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
Mass for the Week

Saturday, September 9 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
Frank Czepiel (sister Ann)

John & Moira Traynor (The Traynor Family)
Sunday, September 10 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
Anna & Dominick Cervini
(Barbara & Valentine Povinelli)

Sunday, September 10 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
Roger Petitpas, Sr. & Thomas LaFontaine (Family)

Sunday, September 10 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
Mr. & Mrs. Fernand Riendeau
(Mr. & Mrs. Gilles Hebert)

Monday, September 11 – 7:30 am (SC)
Tina Dudek (Jean Walker)

Tuesday, September 12 – 7:30 am (SC)
Sophie Hobart
(St. Edmund Campion Adult Social Club)

Wednesday, September 13 – 7:30 am (SC)
Antonio Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Thursday, September 14 – 7:30 am (SC)
Manuel Machado (Wife Maria)

Friday, September 15 – 9:00 am (OLOP)
Julius & Mary Ann Santacroce
(Garry & Julianne Kelly)

Saturday, September 16 – 9:00 am (OLOP)
Yole Zschiesche
(Joseph & Yvonne Federico & Family)

Saturday, September 16 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
Louis & Olivette Allen and Dee Belitti (Family)

Jerry Millstein - In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, September 17 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
Reverend Monsignor Charles W. Daly

Sunday, September 17 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
Hilda Fernandes (Annamarie & Louisa Reyes)

Sunday, September 17 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
John Leonard – 1st Anniversary

Sandra Leonard DeVivo – 11th Anniversary
(Family)

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (September 3): $ 7,782*
What We Collected (August 27): $ 7,408**

*Includes $440 received through our Online Giving program and $550 from mail-in offerings.

**Includes $503 received through our Online Giving program and $400 from mail-in offerings

Thank you for your support of our parish!

PARISH SCHOOL SUPPORT
The second collection being taken up at all Masses this weekend supports our parish school. Thank you!
Please see the Parish School Update on page 3.

PERSONAL CHECKS
Although we begin using the new Saint Edmund Campion envelopes this weekend, we are still awaiting notification of our legal status, so please continue to make checks payable to Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace or Saint Christopher Church. Thank you.

If you have not received at your home your Saint Edmund Campion parish offertory envelopes for September/October, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240.

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 the Victims of Hurricanes Harvey & Irma

♣ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Memory of Evangelina Sousa
(Joe Martocci & Jean Nowik)

If you would like to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication for either campus, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240. The suggested offering for a dedication is $15.
EMERGENCY COLLECTION for Hurricane Relief
Our parish will join other parishes throughout the country by taking up an emergency collection for hurricane relief. This collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend, September 16/17, and will be used to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses through the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection that will help our brothers and sisters in Christ during this hurricane season, especially those who are victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ September 15, 2017
1:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Call 1-800-Red Cross to make an appointment.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATION
On Sunday, October 15, at 2:00 p.m., the annual Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph for married couples observing 25th, 50th, 60th and other special wedding anniversaries in 2017. Archbishop Blair will be the main celebrant. Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows, followed by a simple reception and an opportunity for a photo with Archbishop Blair. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. In order for you to receive a special invitation in the mail and for your names to be printed in the program provided that day, you must respond to this invitation by September 11 by contacting the parish office at 860-568-5240. If you are celebrating a special anniversary this year, but you are unable to make it to the ceremony on October 15, please call the parish office in order to receive a special congratulatory certificate from Archbishop Blair.

PRAYER/SHARING GROUP
The Prayer/Sharing Group meets on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Our Lady of Peace campus church hall. All parishioners and their friends are invited to attend. 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 holy days and holidays. 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.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Our Adult Bible Study group will meet again this Wednesday, September 13, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. This group meets every other Wednesday and you are invited to come when you can. We will be finishing up Chapter 13 and experiencing as much of Chapter 14 of the Gospel of Mark as time allows. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Phil at imgoose@comcast.net or at 860-568-5001 or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Since 2003 our Prayer Shawl Ministry has been creating shawls to console those who are grieving, comfort those who are ill, bring hope to those in despair, and welcome those who are baptized. We welcome anyone who would like to join our parish ministry of prayer, service and love. We gather in the church hall on the 2nd Monday of the month from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Our starting date is this Monday, September 11, but feel free to jump in at any time. Bring a friend. We have plenty of yarn and needles for those who wish to learn. If you would like to know more about our ministry or if you or someone you know would like to receive a shawl, please contact Santa Vallone at 860-569-1772.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED
We are seeking young people in Grades 4 - 12 who are interested in serving our parish as an Altar Server. If your child(ren) is interested in this opportunity, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240. We are currently compiling a list of the young people who are interested. A training session will be held in the near future.

Our Church is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:

Haley Sophia Carter
Austin Michael McKenna
PARISH SCHOOL UPDATE
Saint Christopher School began the school year on August 29 with 153 very happy students! They have many things to look forward to such as computer coding in 1st grade, interactive notebooks, Lego Club, Soccer clinic, sports teams, a book club and so much more. Catholic education is active in East Hartford! Our first service project occurred during the first week of school when we made cards and raised money for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. We have a dynamic faculty and are looking forward to a productive and successful year!

PICNIC PLANNING MEETING
Please help us plan a fun Parish event! Our parish will be hosting our First Annual Saint Edmund Campion Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 24, at 12:00 noon at the Our Lady of Peace campus. We look forward to celebrating our newly-formed parish family with us all coming together for a festive afternoon. Many hands are needed to plan this fun-filled event. Please join us for a planning meeting being held this Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower church hall at the Our Lady of Peace campus. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Danielle at stchrisdvargas@gmail.com or Marie at garabedian@comcast.net or at 860-836-5514.

MARIAN GARDEN UPDATE
Now is the time to place your order for the fall production of our Marian Garden. Bricks can be ordered in honor of or in memory of someone, in recognition of a special date or event, in celebration of a sacrament (i.e., baptism, First Communion, etc.). If you are interested in ordering a brick or granite slab, please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 or you may visit our website at stchris-eh.org and click on the Marian Garden button on the left side.

SAVE THE DATE!
First Annual Saint Edmund Campion Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 24, 2017 ~ 12:00 noon
Our Lady of Peace Campus
Please help us to plan this fun event. See article above for information about a planning meeting.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS
Students Entering Grades K-8
Religious Education classes for students entering Grades K-8 will begin next Sunday, September 17. Classes are held in Saint Christopher School from 9:05 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Please help us to prepare by registering your child as soon as possible. Returning families are asked to complete a new registration each year. Our First Communion program is a two-year program beginning in the 1st Grade. To register your child, please contact our Religious Education Coordinator Maria Sousa at 860-895-8692 or stchrisre@gmail.com.

Students Entering Grades 9 and 10
Students going into the first or second year of Confirmation preparation are invited to information sessions where they will learn about the expectations and format of this year’s program. Students will register in person at these sessions, and the session must be attended by the student and a parent. Choose one of the following sessions: September 10, September 17, September 24, or October 1. These sessions are being held from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. in the church hall at the Saint Christopher campus.

EVENING OF REFLECTION – for ALL FIRST AND SECOND YEAR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS – being held on Sunday, October 1, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the church hall at the Saint Christopher campus.

ARCHDIOCESAN CONFERENCES
1st Annual Archdiocesan Women’s Conference
Saturday ~ November 4, 2017
Hartford Marriott Downtown ~ 9AM - 5PM
A day of inspiration, spiritual nourishment and sisterhood.
www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org

10th Annual CT Catholic Men’s Conference
Saturday ~ October 21, 2017
St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol
8:30AM - 5:00PM
A day to bring together Catholic men to renew their faith in Christ in an inspiring, motivational, prayerful atmosphere.
www.CTCatholicmen.org
**REFLECTING ON TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Today’s Responsorial Psalm comes from Psalm 95 with the refrain coming from the last section. It is a paraphrase of Psalm 95:7-8: “If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.” One notable feature of this sentence is that it speaks in the plural. Its command is to “harden not your hearts,” not “your heart.” This is a “community psalm,” to use a modern phrase. As so many of the psalms make clear, they were composed for liturgical worship, which by its nature is communal rather than individualistic. This is good to remember when we as Christians are tempted to reduce our faith to being simply between “me and Jesus.” Just as in Jesus both the divine nature and a human nature fully dwell, so living one’s faith in Jesus means fully loving God and fully loving one’s neighbor. As soon as we prefer one of these to the other, our faith is no longer focused in Christ. This leads us to ask why Psalm 95 exhorts us to harden not our hearts when we hear the Lord’s voice. We are often tempted to harden our hearts when the Lord’s voice calls us to love our neighbor, especially in the form of forgiveness. This Responsorial Psalm ties together nicely with this Sunday’s other scriptures, especially the Second Reading which explains God’s command that we love our neighbor.

– www.catholicdioceseofwitchita.org

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**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.

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**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, September 17, 2017 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus’ point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king’s forgiveness is like God’s forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard God’s mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God’s mercy in our lives.