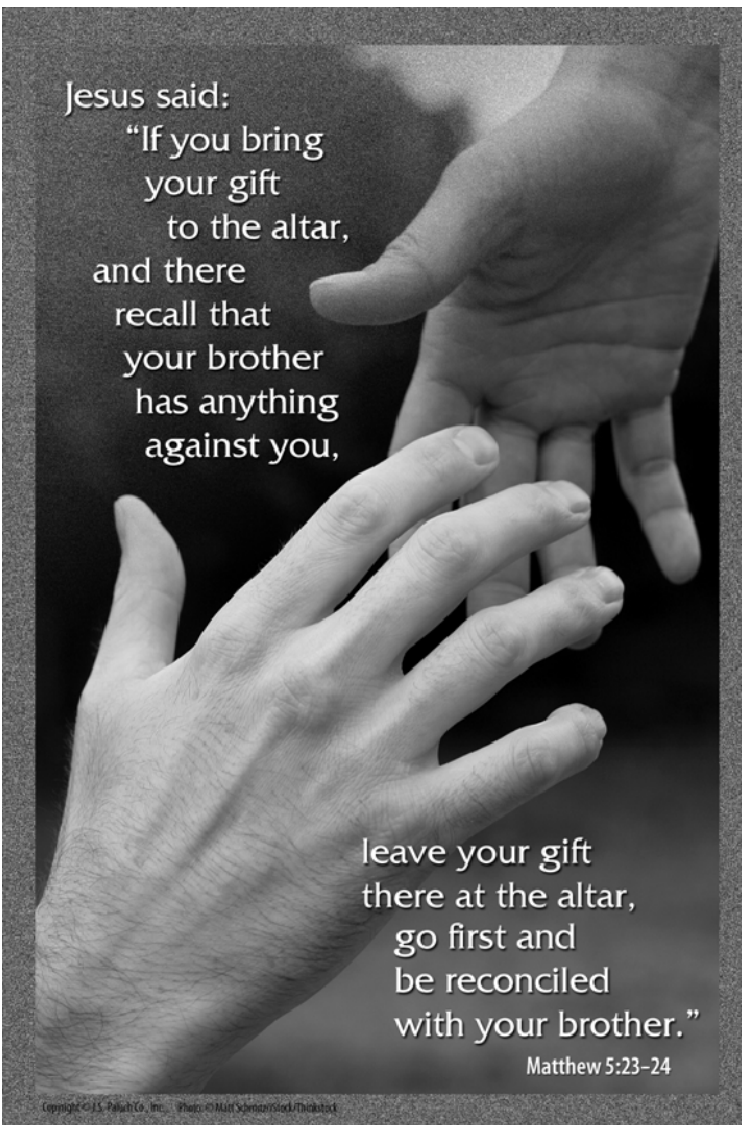


Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 12, 2017



Jesus said:
"If you bring
your gift
to the altar,
and there
recall that
your brother
has anything
against you,

leave your gift
there at the altar,
go first and
be reconciled
with your brother."

Matthew 5:23-24

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St. Christopher Parish

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East Hartford, CT 06118

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E-mail: stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net

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Rev. John P. Gwozdz, Pastor

E-mail: Fr.Gwozdz@aohct.org

Mr. Philip J. Gosselin, Deacon

E-mail: imgoose@comcast.net



StChristopherChurchEH

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



Sixth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
February 12, 2017

“What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love [God], this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.”

– 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week

Saturday, February 11 – 4:00 p.m.

Eleanor Domler – 5th Anniversary
(Husband & Family)

Sunday, February 12 – 8:00 a.m.

Anna Dube
(Tony & Maria Sousa)

Sunday, February 12 – 10:30 a.m.

John Leonard
(Tony & Maria Sousa)

Monday, February 13 – 7:30 a.m.

John & Louise Olinatz (Children)

Tuesday, February 14 – 7:30 a.m.

Marianne Harden
(Mom & Family)

Wednesday, February 15 – 7:30 a.m.

Mark Tardiff (Family)

Thursday, February 16 – 7:30 a.m.

Antonio Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Saturday, February 18 – 4:00 p.m.

Lucien Lavertu – 2nd Anniversary
(Wife Joan & Children Paul and Carol)

Sunday, February 19 – 8:00 a.m.

Sebastian Accaputo – 20th Anniversary
(Wife, Children & Grandchildren)

Sunday, February 19 – 10:30 a.m.

