greeters at annemarievolowski@yahoo.com or at 860-568-1303.

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW...
This coming week Father John will be going on his annual retreat from Monday, September 19 to Friday, September 23. Guest priests have been scheduled to celebrate the daily Masses at 7:30 am from Monday to Thursday. Father will be in the same place where he has been going on retreat for the past 23 years: The Abbey of Our Lady of the Genesee, a Trappist monastery south of Rochester, NY. Please keep him in your prayers as he will be praying for you.

LIVING GOD’S WORD
We pray for the wisdom to live justly, that is, in such a way that we keep ourselves in proper relationship with God, with each other, and with the earth. We pray for the wisdom to use our gifts and resources to help bring about such “just living.”
We are so very blessed to have talented and generous teachers in our parish and school community. Please take a moment to pray for and thank the following teachers of our children:

April Adams-Mejia  Maddie Gay  Jacqueline Morera  
Liz Barry  Scott Gay  Lisa Muller  
Danielle Bedard  Deacon Phil Gosselin  Kimberly Murphy  
Ruby Birdseye  Fr. John Gwozdz  Sally O'Brien  
Veronica Boland  Diane Johnston  Shannon O'Brien  
Ann Bradley  Lori Lengsavath  Joanna Pace  
Lori Brunette  Teresa Maciolek  Peggy Paradis  
John Byrnes  Maureen Massaro  Jessica Repass  
Joshua Cadwallader  Alicea Mazzone  Monica Russo  
Nancy Cadwallader  Stacy McKeone  Kristie Sargent  
Steve Cadwallader  Audrey Mejia  Maria Sousa  
Eileen DiFilippo  Owen Mejia  Dr. James Tanguay  
Shelly Everett  Noelia Miranda  Irma Torres  
Lindsay Gay  Mary Mitchell  Kathleen Welch

**THÉRÈSE: THE STORY OF A SOUL**, the moving, live production performed by actress Audrey Ahern and directed by Patti Defilippis of Saint Luke Productions, will be presented at St. Mary Church in Portland on Friday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. In this live, one-woman performance, you will learn, in an entertaining way, how Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, an ordinary girl, became an extraordinary soul and a doctor of the Catholic Church. Admission is $10 for adults and $5 for children ages 12 & under. For tickets and additional information, contact St. Mary’s Parish Office at 860-342-2328 ~ st.mary.rectory@sbcglobal.net ~ www.stmaryportlandct.org.
**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."

*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.

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**Reflection for Next Sunday, September 25, 2016 – Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today’s Gospel reading – The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus – reminds us that we are put here on earth for the sake of others, in order to give ourselves for those whom we love, and even for those for whom we don’t. Christ has offered Himself for all mankind. So if we seek to share in the banquet of His Sacrifice, we must spend ourselves for all whom Christ died for.

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**PARISH CONTACTS**

**PARISH TRUSTEES**  
Marie Gallo-Garabedian  
Richard “Mac” McCarthy

**PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
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lab-1963@sbcglobal.net

**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**  
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**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
St. Christopher Council #4  
Bob Falkevitz, Grand Knight ~ 860-568-5452

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**  
Santa Vallone ~ 860-569-1772

**GREETERS’ MINISTRY**  
Anne Marie Volowski ~ 860-568-1303

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Stephen Roczynski ~ 860-250-0640