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
**PARISH SUPPORT**

What We Collected (January 14): $7,839*
Parish School Collection: $2,237**

*Includes $658 received through our Online Giving program and $507 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $205 received through our Online Giving program and $118 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish community!

**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 (860-568-5240) or by e-mail (stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net).

**HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION**

Next weekend, January 27/28, all parishes of the Archdiocese of Hartford will be taking up the annual High School Collection to support our Catholic high schools. Your investment will yield significant results, since our Catholic high schools offer students exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and a true spirit of service. We deeply value your support of Catholic school education as we continue to form another generation in the faith.

**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 Dignity and Value of All Human Life ~ the Born and Unborn

* The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of Josephine “Jo” Picone
(Jean Nowik & Joe Martocci)

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

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**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday, January 20 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
† Bud Dooley
† George, Mary and Joseph Heldman
   (Joan Dooley & Family)

Sunday, January 21 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
† Carmelo & Margaret Gallo
   (Mike & Maria Gallo)

Sunday, January 21 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Howard Thiery (Howard & Barb Wilmes)

Sunday, January 21 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
† Roger Gilbert (Jeannine Edmonds)

Monday, January 22 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Gordon Prickett (The Freemans)

Tuesday, January 23 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Bianca Irace (Mary & Richard Burke)

Wednesday, January 24 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Dinis Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Thursday, January 25 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Marie Durrenberger (Marge Leonard)

Friday, January 26 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Rev. William L. Burns

Saturday, January 27 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Rev. Robert Joseph Lord

Saturday, January 27 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
† Therese Ouellette
   (Nicole & Jacques Ouellette)

Sunday, January 28 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
† Jeremiah B. Sullivan (Daughter)

Sunday, January 28 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
   The Carpentieri Family
   (Bill & Carmela Carpentieri)

Sunday, January 28 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
† Evangelina Sousa (Family & Friends)

(OLOP) = Mass celebrated at Our Lady of Peace campus
(SC) = Mass celebrated at Saint Christopher campus
HELP NEEDED - COUNTER MINISTRY
We are pleased to announce that three new members have joined our Counter Ministry, but more volunteers are needed to help our team leaders process our weekly collections. In an effort to get the job done in a quick and efficient manner, we have streamlined the process. The commitment to this ministry is approximately a two-hour window of time, six to eight times a year. If you are willing to serve your parish in this way, please contact Bonnie at the parish office (stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net or 860-568-5240) as soon as possible so we can get you on the schedule and provide you with further details.

VACATION TIME FOR FATHER JOHN
Father John is currently away visiting his niece and her family in Florida. He will return to Connecticut on January 24. Father Joseph is celebrating all Masses and Funerals in Father John’s absence. We pray that Father John is enjoying a restful vacation and returns home safely.

PARISHIONER IN NEED BAKE SALE
February 3 and 4
Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their Ninth Anniversary Bake Sale the weekend of February 3 and 4. We celebrate nine years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist many members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Your support has helped us succeed.

Please continue to watch out for those in our parish who may need assistance and may be hesitant to ask for help. Even those we have helped in the past may still be struggling and we ask that they or someone on their behalf come forward if necessary. Let’s be aware of those who need help.

Plan to stop by the weekend of February 3 and 4 to pick up a baked good item. Donations of baked goods are very much welcomed...and needed. (Please indicate if there are nuts in the ingredients.)

Volunteers are needed to help us sell baked good items at our Our Lady of Peace campus after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on February 4. If you are able to help, please contact Toni Mintel at 860-569-7593 (eves.) or Maria Sousa at 860-895-8692 (days).

Thank you all for your continued support!

CHILDREN’S LITURGY
This month’s Children’s Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, January 28 at 10:30 a.m. at the Saint Christopher campus. Students in Grade 2 will participate in special ways during the Mass and our Family Choir will lead the music. (See article below on participating in the Family Choir.) Hospitality will follow in the church hall. Everyone is invited!

FAMILY CHOIR REHEARSAL
Our Family Choir will rehearse in our chapel at the Saint Christopher campus this Wednesday, January 24 at 6:30 p.m. Any adult or child who is interested in singing in the Family Choir at the Children’s Liturgy being celebrated next Sunday, January 28 at 10:30 a.m. is invited to join us at this rehearsal. For more information, please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692.

LIVING GOD’S WORD
There is one problem with Christian discipleship. No one will ever become a master. The most we can strive for is to be journeymen, like Jonah and Jesus’ disciples. We can only show others the way if we commit ourselves to the journey and walk at the Master’s side, trusting and listening and following the ways of the Lord.