John Connors (Wife Evelyn & Family)

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (February 5): \$ 5,690*

*Includes \$1,253 received through our Online Giving program and \$350 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish family.

TAX STATEMENTS

We are happy to provide tax statements to our parishioners who request one. If you regularly use your envelopes to make your offerings to our parish and wish to receive a tax statement, please contact the parish office by phone or e-mail.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN

Dear Friends,

I’m writing to remind you of the opportunities that continue to be provided by our parish Marian Garden. Many people have had bricks inscribed to honor or remember significant people or events in their lives. I myself have purchased bricks in memory of my father and my godmother. I plan to do the same for my paternal and maternal grandparents and to commemorate my vocation and ordination to the priesthood.

Hardly a day goes by when someone doesn’t stop by to look at a brick they had inscribed. I’m impressed by how they have been used to remember graduations, baptisms and other events.

Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to provide a lasting way to remember the people and events that are dear to your heart. Forms can be found near the doors of the church.

May God bless you,
Father John

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
Rosalie M. Reed**

(Daughters Sandra Shinder & Sharon Holmgren
and Son Timothy Reed)

PARISHIONER IN NEED BAKE SALE

This Weekend After All Masses!

Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee are hosting their Eighth Anniversary Bake Sale after all Masses this weekend. We celebrate eight years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist several members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Stop in the hall before you leave today to see what treats are available and to support the efforts of our PIN Ministry. Thank you!

Please continue to watch out for those in our parish who may need assistance and may be hesitant to ask for help. Even those we have helped in the past may still be struggling and we ask that they or someone on their behalf come forward if necessary. *Let's be aware of those who need care.*

SAVERS FUNDRAISER

Saint Christopher School is sponsoring a Savers fundraiser. You can help raise funds for the school by simply cleaning out your closets! We are collecting garbage bags of gently used clothing, books and household goods through Saturday, February 18. You can drop off goods at the school or bring them on our collection day, February 18. 400 bags will earn \$1,000 for the school. Please help us to reach our goal. Contact the school with any questions: welchk@saintchristopherschool.org or 860-568-4100.

Saint Christopher School is accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. Please visit saintchristopherschool.org for more information about the school. You may also call 860-568-4100 or email welchk@saintchristopherschool.org or visit the school at any time. Come and see the difference in a Catholic education!

STRING QUARTET CONCERT

Sunday ~ February 12 ~ 3:00 p.m.

The Mountain Road String Quartet will perform a concert this Sunday in our church. This concert is open to the public with no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be taken to benefit the East Hartford Food Banks. The concert will be followed by a light reception where the audience may enjoy refreshments and fellowship and an opportunity to greet the performers. All are invited.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Our Adult Bible Study group meets every other Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in our chapel. It meets again this Wednesday, February 15. Come when you can...we're not taking attendance, no tests, no grades...we just want to expose you to reading, studying and praying with Scripture. For more information, please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

FOOD BANK MEETING

Our Food Bank Ministry will be holding a meeting on Monday, Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall to discuss a Thank You Breakfast they are planning to host for all parishioners on Sunday, March 26. Anyone interested in learning more about our Food Bank Ministry is invited to attend this meeting. For more info, please contact Diane Warner at 860-202-8462.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets in our church hall on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. We meet again this Monday, February 13. New members are welcome to join at anytime. You don't need to know how to knit or crochet to join because we can teach you! For more info, please contact Santa Vallone at 860-569-1772.

EAST HARTFORD WOMAN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

The East Hartford Woman's Club is proud to announce that applications for scholarships to be awarded by the East Hartford Woman's Club (EHWC) are now available in the guidance offices at East Hartford High School, the CT International Baccalaureate Academy, Synergy, CT River Academy, Pathways Academy of Technology and Design, Howell Cheney Technical HS and East Catholic HS. Seniors at any school, who are residents of East Hartford, are eligible to apply for the scholarships which in 2017, will be at least \$1,500 each. Because EHWC is a volunteer service organization, we encourage students who have been active in their community and in school life to apply. Through the years, several seniors from the St. Christopher community have been recipients of this scholarship. It is well worth the time and effort to request an application form from the Guidance Department within the schools. For more information on the EHWC Scholarships or to obtain an application, please call Scholarship Chair, Beverly Saunders at 860-648-2842.

PAINTING OUR CHURCH

A parishioner submitted the following article for the bulletin to describe how he and his family made it possible to take care of some necessary paint work in the church, to thank those who have given to the present effort, and to encourage others to complete the project.

