The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field

Saint Edmund Campion Parish
The merged parishes of Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace and Saint Christopher

Our Lady of Peace Campus
370 May Road
East Hartford, CT 06118
Mass Schedule:
Sunday: 9:00 am
Friday & Saturday: 9:00 am

Saint Christopher Campus
538 Brewer Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am & 10:30 am
Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am

CONFESSIONS
(Saint Christopher Campus)
Saturdays: 3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS
(Saint Christopher Campus)
6:30 pm
Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration • Scriptural Rosary • Perpetual Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal • Benediction

THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP
(Our Lady of Peace Campus)
6:30 pm
Prayer, Song, Scripture, Friendship

FUNERALS
Once arrangements are made with a funeral home, we will help you plan the Mass of Christian Burial.

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.

PARISH OFFICE
860-568-5240
stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net
Bonnie Szalay, Office Manager

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

Rev. John P. Gwozdz, Pastor
860-568-5240 • fr.gwozdz@aohct.org
Rev. Joseph Moonnanappallil, Parochial Vicar
860-918-4022 • fr.moonnanappallil@gmail.com
Mr. William Bartlett, Deacon
deaconbill@yahoo.com
Mr. Philip Gosselin, Deacon
imgoose@comcast.net

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ July 30, 2017
**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday, July 29 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
**Mary T. Colbert**
*(Daughter Mary Alice Sydor & Family)*

**Joseph & Estelle Czepier** *(Daughter Ann)*
**Allan Senna** *(Wife Claudette)*

Sunday, July 30 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
**Jude Pomerleau – 12th Anniversary** *(Family)*

Sunday, July 30 – 9:00 a.m. (OLP)
**Donald T. Eberhardt** *(Wife Kathie & Children)*

Sunday, July 30 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
**Scott Hatje** *(Your Loving Mom, Brother & Family)*

Monday, July 31 – 7:30 am (SC)
**Jimmy Shepley - In Remembrance of His Birthday** *(Family)*

Tuesday, August 1 – 7:30 am (SC)
**John & Louise Olinatz** *(Children)*

Wednesday, August 2 – 7:30 am (SC)
**Manuel Machado – 17th Anniversary** *(Family)*

Thursday, August 3 – 7:30 am (SC)
**Debbie Fallarco** *(Family)*

Friday, August 4 – 9:00 am (OLP)
**Bob Tyrseck**
**In Remembrance of Our 61st Wedding Anniversary** *(Wife Phyllis)*

Saturday, August 5 – 9:00 am (OLP)
**Rev. Louis Y. Chow**

Saturday, August 5 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
**Lou & Betty Grilli** *(Their Family)*

Sunday, August 6 – 7:30 am (SC)
**Catherine A. Sullivan – 25th Anniversary** *(Daughter Marion Sullivan)*

Sunday, August 6 – 9:00 a.m. (OLP)
**David Knerr** *(Wife & Children)*

Sunday, August 6 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
**Virginia Lessard** *(Dave & Chickie Amberg)*

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**PARISH SUPPORT**

What We Collected (July 9):

- Mission Appeal: $2,008

*Includes $603 received through our Online Giving program and $1,870 from mail-in offerings.*

Thank you for your support of our parish family and for the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries.

**PARISH SCHOOL COLLECTION**

The second collection being taken up at all Masses this weekend at the Saint Christopher campus supports Saint Christopher School. The envelope set that parishioners from Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Peace parishes is using does not contain this school envelope, so **this collection will not be taken up at the Our Lady of Peace campus.** The envelope set they are using does contain, however, an envelope for a monthly collection to support the parish. This collection will be taken up next weekend, August 5 and 6 at the Our Lady of Peace campus. For those of you who have this envelope who plan to attend Mass at the Saint Christopher campus next weekend and wish to support this collection, you may place your envelope in the collection basket with your weekly envelope as two collections will not be taken up next weekend at the Saint Christopher Campus.

Beginning with the weekend of September 2 and 3, all Saint Edmund Campion parishioners will be using the same envelope set which will arrive at homes in late August. This new envelope set will contain a monthly envelope to support Saint Christopher School. A monthly collection to support the parish will not be taken up.