JOB POSTING
East Catholic has an opening for a part-time staff accountant. 20-25 hours per week with flexible hours. A minimum of an Associates Degree is required. For more information, please visit:

https://www.echs.com/Employment

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Dates to Remember
- Sat. & Sun., 2/10-11, after Masses, Paczki and advanced dinner sales (purchase a ticket for 3/17 dinner and get a free Paczki).
- Fri., 2/17, at OLOP, 6 PM Fish Dinner prior to Stations of the Cross to benefit the World Youth Day pilgrims.
- Sat., 3/17, at SC, 6 PM Corned Beef Dinner to benefit the World Youth Day pilgrims.
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 welchk@saintchristopherschool.org for more information.

Day of Giving
Saint Christopher School will hold a Day of Giving from January 30 at 9:00 am through January 31 at 9:00 am in conjunction with the National Catholic Educator's Association. This is an opportunity for 24 hours of donations to benefit the school.

At Saint Christopher School, we are asking families to celebrate the year of their child’s (or their own!) graduation during the Day of Giving. For example, a donation of $20.18 on behalf of an 8th grade student would celebrate the Class of 2018, while a donation of $20.26 on behalf of a Kindergarten student celebrates the Class of 2026. We thought it would be fun to focus on their “Class of” years, but any donation is greatly appreciated. Please consider asking friends and family to join us in celebrating the students in this way. There will be a website and online donation portal available during this 24 hours of giving that can be accessed through the school’s website: saintchristopherschool.org.

Giving Back
During Catholic Schools Week, the students will also spend time giving back. Each class will prepare part of a meal to be donated to the soup kitchen because everyone should be able to eat a good meal.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
“For the world in its present form is passing away.”
If change in our lives is our lot, let us learn how to change with and for our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. There are two upcoming weekends being held in nearby Manchester, CT. They are: Feb 2-4, 2018 and July 6-8, 2018. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit them at wwmectw.org.

ANOTHER “COATS FOR KIDS” THANK YOU
Dear Parishioners of St. Edmund Campion Parish,

The students, families and staff of Mayberry Elementary School would like to express their heartfelt appreciation for the winter coats you recently donated. Over 87 new or in new condition coats have been distributed because of your generosity. Thanks to the number of coats collected we were also able to share with other elementary schools in town.

The children and their families were so touched by your kindness. One little girl hugged her coat exclaiming she loved it. A fifth grade boy was so excited by his new red coat that he wouldn’t take it off, even in the warmth of the cafeteria. Every child and family expressed sincere gratefulness for your incredibly caring donations.

We’d also like to thank the person(s) who donated the handmade baby blankets and mittens. Those must have taken a great deal of time and effort. They were beautiful and will certainly be treasured by the recipients.

Your thoughtfulness meant the world to these families. Thank you for making a difference in so many lives!

– Sharon Walker
Family Resource Center Engagement Coordinator
On behalf of the students, families and staff of Mayberry Elementary School

WOMEN’S RETREAT WEEKENDS
The 2018 Women’s Retreat dates at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, offering the retreat theme, Grace Enough, are: January 26-28, March 2-4, April 20-22 and June 1-3. To learn more about what you can expect to experience at a retreat weekend, you can contact our parish representative, Anne Marie Volowski, at annemarievolowski@yahoo.com or at 860-680-4219. You can also learn more by visiting holyfamilyretreat.org.
FISHERS OF MEN

“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” With these words, Jesus invites Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew to follow Him and be His disciples. We often speak of the subtleties of translation. In the original Greek in which St. Mark wrote his Gospel, a better translation would be, “Come after me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” It is the beginning of a process. We are called to that same process. It is not as if it happens quite suddenly. It happens over time, and it is a progression. If we are to be “fishers of men,” we are to be evangelizers and disciples of the Lord, and we are to represent what it means to be part of the Kingdom of God.

Of course, Simon and Andrew “abandoned their nets and followed him.” It may be more difficult for us to “abandon our nets” so to speak, but it does prompt us that we need to make major changes in our lives if we are going to follow Jesus. Simon and Andrew, and then James and John, were common men, normal people. They had no theological credentials nor did they have any special status in the world. Most of us are similar. Jesus did not select them (or us) for who they were. He called them for what He could do through them. It is the same with each of us. Yes, we are called, but in order to really fulfill our calling we need to follow and trust in Jesus. – catholicsteward.com/blog

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 28 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s readings Jesus and Moses are recognized as speaking and acting with the authority of God. Both Jesus and Moses acted as a bridge between the people and God. For us the scriptures are a bridge for God’s truth, but so are the sacraments and the experience of the Church.