“Four years ago, flakes of paint were falling off the wall where the statue of the Blessed Mother hangs. I felt that our Blessed Mother did not deserve to be treated this way and so I spoke with the pastor at the time. I said that I would make a donation of \$1,000 to take care of the situation. He agreed to hire a painter to paint the walls and to repair other areas of the church where patching was needed.

Two years later I noticed that paint was flaking from the light rims in the ceiling. I made a donation of \$2,000 to repair this situation.

Now we are looking at painting all the walls of our church. The area around the altar has been done and the money to pay for it came, in part, from what was raised by the Parish Annual Appeal. It looks wonderful.

Parishioners have been asked to make donations to a Paint Fund which would pay for painting the rest of the church. My family and I made a donation to this fund. So far, enough money has been raised to paint the walls and molding where the statues of the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph hang, and also the walls and molding along the side walls up to where the old confessionals are located. This will look very good when it is done.

Hopefully enough money will be raised to allow us to paint the rest of the church. Thank you to everyone who helped us get this far and to those who will help us finish the job.”

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP BULLETIN

Each weekend we offer copies of the Children’s Worship Bulletin for the young people of our parish. There are two versions - one for ages 3-6 and another for ages 7-12. These bulletins contain age appropriate activities that reinforce the weekend’s Gospel message. Each week the bulletins contain a new secret code that unlocks games that can be played online. You will find copies of these bulletins at the main entrance of our church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The St. Christopher Council #4 has provided the Church Book Library with a display case of 15 booklets in the new Building the Domestic Church Catholic Information Series. This is a special collection of booklets that focus on family formation and spiritual life. There are more than a dozen copies of each booklet and feel free to take one home.

The first booklet in the series, *The Family Fully Alive*, is designed especially for young families and includes new monthly themes, meditations, Scripture readings and family activities.

The second booklet, *Into the Breach*, is an exhortation written by Bishop Thomas Olmsted. He has given us a guide on what it truly means to be a Catholic man who follows Christ, pays attention to the witness of saints, understands what he is called to be and to become, and is willing to engage in the spiritual warfare necessary to be a good husband, father and disciple who spreads the Gospel by word and example.

The other booklets in the series are the following:

3. The Gift of Fatherhood – What Every Man Should Know
4. Lord, Teach Us to Pray
5. Prayer Time – A Collection of Catholic Prayers
6. Letter to Families
7. The Good Life, God’s Way
8. The Family in the Modern World
9. A Scriptural Rosary for Peace and for the Family
10. Becoming a Real Man of God
11. Mary, Mother of God
12. Saint Benedict for Busy Parents
13. Saint Joseph: Our Father in Faith
14. God’s Plan for Love and Marriage: John Paul II’s Theology of the Body
15. Questions and Answers About the Catholic Faith

There is still time for you and your family to make a difference and join the largest Catholic lay organization in the world. Please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 for more information.

We are most grateful to the Knights of Columbus for the donation of this collection of booklets. We hope you will avail yourself of the opportunity to read through some or all of the books in this series.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

Sunday Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sirach 15: 15-20	Genesis 4: 1-15, 25	Genesis 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10	Genesis 8: 6-13, 20-22	Genesis 9: 1-13	Genesis 11: 1-9	Hebrews 11: 1-7	Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18
Psalm 119: 1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34	Psalm 50: 1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21	Psalm 29: 1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10	Psalm 116: 12-15, 18-19	Psalm 102: 16-21, 29, 22-23	Psalm 33: 10-15	Psalm 145: 2-5, 10-11	Psalm 103: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
1 Corinthians 2: 6-10							1 Corinthians 3: 16-23
Matthew 5: 17-37	Mark 8: 11-13	Mark 8: 14-21	Mark 8: 22-26	Mark 8: 27-33	Mark 8:34 - 9:1	Mark 9: 2-13	Matthew 5: 38-48

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.

<p>Call to Prayer: "Let us take a moment in the midst of all our activity to prepare ourselves for prayer."</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW Copyright 2001 by Robert J. Wicks Used with permission of Paulist Press www.paulistpress.com</i></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Reflection for Next Sunday, February 19, 2017 – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus tells us that our love of neighbor must be like God's love for us, universal and total. This was not easy for the earliest Christians, nor is it easy for us. St. Paul had to remind the Corinthian Christians that they may correct their enemies but no revenge, no holding grudges.

PARISH CONTACTS

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Richard "Mac" McCarthy

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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!"

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Anne Marie Volowski ~ 860-568-1303