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

If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea,” and it would obey you.
Luke 17:6

Copyright © J.R. Pellett Co., Inc. • Photo © Nature2011/Polkco
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 2, 2016

“Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.”
– Psalm 95:6

Mass for the Week

Saturday, October 1 – 4:00 p.m.
Robert Boardman, Sr. – 4th Anniversary
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, October 2 – 8:00 a.m.
Michael & Mary Dellaripa (Son Philip)
Francis Dellarippa (Brother Philip)

Sunday, October 2 – 10:30 a.m.
Stephen Tamiso
(Dave & Chickie Amberg)

Monday, October 3 – 7:30 a.m.
Anna & Valentine Povinelli
(Barbara & Valentine Povinelli)

Tuesday, October 4 – 7:30 a.m.
Mark Tardiff & Debbie Fallacaro
(Family)

Tuesday, October 4 – 9:00 a.m.
Earl Champion (Peggy Paradis)

Wednesday, October 5 – 7:30 a.m.
Dominic & Nancy Viglione (Jean Walker)

Thursday, October 6 – 7:30 a.m.
Filomena Chaves Melo (Maria Leonardo)

Saturday, October 8 – 4:00 p.m.
Robert Martin – 1st Anniversary
(Mom & Family)

Sunday, October 9 – 8:00 a.m.
Jenny Contos (Michael & Maria Gallo)

Sunday, October 9 – 10:30 a.m.
Helen & John Katin
(Katin & Brewer Families)

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (September 25): $ 4,897*
*Includes $638 received through our Online Giving program and $425 from mail-in offerings.
Thank you for your support of our parish family.

HOPES COLLECTION
Thank you! On behalf of the students in the Catholic elementary schools of the Archdiocese of Hartford, we extend deep gratitude to all who contributed to the 2016 HOPES Collection. Your support, which totaled $1,212, will help to create a culture of educational excellence and plays an important role in the evangelization of young students as active participants in their parish communities. 25% of this collection, which totals $303, remains here to support our own parish school. Thank you again!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION
Our First Reading from the Old Testament Book of Habbakuk is once again from someone we consider to be a minor prophet. Habbakuk deals with the situation of when someone believes in God, but when they look at the world around them, it does not seem to match what God wants. Isn’t that true of today’s world as we are inundated with tragic and horrible news almost on a daily basis?

Trust in God is the key for us to be good stewards, and it is at the crux of the power of faith. In his Memoirs Pope Benedict XVI said, “The more I reflect on it, the more I understand that the nature of human life is that it is ever Holy Saturday, not Easter Sunday. We are still awaiting Easter; we are not standing in full light, but walking toward it full of trust.” That trust is the secret!

– www.catholicsteward.com/blog

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

Φ The candle in our church burns this week

In Loving Memory of
Edwin G. & Lillian B. Jones
In Remembrance of Their 102nd Birthday
(Daughter Janette Forte)
CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Evening of Retreat ~ October 2 ~ 7:00 p.m.
Confirmation in the Archdiocese of Hartford is a two-year program of preparation. High school students and their parents are invited to the opening Evening of Retreat on Sunday, October 2 in the church hall from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Bring a Bible! Registration will take place that evening, although you may pay the $25 program fee ahead of time using the online giving link on the parish website. (Go to stchris-eh.org, click the Online Giving icon, then select either Create New Account of Quick Give.) **Students in their first or second year of preparation must attend this Evening of Retreat.**

Students who have completed their two years and all other requirements will be confirmed at the Cathedral of St. Joseph by Archbishop Blair on Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. These students must attend a retreat on Friday, November 4 OR Sunday, November 6.

**Wednesday Night Program**
High School students are invited to join us Wednesday nights in the parish center (ring the doorbell to the left of the side door) from 7 - 9 p.m. for pizza, deep discussions, laughter, and prayer!

For more information about our Confirmation or Youth Ministry programs, please contact Kristi Gillespie at stchrisym@gmail.com.

GIVE US THIS DAY
Available at all the church entrances this weekend are sample copies of the Give Us This Day publication. These copies were sent to us free of charge by the publisher Liturgical Press. You are invited to take a copy and use it during the month of October. If you like it, there is information in the book from the publisher on how to subscribe.

SCHOOL MASS
A Mass will be celebrated with the students and staff of our parish school this Tuesday, October 4, at 9:00 a.m. All are invited.

ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB
Monday ~ October 3 ~ 1:00 p.m.
We are pleased to have Rafael Rodriguez Cruz at our next meeting. Mr. Cruz is available at the Raymond Library once a week to provide legal aid for simple matters free of charge for our Seniors. He will let us know what kind of services he offers, and will answer your general questions. **Dues of $10 for the 2016 calendar year were due at the first of the year. If you have not yet paid your dues, please see Regina and Ray Schultz at the Membership Table...and if you know someone who might be interested in joining the club, bring them along to a future meeting to see if we are a good fit for them. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.**

MEMORIAL DONATIONS
We are most grateful when family members request that donations may be made to St. Christopher Church or School in memory of their loved one. Most recently the family of John Leonard made this very request and $1,275 has already been donated in John’s memory. May he rest in God’s eternal embrace.

OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS
October 8 and 9
Bethlehem Wood Carving will be visiting our parish next weekend, October 8 and 9, on behalf of the Christian families of the Holy Land. For centuries, the Christians of Bethlehem have earned their living by carving olive wood religious art to sell. We invite you to stop by the parish hall after all Masses next weekend to see for yourself how beautiful these wood carvings are and to support their efforts.

THANK YOU KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!
My heartfelt thanks to the St. Christopher, Knights of Columbus, Council #4 for their generous and thoughtful gift to me of a beautiful Deacon Dalmatic and Stole set. It will forever be the first one I ever had and I will cherish it. Thank you and God bless you for all you do for our community!

Peace and blessings, Deacon Phil
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Did you know…

- There are over 1.9 million members in the Knights of Columbus throughout the world that support the Church and charitable works.
- We are called to build up the family which is the Domestic Church.
- The St. Christopher Council #4 has a charter hanging in the hall signed by our founder; Father Michael J. McGivney.

If you’d like to be a part of an organization of men who Change Lives and Save Lives, we’d like to meet you and invite you to fill out an information card after Mass at the exit doors.

Calendar of Events

10/1-2: Membership Invitation
10/06: 6:30 p.m. Assembly Meeting
10/06: 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting
10/15: 5:30 p.m. Harvest Dinner – All are Invited

Please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 if you have any questions.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

JOIN US! Do you want to be part of a joyful small Christian community? Do you love music? Do you want to praise God in song? Are you both teachable and a team player? Do you want to have input into the workings of the music ministry? The Chancel Choir rehearses in the church on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 p.m. and we sing as a group at the 10:30 Mass on Sundays. All are welcome! Bring a friend with you. No experience necessary, only a love for music, the desire to praise God through singing, a willingness to learn, and a “team player” mentality. For more information, please contact Roberta De Fiore at 203-630-9295 or at Roberta9700@yahoo.com.

PASTORAL PLANNING PROGRESS REPORT

The first round of pastoral planning meetings have resulted in restructuring recommendations from over 200 priests and at least 900 parishioners representing 17 deaneries and 212 parishes of the Archdiocese. An additional round of meetings with priests and parishioners will begin sometime in November. These meetings will entail reviews and feedback on the first round of deanery planning. The feedback we gather will be used to advance our thinking on how best to restructure our deaneries. Additionally, and as a response to people’s request for more frequent and up-to-date communication, the Office of Pastoral Planning has launched its new Pastoral Planning website: www.stewardsfortomorrow.org. Here you will find information about Pastoral Planning, including a glossary of key terms; people invested in guiding the process; data and statistics that will help inform decisions; news and testimonies from those involved in the pastoral planning process, and much more. Finally, in the last quarter of 2016, we will publish a special edition magazine dedicated to providing even more information about pastoral planning, including stories and testimonies from people whose parishes and/or schools have already merged or are in the process of restructuring. The magazine will be mailed to every registered household of the Archdiocese.

SAVE THE DATE

Knights of Columbus Harvest Dinner
Saturday ~ October 15 ~ 5:30 p.m.

More information to follow. Reservations are now being accepted. RSVP to Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 or Scott Gay at 860-906-2618 or at scottgay95@gmail.com.

LECTURE ON THE HEART OF MERCY

In a world of noise and distraction it is easy to forget that God’s mercy is at the heart of Jesus’ teaching. Dr. Brandon Nappi will explore an operative definition of mercy amid life’s inevitable challenges. This lecture will be held on Wednesday, October 12 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield. It is a free event, but donations will be accepted. Refreshments will follow. Register at alumni@stseminary.org.

† IN MEMORIUM †

Please pray for these parishioners who have gone to eternal life during the month of September.

Marie Cyr • Peter Gero • Lucille Laing
John Leonard • Angeline Nash

“If Christ is my life, then death is my gain.”
– Philippians 1:21
LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twenty-seventh</td>
<td>Galatians 1:</td>
<td>Galatians 1:</td>
<td>Galatians 2:</td>
<td>Galatians 3:</td>
<td>Galatians 3:</td>
<td>Galatians 3:</td>
<td>2 Kings 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday in</td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>13-24</td>
<td>1-2, 7-14</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>7-14</td>
<td>22-29</td>
<td>14-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2, 6-9</td>
<td>1b-2, 7-9, 10c</td>
<td>1b-3, 13-15</td>
<td>1bc, 2</td>
<td>69-75</td>
<td>1b-6</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8, 13-14</td>
<td>25-37</td>
<td>38-42</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>5-13</td>
<td>15-26</td>
<td>27-28</td>
<td>11-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke 17:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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, October 9, 2016 – Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

One lesson for us in this Gospel has to do with salvation. All 10 of the lepers were given the gift of healing, but in his gratitude to God for this gift, the Samaritan found salvation. Our salvation is found in recognizing the gifts we have been given and knowing to whom we must offer our thanks.

PARISH CONTACTS

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

**PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT**
Lori Brunette ~ 860-655-9367
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**
Robert A. De Fiore
203-630-9295/Robert9700@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
Bob Falkevitz, Grand Knight ~ 860-568-5452

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

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

**BUILDING & GROUNDS**
Stephen Roczynski ~ 860-250-0640