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.saintchristopperschool.org
860-568-4100

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Maria Sousa 860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 13, 2016

“Sing praise to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and melodious song.”
– Psalm 98:5

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 12 – 4:00 p.m.
Laurent Hebert – 1st Anniversary
(Friend)

Sunday, November 13 – 8:00 a.m.
Edmond Guerin
(The Guerin Family)

Sunday, November 13 – 10:30 a.m.
Louis Sciarra, Jr. – 11th Anniversary
(Family)

Monday, November 14 – 7:30 a.m.
Lucy Laing
(Members of the Adult Social Club)

Tuesday, November 15 – 7:30 a.m.
Diane Olinatz
(Family)

Wednesday, November 16 – 7:30 a.m.
Edmond Guerin
(The Guerin Family)

Thursday, November 17 – 7:30 a.m.
Gennaro Viglione – 8th Anniversary
(Jean Walker)

Saturday, November 19 – 4:00 p.m.
Jose Figueiredo
(Wife Maria)

Sunday, November 20 – 8:00 a.m.
Joseph Leonardo
(Mom & Daughters)

Sunday, November 20 – 10:30 a.m.
Julia Vazquez – 1st Anniversary
(Lydia Lora & Family)

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (November 6): $5,934*
All Saints Day: $1,030
Archdiocese for the Military: $832
*Includes $923 received through our Online Giving program and $365 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish family and the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

PARISH SCHOOL SUPPORT
The second collection being taken up at all Masses this weekend supports our parish school. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION
Jesus warns us to be prepared, for we know not when the end time will occur, nor even our own death. But Jesus also promises to protect us if we are faithful to Him. Are we faithful to His teachings and practicing the fundamentals of Christian stewardship in a way that would be pleasing to Him? Today’s Gospel ends with the assurance to faithful stewards that those who persevere will be saved.

ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL
Our Annual Parish Appeal is underway! Letters have gone out to all parish families on record. If you did not receive one, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 or you may pick up an Appeal packet, which includes Father John’s letter, at the main entrance of the church. As you know, the money raised by this appeal is very important to the financial health of our parish family and will help us make some improvements to our church. We are encouraged by the number of responses we have already received. Please pray for the success of this important effort.

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
Chuck Thompson
(Wife Rikki)
THANK YOU!
The All Souls’ Mass of Remembrance we celebrated last Sunday was a beautiful testament to our belief in the Resurrection and the hope we place in God’s love and mercy on the souls of our beloved dead. We thank Jean Nowik and her committee for the wonderful job they did coordinating the liturgy, decorating the church and the hall, and hosting the reception. Our thanks also to those who prepared food items for the reception, to Roberta and the choir for their musical contributions, and to all those who celebrated with us.

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB MEETING
The next meeting of the Adult Social Club will be held this Monday, November 14 at 1:00 p.m. Prior to our playing Bingo, we will hold the election of officers. In addition, we are asking that if you are planning to attend our Christmas Party in December, please plan to pay the $10.00 fee at the November meeting so we can give a count to the caterer. Also, if you need a special meal, such as gluten-free, please let Joan know at that time. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE
Daisy/Brownie Troop 10862 will be selling Girl Scout cookies after all Masses this weekend. Boxes are $5 each. Your purchase helps the troop earn money toward troop events this year and Girl Scout summer camp while they strengthen their customer service and money management skills!

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS
Hanging in the main entrance of our church is an adorable turkey compliments of the Driscoll family who are active volunteers of our Food Bank. On each turkey feather is an item that will help fill this year’s Thanksgiving food baskets. Please take one or more feathers when you leave today and return your item(s) by November 16 to the area near the candle station. Our church is open during the weekday.

Volunteers are needed to help pack the baskets on Thursday morning, November 17 at South Congregational Church and to deliver the baskets on Sunday, November 20. If you are able to help with the packing and/or delivering, please contact Diane Warner at 860-202-8462. Thank you!

GIFT CARD SALES
After All Masses this Weekend
These cards not only make wonderful gifts, they are also great for your everyday use. For every gift card that you purchase at face value, a rebate is given to our parish school. For example, when you purchase either a Shop Rite or a Stop & Shop gift card, the school receives a 4% rebate on each card sold. A large selection of gift cards to grocery stores, restaurants, etc. is available. Please plan to stop by to learn more about this easy way of supporting our parish school and to do some early Christmas shopping!

COAT, GLOVE AND SOCK DRIVE
The students in our religious education program are sponsoring a coat, glove and sock drive to benefit those in our community who are less fortunate. A collection box has been placed in the church hall to accept donations of new or gently used coats, gloves and socks. Your donations will help us to be able to provide items of warmth to our brothers and sisters this coming winter. Your support of our students’ efforts is much appreciated.

PASTA DINNER THANK YOU!
On Saturday Evening, October 29, we shared a lovely evening of fun, food and friendship with a Pasta Dinner. We had approximately 175 people in attendance, and together we made this a great event that benefited our parish school. A huge thanks goes out to the entire parish family who participated in one way or another. Much appreciation for all who helped set up, clean up, assisted in the kitchen, those who made the raffles a success, and especially all the attendees. Thank you all for taking the time out of your busy lives to create these happy community events. We will be looking forward to many more of these types of events in the future.

St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ December 2, 2016
1:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Please call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767) to make an app’t. or log onto redcrossblood.org.
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Next week’s collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) needs your help. CCHD was founded to break the cycle of poverty in the United States by funding organizations that help individuals help themselves. With a tradition of improving education, housing situations, and community economic development, CCHD continues to make a positive impact in communities nationwide. Your contribution will defend human dignity and reach out to those living on the margins.

