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

The Most Holy Trinity ~ June 11, 2017
The Most Holy Trinity

June 11, 2017

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.”

– John 3:16a

**PARISH SUPPORT**

What We Collected (June 4):  $6,271*

Catholic Relief Services:  $1,211

*Includes $1,233 received through our Online Giving program and $385 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish family and of Catholic Relief Services.

**THE TRINITY**

The Trinity is the central mystery of our faith. We believe that God is one, yet three: total unity and rich diversity. God is not a monolith, but a dynamic community of persons, a perfect, loving harmony of three. And the liturgy is the work of the Trinity. We begin all our liturgical celebrations with the sign of the cross, a reminder of our Trinitarian baptism, and the simplest of all professions of our faith. We believe that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we gather in the name of this triune God. Throughout the Mass, we address our prayers to God the Father, through Christ our Lord, in the Spirit’s power. And the Father hears our prayer, transforming bread and wine into the Body and Blood of his Son by the Holy Spirit. The Church is “the sacrament of trinitarian communion” (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, 16). It is the Trinity who holds us together as well. In the words of Saint Cyprian, we are “a people made one by the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit” (quoted in *Sacramentum Caritatis*, 16).

– Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

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

렔 The candle in our church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of**

The Deceased Members of the Sullivan Family

(Marion Sullivan)
LETTER FROM FATHER JOHN
Inserted in this weekend’s bulletin is an important letter from Father John to the future members of the parish family of Saint Edmund Campion. If this bulletin does not contain this letter, please take a bulletin that does. The letter is also available on the main page of our website at stchris-eh.org.

ST. CHRISTOPHER CLASS OF 2017
Saint Christopher School has added another class to their alumni ranks. On June 2, thirteen young men and women received their diplomas at the school’s graduation Mass. Alison Jarmoszko received the Rev. Henry J. Murphy award for the highest academic average. On June 1 at Class Night, the Saint Christopher Award for outstanding character and Christian values was awarded to Joshua Vaughan. Many other academic awards and recognitions were also given at Class Night. The graduates are moving on to East Hartford High School, Cheney Tech High School, East Catholic and Xavier. Thank you to Saint Christopher’s Parish for supporting these students throughout their years at the school and thank you always for your continued support of Saint Christopher School.

We congratulate the following graduates of the Saint Christopher Class of 2017. May God bless their lives from this day on. May he help them to stay true to their dreams, to use their gifts wisely, and to walk into the future with faith, hope, and great love.

Isaiah Albert  Brendan Mahon
Jessica Blum  Alexander Notis
Alice Carvalho  Savion Ross
Francisco Cosme  Brett Schofield
Michael Dyer  Joshua Vaughan
Brianna Himmel  Meadow Williams
Alison Jarmoszko

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE
As the Father “sent his son into the world” so parents send their children into the world “so that the world might be saved.” This is the missionary role of the Christian family. Your family home is a place where your children develop convictions which enable them to make a positive difference in the world.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP
July 10 - 14 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Registrations are now being accepted for this year’s Summer Vacation Bible Camp – Message Received: Hearing God’s Call – where children will learn that God continues to call all kinds of people – including them! Please help us to plan accordingly by submitting your registration by June 12. The registration form, with all the information, can be found at church entrances or be downloaded from our website at stchris-eh.org. Adult and high-school aged volunteers are needed. This is a great way for high school students to earn service hours.

TOP 20 – EHHS CLASS OF 2017
East Hartford High School published their top 20 graduating students in the May 25, 2017 edition of The Gazette. We are so pleased to see that five of these students are parishioners of St. Christopher’s. They are:

Melinda Gallery  Justin Nwafor
Madelyn Gay  Jessica Repass
Isabella Hernandez

We applaud them for their academic excellence and pray that all their future endeavors bring them much pleasure and success.

SUMMER ACADEMY
AT SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL
Information is available on our parish school’s website www.saintchristoperschool.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.

