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: Fr.Gwozdz@aohct.org

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

Like us on Facebook
StChristopherChurchEH

Easter Sunday
HE HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD, AND HE IS GOING BEFORE YOU TO GALILEE.
Matthew 28:7
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
April 16, 2017

“When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.”
– Colossians 3:4

Mass for the Week

Sunday, April 16 – 8:00 a.m.
Joseph Chesery – 22nd Anniversary
(Daughter Madeline & Sam Cassarino)

Sunday, April 16 – 10:30 a.m.
For the People of the Parish

Tuesday, April 18 – 7:30 a.m.
Manuel & Maria Machado
(Family)

Wednesday, April 19 – 7:30 a.m.
John & Louise Olinatz
(Children)

Thursday, April 20 – 7:30 a.m.
Antonio Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Saturday, April 22 – 8:00 a.m.
Bernard Casey – 10th Anniversary
(Family)

Sunday, April 23 – 8:00 a.m.
Normand Daigle
(Charles Bastarache)

Sunday, April 23 – 10:30 a.m.
Vivienne Hope Renouf – 2nd Anniversary
(Family)

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (April 2): $ 6,297*
Parish School Collection: $ 1,634**

*Includes $1,268 received through our Online Giving program and $745 from mail-in offerings.

**Includes $140 received through our Online Giving program and $176 from mail-in offerings.

The report of the Palm Sunday collections will be published in next weekend’s bulletin.

Thank you for your support of our parish family.

EASTER COLLECTIONS
We will be taking up two collections at all Masses this weekend. Both collections will benefit the needs of our parish. We thank you for your support!

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.
Amen

We wish you a blessed Easter season!

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
Robert Boardman (Wife Helen & Family)
Jim and Mike Grogan (Sister Helen & Family)
CONGRATULATIONS
We offer our congratulations to our parishioner Leslie Torres-Rodriguez who was recently named Hartford School Superintendent in a unanimous decision by the city school board. We pray that God will bless her as she takes on this great responsibility.

We also offer our congratulations to our parishioner Joshua Cadwallader who recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. An award ceremony was held on March 26 and those in attendance included fellow parishioner Representative Jason Rojas and Father John Gwozdz who delivered the Benediction. We pray that God will bless Joshua in all his future endeavors.

FAMILY CHOIR REHEARSAL
The next rehearsal of the Family Choir will be held in our chapel this Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. for any adult or child who is interested in singing in the family choir at the Children’s Liturgy being celebrated on April 30 at 10:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692.

MARIAN GARDEN UPDATE
Now that spring is here and warmer weather is on the horizon, work on our Marian Garden will be resuming shortly. During the winter months, nine granite slabs were engraved and will be installed as soon as the weather is warm enough to use the adhesive. All three granite benches have now been reserved by donors and will be engraved and incorporated into the garden. And several orders for bricks are ready to be sent to the engraver. Now is the perfect time to order a slab or brick to be incorporated into the garden. Messages can memorialize a loved one, honor someone special, commemorate an event (i.e., baptism, First Communion, graduation, anniversary) or can simply be your name as a supporter of the garden. Donation levels begin at $50. For more information, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 or visit our Marian Garden page at stchris-eh.org/mariangarden.php

ST. CHRIS ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION
Saturday ~ April 22 ~ 5:30 p.m.
Please join us for an unforgettable evening filled with good food; wine, beer and soda tastings from local vendors; music by The Rusty Crickets Band and DJ Ron Donson; and a variety of great items to bid on. Our auctioneer will be Tim Lammers of Fox 61 Morning News. $30 single; $50 couple. Tickets can be purchased by calling the school at 860-568-4100 or by visiting saintchristophersschool.org.

