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@aoht.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
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (February 4): $ 8,776*
*Includes $1,653 received through our Online Giving program and $530 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 is the regular monthly collection to support our parish school. Thank you!

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).

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

That All God’s People Draw Closer to Him During This Lenten Season

The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

For a Special Intention (Lydia Lora)

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

Mass Intentions (continued)

Sunday, February 18 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
Rev. William L. Burns

(OLOP) = Mass celebrated at Our Lady of Peace campus
(SC) = Mass celebrated at Saint Christopher campus
ASH WEDNESDAY
Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation. It is, however, a day of universal fast and abstinence. Our schedule of services on Ash Wednesday, February 14, is as follows:

**Masses**

*Communion and the Distribution of Ashes*

- **Saint Christopher Campus**
  - 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

- **Our Lady of Peace Campus**
  - 9:00 a.m.

**Liturgy of the Word**

*Distribution of Ashes – No Communion*

- **Saint Christopher Campus**
  - 12:15 p.m.

NO DISPENSATION ON VALENTINE’S DAY
This year Ash Wednesday falls on St. Valentine’s Day, February 14. Unlike a Friday in Lent when a dispensation is sometimes given from fast and abstinence on St. Patrick’s Day, Ash Wednesday is a more solemn and universal day of prayer and penance for Catholics and many other Christians as well. So, there is no dispensation from fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday in the Archdiocese of Hartford. Catholics may wish to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day the day or evening before, on February 13.

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT
The Archdiocese of Hartford will once again sponsor its Lenten Confession Campaign, although with some modification of past practice. Monday will be “confession day” in every parish throughout the Archdiocese. Our priests will hear confessions every Monday during Lent from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Saint Christopher campus. For the times that other parishes are hearing confessions, please visit ConfessionMondays.com or contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 for assistance.

FASTING, ALMSGIVING & PRAYER
Fasting, almsgiving and prayer are three traditional disciplines by which the church observes Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening Mass of Holy Thursday, when the Paschal Triduum begins. All the faithful and catechumens are called to practice these traditions.

**Catholics, age 14 and older, are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays in Lent.** The rule does not apply when health or ability to work would be impacted seriously.

In addition to abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday and Fridays, **Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, but have not yet marked their 59th, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday.**

On days of fast, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to individual needs, but together they should not equal another meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices are allowed.

Throughout Lent we should be reminded that, indeed, “We are dust, and unto dust we shall return.” Our Lenten agenda of prayer, fasting and almsgiving is not intended as a “spiritual New Year’s resolution;” rather, it is to remind us that we are creatures who, despite our best efforts to lead Christian lives, are in need of salvation, which comes only from Jesus’ saving act on the Cross on Good Friday.

LENTEN RESOURCES
These two complimentary booklets can be found at the church entrances of both campuses.

**The Word Among Us:** This magazine offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings of the Catholic Church, inspirational essays, stories of the saints and more!

**Give Us This Day:** Nourish your relationship with Christ through daily prayer and reflection with the help of *Give Us This Day.*

**Rice Bowls:** The Catholic Relief Service Rice Bowl program will be available at the church entrances of both campuses beginning Ash Wednesday for you to take home and contribute financially to efforts to end global hunger. Bowls can be returned beginning Palm Sunday.

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

**Colin Patrick Edwards**

**Ares Marin Rodriguez**
SOUP & STATIONS
Join us for a sharing of simple soup and bread (with conversation and sharing with fellow parishioners) at 5:30 p.m. in the Saint Christopher campus church hall on the following Wednesday evenings: Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21. Stations of the Cross begins at 6:30 p.m. in the church. The young people from our parish school and religious education program will lead us once again in the Stations. **Volunteers are needed to prepare soup and/or bread for each Wednesday.** You may simply bring with you the item you wish to share on the Wednesday evening that works best for you. Soup and bread are all we will need. **No desserts please.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Traditional Stations of the Cross will be led by Deacon Bill and held at the Our Lady of Peace campus on the following Friday evenings: Feb. 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23. (We expect to hold our Living Stations dramatization on Good Friday, March 30, at the Saint Christopher campus. More information on that to follow.) The first Stations of the Cross being held this Friday, February 16, will immediately follow the Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner (please see article on pg. 4 of this bulletin for further details). A decision will be made that evening as to the start time of the remaining Friday night Stations. The time will be announced at next weekend’s Masses.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONS MOVES TO TUESDAY NIGHT DURING LENT
Due to the Soup & Stations event being held on Wed. evenings during Lent, our Wednesday Night Devotions will move to the following Tuesday evenings: Feb. 20, 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27. They will return to Wednesday evening beginning Apr. 4.