St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ July 7, 2017
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.
PAINTING PROJECT
In the sanctuary of our church is an easel supporting a frame with photos. The photos show the progress we’ve made painting the interior of our church. We invite you to take a closer look at the wonderful transformation our church has undergone since this time last year. This transformation has been made possible through the generosity of those of you who have donated to our Paint Fund. As was reported a couple of weeks ago, the monies in this fund are now spent. Although we have received a few donations in the past couple of weeks for which we are most grateful, additional donations are needed to allow us to continue with this project. If you have not yet donated to this Fund, we ask that you prayerfully consider doing so in any amount that is comfortable for you. Your support will be much appreciated!

COURAGE AND EnCOURAGE
Courage is an international network of Catholic support groups for men and women who experience same-sex attraction and seek to live chaste lives in Christ. Courage also sponsors separate support groups (called “EnCourage”) for those who seek to gain greater understanding and acceptance of their loved-one’s same-sex attraction, while honoring the virtue of chastity. Courage ministers under the auspices of the Office of Family Life. Courage meets again this Tuesday, June 13 and EnCourage meets Wednesday, June 14. For meeting locations and additional information, you can contact Fr. Robert Landback, Chaplain at 203-265-0961 ext. 2 or at aohctcourage@gmail.com.

PATRICK BAKER & SONS REBATE PROGRAM
Patrick Baker & Sons is a business located in Southington, CT that carries a large supply of religious items both in their retail store and their online store. They are also the business from which we purchase many of the liturgical supplies we use here in our church (i.e. hosts, wine, candles). They are now offering a program where our parish will receive a 10% rebate on all non-liturgical purchases that are made. Simply mention our parish when you make your in-store or your by-phone purchase. When making your purchase online, simply locate the code for our parish at checkout. For more information, please visit churchgoods.com or call 1-800-243-6385.

CONNECTICUT IRISH FESTIVAL
Two Complimentary Tickets Available
Two exciting days of family fun are planned for the Irish Festival on Saturday, June 24 (noon to 11pm) and Sunday, June 25 (8am to 7pm) at the North Haven Fairgrounds, Exit 12 off I-91. The events include Irish Musical Entertainment, Irish Dancing Exhibits, Bagpipe Bands, Ethnic Food, Irish Shopping Village and Cultural Tent. Admission is $15 - $20 for ages over 12 - children 12 and under are free as is parking. The parish office received two complimentary tickets that are available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the festival, visit ctitrishfestival.com.

ATTENTION: COLLEGE AGE CATHOLICS (Ages 18-28)
Looking for a way to keep connected to Christ this summer? Join Father Jeff Gubbiotti for Mass, a grill and chill cookout, prayer, study and fellowship. Bishop Robert Barron’s The Pivotal Players guide will be used.

When: 6/21, 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/26, 8/2, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., come to any or all sessions.
Where: St. Thomas Becket Church, 435 N. Brooksvale Road in Cheshire. Materials are free for the first 15 registrants – don’t delay, sign up today! RSVP to Father Jeff at fr.gubbiotti@aohct.org.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
“And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” Find ways to let the Lord deeper into your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends in our area are July 7-9, 2017 in Manchester, CT and November 3-5, 2017 in Manchester, CT. For more information, call Dennis and Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit wwmectw.org.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING
Great for the Body. Great for the Soul!
The Office of Family Life of the Archdiocese of Hartford is offering an NFP Introductory session to provide an overview of this practical, moral, safe and “all natural” tool for family planning. This session, which is open to anyone interested in this topic, will be held at St. Joseph Church in Bristol from 10:00 a.m. - Noon on Saturday, June 17. To register please call the Office of Family Life at 860-242-5573, ext. 2683.
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, June 18, 2017 – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

This wondrous gift of the body and blood of Christ continues to be present to us, now in Sacramental form. When we come forward to receive Holy Communion, we need to recognize that the very act of “coming forward” itself is an expression of our faith in the Real Presence of Jesus. We believe that Jesus is truly present under the appearance of the consecrated bread and wine—not just as a symbol, but as a reality.

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
tobusysue@gmail.com

“...but not too busy to take your prayer requests!”