SUMMER ACADEMY
at Saint Christopher School
Information is available on our parish school’s website www.saintchristopherschool.org under the Admissions tab for our new and improved Summer Academy options! There is an 8-week camp for PreK and a 6-week camp for incoming Kindergarten - Grade 2 students. The focus is on STEM learning with connected activities and a weekly in-school field trip. The half-day option is from 8:00 am -1:00 pm and the full-day option is from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm for both groups. Registrations are being accepted and are requested at least one week in advance. Please contact Mrs. Welch with any questions at 860-568-4100 or at welchk@saintchristopherschool.org.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL
2017/2018 School Year
Registrations are being accepted for the 2017-2018 school year. Financial aid applications can be submitted through Smart Aid. All financial aid information is on the main page of the school’s website: www.saintchristopherschool.org. Scholarships through Connecticut Educational Opportunities are also available for East Hartford residents. There are options for financing a Catholic school education that make a Catholic education an option for your family. Contact Mrs. Welch for more information at welchk@saintchristopherschool.org or at 860-568-4100.

ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
The 2017 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, Moved by Mercy, is underway. We thank all parishioners who have already made a gift. If you have not yet responded, please prayerfully consider doing so. Your help enables so many programs and initiatives that help thousands across our Archdiocese every day. If you didn’t receive an Appeal packet at your home, you can find one at the main entrance of our church.

BLOOD DRIVE
St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ May 5, 2017 ~ 1:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Please call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767) to make an app’t. or log onto redcrossblood.org.
PINK NO MORE!
Your donations have allowed us to make very good progress in painting the interior of our church, and for that, we are most grateful. All that remains now is the choir loft, the stairwell, the arches over the sanctuary and choir loft (which will continue the light beige color), the windows and the entire ceiling (which will be a very, very light blue).

As we’ve mentioned previously, this project is being funded solely by your donations and is not being covered by funds in the operating account. If you share our desire to see this project completed this year, we invite you to make a donation to our Paint Fund. No donation is too small. You may use the envelope found at all church entrances to make your donation and then place it in the collection basket, drop it off at the rectory or send it in the mail. Thank you for your consideration and for helping to bring us closer to being “pink no more!”

EASTER SEASON CONCERTS
South Windsor Catholic Community Festival Chorus presents John Purifoy’s “Out of the Shadows” cantata on Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m. at Saint Francis of Assisi Church, 673 Ellington Road, South Windsor. Free-will offering will be taken. Reception to follow.

Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, Saturday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m. featuring chamber and children’s choirs, handbell choir and instrumentalists. $40. Reception to follow. For more information, call 860-760-9705 or visit holyfamilyretreat.org.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Member Family Dinner
The St. Christopher Council #4 and Monsignor Thomas J. Drennan Assembly #1571 will host our Family Pot-Luck Supper on Tuesday, April 18, at 6:00 p.m. in our church hall. Our featured entree will be chicken. We plan to present our Appreciation Certificates to our altar servers, hear how Dan Valente is doing at the seminary, and hope to present a Ghanaian priest with a memorial chalice.

Join our Council
There is still time for you and your family to make a difference and join the largest Catholic lay organization in the world. The requirements for membership are that you be a Practical Catholic man and be age 18 or older. Please contact Grand Knight, Bob Falkevitz, at 860-568-5452 for more information.

HOMEFRONT IS COMING!
HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 6, will be upon us before we know it. For those who are not familiar with the HomeFront project, it is a community outreach, a one-day repair blitz for a neighbor in need, where St. Christopher Church forms a crew to perform necessary home repairs and the HomeFront organization provides the materials. The typical HomeFront recipient is elderly, disabled or a single parent and their total household income must qualify as low-income within their community.

At this point we have not received any information about our HomeFront recipient but we need to begin organizing our crew. If you would be willing to assist, there are many ways to get involved. We need skilled persons such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc., but we also need folks who can do common homeowner tasks such as raking, painting, pulling weeds, mowing the lawn, cleaning.

Please consider assisting us with this very worthy project. A big part of the success of our project is feeding our hardworking crew with a simple lunch on HomeFront Day, and to provide them, if possible, with some coffee and maybe donut holes or something similar in the morning while we are getting ready for our day. If there is a group in our parish or a parishioner who is a member of an outside organization that could assist us with these needs, we would be so grateful!

Also, at all Masses the weekend of April 29/30, we will be taking up a second collection to assist with the required fee that helps make HomeFront possible. Your donations assist our parish in making this ministry a reality. Thank you for your past and future support of this project of neighbor helping neighbor.

We can make a difference, but it won’t happen without you. Please say YES! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Deacon Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net.