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

The lamps beside our church’s tabernacles remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

❖ The candle at the Our Lady of Peace campus burns this week

**For Peace in Our World**

❖ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

**In Loving Memory of**
**Sandra Leonard DeVivo**
**In Remembrance of Her Birthday** *(Family)*
**PIN MINISTRY**

Dear Parishioners of Saint Edmond Campion Parish,

The Parishioner in Need (PIN) committee has been assisting a family from the Saint Christopher campus these past few months as they have been challenged with multiple medical hardships. Dan, husband and father, is undergoing cancer treatments and Nicole, wife and mother, suffered a fall over a month ago in which she broke one ankle and sprained the other. As of this week, Nicole still cannot stand or support her full weight and she is confined to a wheelchair. Meal preparation has been a challenge for their family of five. They are being helped by family and friends, but more assistance is needed. Can you help?

Recommendations:

- You can prepare a meal (family has no food allergies) and leave it in the refrigerator in the kitchen at the Saint Christopher campus church hall after any of the weekend liturgies. Please label as PIN donation and identify ingredients.

- You can volunteer to prepare a meal on a weekly basis (or whatever frequency you prefer) and a schedule can be set up so the family can plan accordingly.

- You can prepare a meal and deliver it directly to the family. Please contact Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240 to obtain the family’s address and phone number.

- You can make a monetary contribution to the PIN ministry using the envelope available at the church entrances at both campuses so we can continue to provide the family with grocery store gift cards.

The Parishioner in Need committee will not be able to *cure* every need that comes our way.....but we can *care* for every parishioner in need. All it takes is a caring community, and we already have that here at Saint Edmund Campion Parish.

Thank you,

Toni Mintel and Maria Sousa
(PIN Co-Chairs)

**SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL**

Looking for another option for educating your child? East Hartford has a Catholic school! Catholic education is available at Saint Christopher School. Our parish school has developed a strong academic program for students in Pre-K 3 and 4 through 8th grade. Teachers at Saint Christopher School challenge all students and see measurable growth in both classroom work and standardized test scores. Students develop confidence and maturity as they prepare to face life’s next challenge, whether it is moving up to Kindergarten or moving on to high school.

Saint Christopher School is grateful to not only be able to pray and worship the Lord, but also to be able to perform acts of service that impact both the local and global community. The students’ pride in their accomplishments provide the impetus to continue to serve others in various ways throughout their lives. The Saint Christopher School community displays a prayerful life through both words and actions. Kindness generates kindness. Respect generates respect. These are words we live by. Please visit us to see faith and learning in action!

To obtain more information about our parish school, please call the school office at 860-568-4100, email Mrs. Welch at welchk@saintchristopherschool.org, or visit www.saintchristopherschool.org.

**OFFERINGS MADE USING PERSONAL CHECKS**

We remind those of you who make your parish offering using a personal check to make your check payable to Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace or Saint Christopher Church until further notice. We cannot open a bank account under the name of Saint Edmund Campion until our new parish is legally recognized, a process that our legal counsel is currently overseeing. If you have already submitted a check made payable to Saint Edmund Campion, it is being held until we can open a bank account. If for your bookkeeping purposes you would rather we not hold the check, please contact Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240.

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:** The man in today’s gospel “sold all he had” for the treasure he found. Family relationships are “treasures” and demand our total personal investment. Invest yourself in the “treasure” of your family.
JUST SO YOU KNOW…
Since 2002 Father John has been leading the rosary candlelight procession that launches the annual Our Lady of Mount Carmel Italian Festival in his neighborhood in Enfield. He will do so again this year this Thursday, August 3 starting at 8:00 p.m. at the festival grounds at the end of Park Avenue in Thompsonville. You are more than welcome to join him and Father Joseph at this devotion. This yearly festival, which has been a part of Father John’s childhood, was started by Italian immigrants in Enfield in 1926. As far as he’s concerned, summer is not complete until this festival takes place.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
We welcome the following new members to our council:

Michael Bisson       Justin Nwafor
Brian Hartley       James Pattison
Fr. Joseph Moonnanappallil   Michael Reeves
Gregory Nwafor, Jr.   Jim Sobestanovich

The local council meets this Thursday, August 3, in the church hall at the Saint Christopher campus for their business meeting at the following times:

6:30 PM – Council #4 Officer’s Meeting
7:30 PM – Blueberry Dessert Reception
8:00 PM – Council #4 meeting

We are looking for men and their families who want to help us build up the family which is the domestic church. No time? It takes only 24 hours per year to save lives and change lives.