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION
Kristina Gillespie
860-895-8692 • 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

BUILDING & GROUNDS CHAIRMAN
Stephen Roczynski

CHURCH CUSTODIAN
Roger Dube

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE
Roger Dionne

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Roberta H. De Fiore
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Roberta9700@yahoo.com

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY
Deacon Phil Gosselin ~ 860-568-5001

FOOD BANK MINISTRY
Diane Warner ~ 860-202-8462

KNOIGHTS 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
June 11, 2017

My dear future members of the parish family of Saint Edmund Campion!

I write this letter to you as your future pastor of a new parish! Yes, we are forming a new parish. Effective June 29th, the parish status of Saint Christopher, Blessed Sacrament, and Our Lady of Peace will be dissolved. At that same time, a new parish status will be established. The dissolved parishes will acquire a new status under the name Saint Edmund Campion – a new beginning for all of us, with us all being on the “same page.”

Although I was assigned as the pastor of Saint Christopher’s nearly two years ago, I will begin a new term, effective June 29th, as the pastor of the three merged parishes under the patronage of Saint Edmund Campion.

As the newly-formed parish of Saint Edmund Campion, we will have two worship spaces: the church currently being used by Saint Christopher’s and the church currently being used by Our Lady of Peace. The church currently being used by Blessed Sacrament will close.

To help distinguish between the two worship spaces, I will refer to each one as a “campus.” In other words, the property currently being used by Saint Christopher’s will be referred to as the “Saint Christopher campus of Saint Edmund Campion Parish” and the property currently being used by Our Lady of Peace will be referred to as the “Our Lady of Peace campus of Saint Edmund Campion Parish.”

The main worship space of Saint Edmund Campion Parish will be the church at the Saint Christopher campus. The campus of Our Lady of Peace will be used for periodic worship and other purposes.

The Saint Edmund Campion Parish weekend Mass schedule will be as follows:

- **Saturday Vigil Mass:** 4:00 p.m. at the **Saint Christopher** campus
- **Sunday Masses:**
  - 7:30 a.m. at the **Saint Christopher** campus
  - 9:00 a.m. at the **Our Lady of Peace** campus
  - 10:30 a.m. at the **Saint Christopher** campus

The Daily Morning Mass will be celebrated as follows:

- 7:30 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at the **Saint Christopher** campus
- 9:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays at the **Our Lady of Peace** campus
Such a schedule would not be possible if a second priest had not been assigned to us. Thankfully, I will be assisted by a Parochial Vicar. He is Father Joseph Moonnanappallil.

Funerals and wedding Masses can be celebrated at either the Saint Christopher or the Our Lady of Peace campus. All baptisms, however, must be celebrated at the main worship space at Saint Christopher campus.

It is my intention to retain and consolidate as much as possible from all three parishes, especially matters that pertain to liturgy and parish life.

If you are currently a member of any of the liturgical ministries (i.e. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Altar Servers, Ushers) and wish to continue serving in your ministry for the new Saint Edmund Campion Parish, I ask that you please contact Bonnie Szalay as soon as possible at 860-568-5240 or at stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net. The first ministry schedules for the new parish will begin the weekend of July 15-16.

Our new status as the Parish of Saint Edmund Campion means that we will need to form a new Parish Council and Finance Council. If you are currently serving on either of these Councils and wish to remain serving, please contact me as soon as possible at 860-568-5240 or at Fr.Gwozdz@aohtc.org. (By the way, all current members of these two Councils from all three parishes are invited to gather at a pot-luck dinner being held at the Saint Christopher Church Hall on Friday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m. If you are able, please bring a dish to share.)

The Religious Education programs that have been catechizing children in grades K-8 in the three parishes will combine into one program which will be held at the Saint Christopher campus on Sunday mornings (September through April) from 9:05 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Registrations are now being accepted for classes beginning this fall. Please contact Maria Sousa, Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692 or at stchrisre@gmail.com for more information.

As you can see, many new arrangements and decisions have already been made as we prepare to become a new parish family. I look forward to serving you as the pastor and I am confident that I can count on your support. Saint Edmund Campion, pray for us!

Yours in Christ, I am

Father John

Rev. John P. Gwozdz

This letter was prepared for the parishioners of Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace and Saint Christopher parishes and inserted into the June 11, 2017 bulletin of all three parishes.