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED
Now is the time for new and returning families to register children entering grades K-8 this fall for our 2017/2018 religious education program. First Communion and Reconciliation preparation is a two-year program beginning in Grade 1. Registration forms are available at all entrances. To avoid a late fee, please register by April 30, 2017.
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."

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, April 23, 2017 – Second Sunday of Easter
The Easter Season is a special time to celebrate with one’s entire being this greatest of events in the history of the world, the Resurrection! Not only that, but on this Second Sunday of Easter, which is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, we celebrate the love, forgiveness, and mercy of Jesus—tender gifts that he longs to give to us freely, if we will only accept them!

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH TRUSTEES
Marie Gallo-Garabedian
Frank Perrone

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
Sheila DeLaura ~ 860-568-7465

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY
Jean Nowik-Martocci ~ 860-568-8873

PARISH/SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT
Dianne Rumsey

CHURCH CUSTODIAN
Roger Dube

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE
Roger Dionne

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Roberta H. De Fiore
203-630-9295
Roberta9700@yahoo.com

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY
Deacon 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

MINISTRY OF GREETERS
Anne Marie Volowski ~ 860-680-4219
The Easter flowers that decorate our church were donated by gracious parishioners in memory of these loved ones who will be remembered in the Masses during the Easter season. May God grant them eternal life.

James Abounrad
Louise Agnes
Dawn Agnes
Al & Nellie Anderson
Fred Arena
Ed Bartold
Brian Barlow
Jill Barlow
Elizabeth B. Bastow
Aurore & Amede Belanger
Leo & Flora Belanger
Moe Belanger
Charles R. Bernard
Joseph & Eva Bergeron
Anthony Charles Berardone
Robert Anthony Berardone
Russell & Leona Bilodeau
Mr. & Mrs. Aldol Bolvin
Minnie & George Bonomo
Elise Bosco
Jane Bowen
Mr. & Mrs. William Bradley
Joseph Bernard Burns
Eugennial Burzawa
Jadwiga Burzawa
Stefan Burzawa
Jozef Burzawa
Herman & Helen Cadorette
The Cadorette Parents
Thomas Cantone III
Richard Carbonell
Joseph & Mary E. Carron
Salvatore & Concetta Cassarino
André Charron
Joseph & Felicia Chesney
Billie Joe Chitwood
George F. Claffey
Fred & Madelyn Clark
Patricia Clark
Karl Clark
Catherine R. Claffey
Cleaves Family Members
John Concors
Conroy Family Members
Jenny Contois
Corso Family Members
Cote Family Members
Ted Cowing & Family
Paul Crowley
Father Vincent Cronin
Joseph Curley
Adrien Cyr
Rena Cyr
James Cyr
Louise Cyr
Patrick Cyr
Norman & Dennis Daigle
Bruce Daughtery
Henry & Eleanor Dawson
Virgilio Della' Nave
Letizia Della' Nave
Florence Desrocher
Sandra Leonard Devivo
Bruno Dompigil
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Donofrio
Marcel Duval
Carl & Mary Dupre
Jane Falvo
F. James Fanelli
Gerald Fargo
Flaschetti Family Members
Fiengo Family Members
Donald J. Forte
Franzcek Family Members
Salvatore A. Gallo, Sr.
Helen M. Gallo
Salvatore A. Gallo, Jr.
Anthony S. Gallo
Mr. & Mrs. Carmelo Gallo
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gaudette
E. Barbara Gero
Peter R. Gero
Giannantu Family Members
Hercule J. Gilbert
Allan Goorahoo
Butch Gordon
Lenny Grandchamp
Linda & Rea Grenier
Edwin Guerette
Edmond Leona Guerin
Marionne Hadland
Maurice Harden
Ethel B. Hart
Harold L. Hart
Mr. & Mrs. John Hebert
Mr. & Mrs. Jean Hebert
Timothy P. Hickey
Family & Friends of Hlavaty Family
John & Lena Hornyak
Thomas & Bernice Hurley, Sr.
Anthony & Carmela Intino
Edwin G. & Lillian B. Jones
Edwin J. Jones
Stefania & Jan Kamienski
Keegan Family Members
Knapp Family Members
Ruth Knotts
Leslie Knotts
Charles Knotts
Neil Knotts
Kochanowski Family Members
Helen Kosiorak Kronen
Joe H. Kronen
Stanley T. Kronen
Stanley Walter Kronen
Mary & Alfred LaFontaine
Gary LaFontaine
Jeanine Laliberte
Achille Landry
Langerfeld Family Members
Susan Vasko Lassen
Lucien Lavertu
John & Lillian Leonard
John Leonard
Phil & Rose Lombard
John & Julia Luizzi
William Mallon
Manship Family Members
Marie Manager
Marquis Family Members
Marcozzi Family Members
Owen Martin
Mathiu Family Members
Irmia McCarthy
Fr. William McGrath
Eleanor Mahoney
Ed McNamara
Judith D. Melo
Philip J. Melo, Jr.
Millestein Family Members
Frank Menahan
Eleanor Mihm Moyer
Nadeau Family Members
Dean Nadeau
Angie Nagle
Nowik Family Members
Oliveira Family Members
O'Meara Family Members
Krystyna & Sergusz Orenzuk
Sara Parent
Whitford Parys
Heny & Eileen Parys
Ted Pask
Laura Pask
Paul Patterson
Richard Pecker
Maureen Pechie
Arthur Pelletier
Rose Rogosky Pendley
Lee & Gloria Plante
Louis Plenzio
Kathryn Pleva
Alexander Pletka, Sr.
Anna Pletka
Ronald Pletka
Lou & Marion Priest, Sr.
Gail Reglinski
Mr. & Mrs. Fernand Riendeau
Mr. Claude Riendeau
Albert & Beatrice Rioux
Fr. Richard R. Russell
Schultz Family Members
Schifer Family Members
Schicke Family Members
Lucille Serrato
Patrick & Bridle Shea
Jimmy Shepley
Jose M. Sousa
Ray & Millie Stanizzi
Ginny, Angelo, Ralph, Frank,
John, James & Joseph Stanizzi
The Stocker Parents
Jeremiah & Catherine Sullivan
Jeremiah Sullivan, Jr.
John M. Syder
Steve Tamiso
Debbie Tardiff
Mark Tardiff
Roland Thibodeau
Alan Thibodeau
Joseph & Alice Thibodeau
Stan Traynor
John & Mary Traynor
Angela Trevison
Louis Trevison
Tudisco Family Members
Fernand Turmel
Mary & John Twarks
Frank Vallone
Albina & William Vasko
Charles George Verosky
Mary Rogosky Verosky
Susan Stark Vincik
Ralph & Rose Viola
Hana Walc
Frances Wosenwicz
Rose Yergeau
Al Yorio & Family Members
Alda Zappia
Carmen Zocchi
Steven Zocchi
Mary Zocchi
Romelia Zocchi
Veronica & Edward Zwaliński
Dear Friends in Christ,