COUNTERS’ MINISTRY
Now is the time to begin preparing next year’s weekly schedule. If you are a current member of this ministry and are not able to continue next year, please let us know. If you are interested in joining this ministry and would like to be included on next year’s schedule, please let us know that as well. You may contact Bonnie in the parish office or Tom Hurley, Scheduling Chairman, at 860-568-6263 before December 10. The current schedule takes us through the end of January 2017. The new schedule will start February 5, only three months away.

Our Lead Counters are scheduled every seven weeks. The Team Counters are scheduled an average of once every couple of months. Counters meet every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 12:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend on your scheduled day, other members are always willing to cover or to swap with you.

This ministry is a great way to serve your parish while giving you the opportunity to meet and mingle with your fellow parishioners. It is a friendly and outgoing group. All are welcome to join us.

We are thankful to our current members for their service to this ministry and look forward to welcoming new members!

PROTECTOR’S OF ANIMALS FAIR
Next Saturday, November 19 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in our church hall, the Protector’s of Animals, a non-profit, no-kill animal shelter located here in East Hartford, will be holding their Annual Holiday Fair. The POA is currently accepting donations of “new” crafts and gifts or re-gifts, new holiday items or new cat/dog items to sell. For more information, call 860-569-0722.

YOUTH MINISTRY
Podcast and Pizza every Wednesday in the parish center from 7-9 pm. Join us for pizza and great discussion! Please come to the side door by the playground and ring the doorbell! If possible, RSVP to stchrisym@gmail.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Congratulations to Tom Boland and Eddie Rivera for joining our St. Christopher Council #4. The Knights of Connecticut have committed to funding the restoration of St. Joseph Cathedral tower lighting and it will be visible from the interstate highways.

Congratulations to all the Msgr. Thomas Drennan Fourth Degree Assembly members and their commitment to patriotism who placed flags on the graves of veterans in the Hockanum and Old South Cemeteries. Many of these veterans are from the Revolutionary, Spanish-American and Civil Wars.

The membership and their families will hold their Family Pot-luck Dinner on Tues., Nov. 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the church hall. The entrées will be Rueben and Macaroni & Cheese Casseroles with members bringing side dishes and desserts. The Family of the Month Awards will be presented for September and October. All parish Knight families are invited to attend. Please contact the Grand Knight to contribute.

There is still time to receive information and consider joining the largest Catholic lay organization in the world. Please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 for more information.

PARISH COLLECTORS
Our parish is in need of men and women who are willing to help take up the weekly collection during our 10:30 a.m. Mass. If you are interested in serving your parish in this way, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240. Thank you!

ST. CHRISTOPHER’S PRE-K PROGRAM
Has your child achieved potty training? Congratulations! Now is the time to consider a small preschool program for 3 year olds. Both full-day and half-day options are available. This safe, nurturing environment is so inviting. The 3 year olds can make friends and experience so many new things! Come visit and see what we’re all about! Call 860-568-4100 or email welchk@saintchristopherschool.org.
## LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>Psalm 98: 5-9</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."

### 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, November 20, 2016 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

Jesus is victor and king because he accepted degradation, powerlessness and death. He is victor and king precisely because he would not save himself, because he gave himself totally, placing all his trust in God. "Because of this God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." (Philippians 2:8-11). Because of this he can save others who follow him in faith and self-giving.
LYMAN ORCHARD
PIES AND COOKIE DOUGH
If anyone is interested in buying a pie or cookie dough, please contact Sarah Poirier at 860-568-0632 or at sarahpeartree@gmail.com. There is a limited number of extra pies and cookie dough for sale on a first-come, first-serve basis. These products will be available for pickup on Friday, November 18 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at our parish school.

PAINT NITE “FUN”draiser
Our Parish Council will be hosting a Paint Nite “Fun”draiser on Friday, January 13 from 6 - 9 p.m. in our parish hall. (Snow date is January 20.) An instructor from the Camp Simon Art Center will guide both beginners and advanced painters to create your own unique artwork. Plan to come to relax, find your inspiration and channel your inner artist. Adults only (21+). BYOB. Cost is $40 per person and includes all materials. To reserve your seat, contact Lori Brunette at 860-655-9367. All money is due by 1/5/17.

Thankful Faithful People Coming Together for Peace, Unity, Healing and Service
2016 Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service
Sunday, November 20, at 7:00 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church, 1120 Silver Lane

Join East Hartford residents and Mayor Marcia Leclerc for a service that will move us spiritually as it moves us to bring peace, unity, healing, and service to our community.

This year, we will once again put our faith into action by bringing forward:
- Tupperware (all sizes) and pillows for the shelter,
- food for our food banks and soup kitchen,
- financial treasure for the Human Needs Fund providing rental and energy assistance, and
- prayers of thanksgiving

Please bring any or all of the above items to support the ministries of East Hartford Interfaith Ministries.

Moved in Spirit
Moved in Service

Join the choir! Please arrive by 6:00pm for rehearsal!
Breakfast with Santa!
Tickets on Sale & Volunteers Needed

12/4

Come join us for great food, great friends and pictures with Santa.

Many things to enjoy and entertain you this day.
- Arts & Crafts
- Drawings
- 50/50 Drawing
- Letters to Santa
- Christmas Express

Thank you for your participation and hope to see many families there.

We need volunteers for set up the day before and the day of. We ask that you contact Danielle Vargas to volunteer.

Adults $7.00
Seniors $5.00
Children 5-12 $4.00
Under 5—Free
Family $20.00

Volunteers and Questions please contact:
Event Chair - Danielle Vargas
Call or text [T] 860.235.5421 [E] stchrisdvargas@gmail.com