BEST.LENT.EVER!
During this Lenten season, you have an opportunity to participate in a special kind of observance. It can be found free on the site: BestLentEver.com. This program is being sponsored by Dynamic Catholic and its founder Matthew Kelly, a motivational speaker and author. It’s free to sign up and every day during Lent you’ll receive in your e-mail short inspirational videos, practical tips, and a study guide to become the best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent. What better way is there to observe this sacred time, all at your own convenience?

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN
As you know, the weather this winter has made travel risky at times. Sometimes people ask if we are celebrating a Mass or holding some other event when we have snow, sleet, or freezing rain. Common sense tells us that it is better to be safe than sorry. And God, certainly, does not want us to put ourselves or others in danger. **When in doubt, don’t go out.** Since Father Joseph and I live at the Saint Christopher campus, it’s easier for us to get to the church there, but since the church at the Our Lady of Peace campus is more than two miles away, it is not as easy to get there in inclement weather. Therefore, when we are experiencing snow, sleet, or freezing rain on a Friday or Saturday morning, then the daily Mass at the OLOP campus will not be celebrated. Cancellation of programs and events can be seen on WFSB Channel 3, online at wfsb.com or you may contact the parish office. Again, let common sense be your guide. When in doubt, don’t go out.

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE
We will meet again in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus this Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m. to continue our journey with the Book of Revelation; we will start this next session with chapter 8. This group meets every other Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Join us when you can and bring your Bible! If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
We meet again this Monday, February 12 at 1:00 pm in the church hall at the Saint Christopher campus. New members are welcome to join at anytime. Please contact Santa Vallone at 860-569-1772.

A PIN MINISTRY THANK YOU!
Thank you to all of you for helping our Parishioner In Need committee raise over $600 last weekend at their annual bake sale. Your assistance, whether by baking or buying or lending a helping hand, will continue to assist our parishioners in need throughout the year. PIN donation envelopes remain at the church entrances for those of you who wish to contribute throughout the year. We cannot cure all those in need, but we can care for them. Thank you again Saint Edmund Campion parishioners for caring!
Knights of Columbus Dinner Tickets on Sale this Weekend After All Masses (to benefit our World Youth Day pilgrims)
Friday, 2/16, at OLOP, 6:00 PM Fish Dinner
Stations of the Cross will immediately follow
New England Clam Chowder
Baked Breaded Fish or Mac ‘n Cheese
French Fries, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad,
Coffee and Soda - Ice Cream
Price: Adults $6.00, Kids (age 6-12) $3.00

Saturday, 3/17, at SC, 6 PM Corned Beef Dinner
Corned Beef or Mac ‘n Cheese
Boiled Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots
Coffee and Soda - Dessert
Price: $12.50/Person today ($15.00/ Person at the Door, Children under age 6 Free (limit 2/paid ticket).

Paczkis on Sale this Weekend After All Masses
Our Knights of Columbus are selling paczkis this weekend for $1.50 each to benefit our WYD pilgrims. Purchase a ticket this weekend to the Corned Beef Dinner and receive a free paczki.

ST. EDMUND CAMPION ADULT SOCIAL CLUB
Monday, Feb. 19 ~ 1:00 p.m. ~ SC Church Hall
At this meeting, members will have the opportunity to participate in a great game that gives us the chance to talk and join with members of the club with whom we might not yet have interacted. It should be a fun afternoon. 2018 dues of $15 are now due, and we look forward to an enjoyable year with interesting activities and wonderful entertainment. If you have any questions regarding the social club, please feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1</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, February 18 – First Sunday of Lent
Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church year, reminding us of Jesus’ forty days of prayer and fasting in the desert. The Tempter certainly tried his best to “distract” and tempt Jesus, but was unsuccessful. When Jesus calls us to “repent” it is a call to prayer, fasting and almsgiving – holy and traditional ways of acting out our conversion, finding spiritual strength and living the Christian life. Take temptation seriously; your eternal life is at stake!