Christ is Risen! “Alleluia!” With these simple words we proclaim the meaning of life and the destiny for which every human person was created in the divine image and likeness. Despite all appearances, evil, suffering, and death do not have the last word. In a society like ours where many people increasingly struggle to find a reason for living, the only answer is Christ, crucified and risen from the dead, who reveals the plan and purpose of a loving and merciful God.

During this Easter Season, as we celebrate the glory of His death and resurrection, let us remember that the resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our faith. In the words of St. Paul, “…if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain” (1 Cor 15:14). Easter is a graced moment for our faith to be celebrated and strengthened. It is an occasion for us to renew our Baptismal promises to live a life of prayer, of faith, hope and charity, loving God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves.

We give thanks for our brothers and sisters throughout the world who live their Catholic Faith every day, and who are “moved by mercy” to give of their time, talent and treasure to address the spiritual, moral and material destitution that afflicts so many. This “gift of self” is the ultimate vocation in imitation of Christ, who died and rose for us.

As we celebrate Easter 2017 anno Domini, another year “of the Lord,” “of redemption,” may all of us be inspired to embrace and practice our faith with zeal as true witnesses to the Resurrection. May God bless us with Easter joy, together with our loved ones and everyone we encounter during this holy season. Christ is Risen! “Alleluia!”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leonard P. Blair
Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford