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: 8:00 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)
Prayer, Song, Scripture, Friendship
Will resume in the Spring of 2018

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 Glosselin, Deacon
imgoose@comcast.net

The Epiphany of the Lord ~ January 7, 2018
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (December 31): $7,607*

*Includes $1,298 received through our Online Giving program and $410 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. “Epiphany” means “manifestation.” It is on this day that Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is revealed as the light of all nations. At Christmas the Messiah Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, who were Jewish. But on this day the Lord is revealed to all nations and to the Gentiles (represented by the Magi). We are all familiar with the star the Magi followed, but we need to understand all that is happening and what it means. This all represents the Light of Christ, a Light which today we honor and commemorate. We are called to be the Light of Christ right now to those around us and those with whom we come in contact. That way we can be the disciples Christ wants us to be. The poet William Cullen Bryant captures the significance of the star the Magi followed very well when he wrote, “O Father, may that Holy Star, grow every year more bright, and send its glorious beams afar, to fill the world with light.”

– catholicsteward.com/blog

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

In Loving Memory of
Madeline Martin
In Remembrance of Her Birthday
(Her Children & Grandchildren)

❖ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of
Debbie Tardiff Fallacaro
(Family)

Please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested donation is $15.
ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM

Online Giving is available here at Saint Edmund Campion parish! It’s all about convenience for you and consistency for the parish. For more information and to register for Online Giving, please visit our secure online giving website:

www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754

IN GRATITUDE

As we near the end of the Christmas season, which officially ends this Monday on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, I want to thank all of those who helped to make it a beautiful celebration of the birth of our Lord. I am grateful to those who participated in our Giving Tree Program. Special thanks to those who decorated our church so beautifully, to those in our Music Ministry who gladdened our hearts with joyful sound, to those who enriched our worship as Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Ushers and Greeters. Truly the child Jesus was given honor and praise by our parish family of Saint Edmund Campion Parish. May God bless you in this new year.

– Father John

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.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?
SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL NEWS

Open House
Saint Christopher School will host an Open House on Tuesday, January 30, from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Come and see what Catholic education looks like in East Hartford! Tour the school, speak with current students and families, take a look at the Science Fair, browse through the Book Fair...you can even order grinders from our Grab ‘n’ Go Grinder Supper! It’s an evening packed with fun things to do. E-mail Mrs. Welch at welchsk@saintchristopherschool.org for more information.

Day of Giving
Saint Christopher School will hold a Day of Giving on January 30-31, from 9am-9am, in conjunction with the National Catholic Educator’s Association. This event is being held during Catholic Schools Week, a national celebration of Catholic education. Watch for more information about this opportunity in coming weeks.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK
Please, if at all possible, do not wait until a person is near death before requesting the Sacrament of the Sick, as this Sacrament cannot be administered to someone who has already died. All Sacraments are for the living. While the Sacrament of the Sick may include prayers for the Last Rites when such prayers are called for, the Sacrament may be given to a person at any stage of illness including those who are not terminal. It may also be given to someone who is elderly or about to enter surgery.

OPEN LETTER TO THE PIN MINISTRY
Dear PIN Ministry,

I appreciate the help I’m receiving from the PIN (Parishioner-in-Need) Ministry. Every little bit I get helps a lot. I’m glad I was told about the PIN Ministry and how they could help those, like me, who are in need. I pray our Lord will bless you. Thank you for all your help. Many blessing to all of you in the PIN Ministry and those who support this Ministry. God bless you all! XXXXXXXX

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE
Friday ~ February 9 ~ 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Saint Christopher Campus Church Hall

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Members: Want an all expense-paid trip to Ireland? Supreme will be sending ten couples to attend the World Meeting of Families at Dublin, Ireland in August 2018, with all expenses paid. Each member you recruit will get you one entry to the drawing between now and June 30, 2018. This is a great opportunity for a parishioner to help his relative or neighbor Knight have a chance to win this trip to Ireland by joining our council.

St. Christopher Council #4 membership and their families will hold their Family Pot-luck Dinner Tuesday, January 16 at 6:00 PM in the Saint Christopher campus church hall. The entrée will be pork roast with members bringing side dishes and desserts. RSVP to Bob Falkevitz so sufficient roast is available.

Practicing Catholic men, age 18 and over, who join before June 30th will have their initiation and annual dues waived for the coming year. What have you got to lose? Come try us out. Please contact Grand Knight Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 for more information.

NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK
The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Justice for Immigrants Campaign is working on behalf of the Bishops, including our own Archbishop Leonard P. Blair, to promote humane migration policies towards refugees and immigrants that reflect our Catholic values. To add your voice to this urgent issue, send an electronic message to your lawmakers (Visit: Justiceforimmigrants.org).

National Migration Week, January 7–14, 2018, is an opportunity to become aware of the millions of God’s children fleeing war, persecution and poverty and to share their journey by walking with them in prayer and support.

In the words of Pope Francis: “Closeness to the poor, the refugee, the immigrant, the sick, the exploited, the elderly living alone, prisoners and all God’s other poor, will teach us a different way of resting, one which is more Christian and generous.” You are also invited to visit one or both of these websites to learn more:

Sharejourney.org
ArchdioceseofHarford.org.
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

As we celebrate the Epiphany, we see three wise men arriving at the manger scene. They were men willing to sacrifice of themselves in order to find a newborn King. They were willing to sacrifice so greatly because they believed in the greatness of the One they were seeking. Each of the wise men was willing to leave the realm where he was king—where everyone bowed down before him—in order to find the King of Kings before whom he could kneel in homage. Each of the wise men was willing to give up his riches in order to find an even greater treasure. Jesus is the greater Gift. The wise man knows that the whole world, and every land, and every person in every land, will receive from Jesus an infinite blessing, if accepted. The gifts of the wise men are only responses to God’s goodness. God’s goodness—that is, His love—is primary. Always. Our response is only and always secondary, both in sequence and in the measure of its goodness. We can only give our “all” to God. In this way, at least, we can give as God gives: as the old saying goes, not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. If we give as God gives—by giving Him our “all”—we tap into what is best in us: the desire to give, not to get; to take joy in showering others with good things, not to accumulate them for oneself; to take interest in the growth of one’s soul, not to watch the growth of one’s accounts with interest; to sacrifice our time and pride by saying “thank you” rather than looking for the applause of the world. —catholicdioceseofwichita.org

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, January 14 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

By “staying with” Jesus and becoming his disciples, the Apostles learned to imitate the mission of Christ, “to serve and to give his life” for others (CCC #608). Each one of us is called personally by God to “stay with” Jesus, to follow His way, and to continue His mission of spreading the Good News (in a manner appropriate to our vocation in life) (CCC #871)