The next 2nd and 3rd Degrees will be held Sunday, September 10, at 12:00 noon at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall, 785 Highland Ave., Waterbury.

Young men who are full-time college students can join and forego any costs while they are full-time students. Full-time military men are also exempt from any costs.

Please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 for more information.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Our Adult Bible Study group will meet again this Wednesday, August 2, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. We meet every other Wednesday and you are welcome to join us whenever you can. We are beginning chapter 11 of the Gospel of Mark. If you any questions, please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

PRAYER/SHARING GROUP
The Prayer/Sharing Group meets on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Our Lady of Peace campus church hall. The Holy Spirit works with us when we pray together. Please join us in an evening of Prayer, Song, Scripture Sharing and Friendship. Refreshments follow each meeting and all are welcome to stay. We meet each Thursday with the exception of holydays and holidays. You are invited to join us whenever you can. For more information, please call Phyl Tyrseck at 860-568-3855, Barbara Veci at 860-568-2701, Pat Roberge at 860-568-5777, Barbara Hanson at 860-965-9162 or Leo Forte 860-568-7383.

SAINT EDMUND CAMPION
ADULT SOCIAL CLUB PICNIC
Monday ~ August 14 ~ 4:30 p.m.
Church Hall at Saint Christopher Campus

Welcome to all members of our newly formed social club. We are starting off with our first annual picnic. We will have a short meeting prior to serving the food, to discuss the new by-laws and other items of general interest.

If dues are payable, or if you are making a monetary donation instead of bringing food, please make an effort to come by 4:30 so that all of our business can be conducted prior to our 5:00 meal.

Members of the Telephone Committee will be calling each member in the coming days to determine what food you will be bringing. If you are planning to attend, but you do not hear from them by August 10, please call the number below, as it is important that we have a head-count for food purchasing purposes.

If you have any questions regarding the club or the picnic, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.
**THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

In today’s Gospel Jesus explains to us that the Kingdom of Heaven is the greatest treasure we can find on earth because it is Jesus himself. We can experience the Kingdom of Heaven in many different ways – finding time alone to spend with God, helping others in need or doing whatever brings both God and ourselves joy. When we do come in contact with the Kingdom of Heaven, we should do all that we can to keep that presence in our lives. There are so many temptations that are trying to bring us away from this state of grace with God, but we can pray that we will know how to keep this presence alive and not let it be buried by these other temptations. The treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven that we find is so special and rare that we should do whatever we can to keep it in our lives. This can be the difficult part for many of us. We should be like the merchant who finds one pearl of great value and sells all he has to buy it himself. The Kingdom of Heaven is that pearl and we should be willing to get rid of things that hold us back from better obtaining this gift. One of the best ways to make sure we are not brought away from this presence is to reflect everyday about where we feel this presence of God and where we see the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. If we know where we find this treasure and are able to acknowledge what things bring us away from it, then we can have a better plan for how to deal with the situation and to ask for God’s help.

**LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS**

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<th>Sunday 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</th>
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<td>Psalm 119: 57, 72, 76-77, 127-130</td>
<td>Psalm 106: 19-23</td>
<td>Psalm 103: 6-13</td>
<td>Psalm 99: 5-7, 9</td>
<td>Psalm 84: 3-6a, 8a, 11</td>
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<td>Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 7-8</td>
<td>Psalm 97: 1-2, 5-6, 9</td>
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<td>Matthew 17: 1-9</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.

**Reflection for Next Sunday, August 6, 2017 – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The transfiguration gives us a hint of that kingdom that is yet to come – the kingdom of glory, when we will see Christ as he truly is, when he comes to raise us up forever. Then, we too will be like him, glorified. Then, we will be transfigured – changed – made perfect – body and soul forever. The transfiguration is Christ as he truly is – but it’s also a glimpse of our future in him.