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 (Tuesdays During Lent)
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

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.
Mark 1:12-13
**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday, February 17 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
† Marianne Harden – 9th Anniversary
   (Mom & Family)

Sunday, February 18 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
† Esther Hartl (Granddaughter)

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

Sunday, February 18 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
† John F. Connors (Wife Evelyn & Family)

Monday, February 19 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Dinis Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Tuesday, February 20 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Lucien Lavertu – 3rd Anniversary (Wife Joan)

Wednesday, February 21 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
For God’s Blessings, Healing & Comfort for Barbara Jean Primeau (Jean Walker)

Thursday, February 22 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
† Frank Wroniak (Grandparents)

Friday, February 23 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Josephine “Jo” Picone
   (Members of Saint Edmund Campion’s Adult Social Club)

Saturday, February 24 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Rev. Joseph B. Whittel

Saturday, February 24 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
† Marie Anne & Enoil Ouellette
   (Nicole & Jacques Ouellette)

Sunday, February 25 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
† Rev. Robert Joseph Lord

Sunday, February 25 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
† Lucien Lavigne (Julianne Kelly)

Sunday, February 25 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
† Howard Thiery (Dave & Chickie Amberg)

(OLOP) = Mass celebrated at Our Lady of Peace campus
      (SC) = Mass celebrated at Saint Christopher campus

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**PARISH SUPPORT**

What We Collected (February 11): $8,430*
Parish School Collection: $2,422**

*Includes $593 received through our Online Giving program and $336 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $125 received through our Online Giving program and $362 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish community!

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**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN**

My dear friends,

As you can see, the painting of the church interior at the Saint Christopher campus is now complete. Many people have told me how much they like the shade of blue on the ceiling. I want to thank everyone who gave to the Paint Fund and the Annual Parish Appeal for making this transformation possible. In the years ahead I hope to have the woodwork and the pews refinished.

May God bless you all.

Father John

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**NO FLOWERS DURING LENT**

Due to the penitential nature of this Lenten season, you are asked not to bring flowers to decorate the church. The sparse look of the church will help us to appreciate the abundant beauty of Easter.

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**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 Therese A. Chirico
   (Husband)

† The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of Lucien Lavertu – 3rd Anniversary (Wife Joan)

Please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication.
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.

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.

† IN MEMORIUM †
Please pray for these parishioners who have gone to eternal life during the month of January.

Angeline Cichon  Lucien Lavigne
Dolores Corriveau  Helen Michaud
Mary Lachapelle  Frances Wishart
Roland LaPorte

“If Christ is my life, then death is my gain.”
– Philippians 1:21

SAVE THE DATE!
St. Christopher School’s Annual Gala & Auction
Saturday ~ April 21, 2018
Reservations are now being accepted for this year’s Annual Gala & Auction being held at St. Christopher School to benefit the educational programs and opportunities for our students. This year’s Gala will offer a pizza truck, pig roast, cupcake truck, wine, beer and soda tasting, live music and fantastic items to bid on during silent and live auctions. All this for $35 (single reservation) and $60 (couple reservation). Visit http://www.saintchrischool.org/st-chris-annual-gala-auction/ to download form.

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.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY
This month’s Children’s Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, February 25 at 10:30 a.m. at the Saint Christopher campus. Students in Grade 4 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, Feb. 21 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, February 25 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.

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 in our area are hearing confessions, please visit ConfessionMondays.com or contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 for assistance.

PRAYER FOR LENT
Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.
LIVING STATIONS
The Living Stations, a dramatic presentation of our Lord’s passion, death and resurrection, will be held on Good Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the church at the Saint Christopher campus. There are numerous roles that you can assist with to assure that this longstanding tradition continues. You can be a reader or the narrator. For non-speaking parts, you can portray Jesus, Mary, Simon, Veronica, a Roman soldier, Pontius Pilate, a weeping woman or one of various citizens of Jerusalem. If you have any questions or wish to assist with this wonderful presentation, please contact Alice Gosselin or Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001. For e-mail communication, please use alicegeoz@comcast.net (Alice’s address) or imgoose@comcast.net (Deacon Phil’s address). Thank you!

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. 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23. (Our Living Stations dramatization will be held on Good Friday, March 30, at the Saint Christopher campus. Please see article above for more information.) This Friday’s Stations will immediately follow the Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner (please see article in next column for further details).

FRANK RUNYEON
COMING TO EAST HARTFORD
TV star Frank Runyeon is coming to Saint Mary’s Church, 1588 Main Street in East Hartford on Saturday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. He will perform Sermon on the Mount followed by Hollywood vs. Faith. Frank has won national acclaim for his work as a translator and performer of Biblical texts over the past 20 years. He has performed the gospel for hundreds of thousands of people in almost every state in America, earning rave reviews from critics, scholars and church leaders of every denomination. He is regularly reviewed as “the best speaker we have ever heard.” He is best known for his many roles on television including seven years as Steve Andropoulos As the World Turns opposite Meg Ryan. This performance on March 3 is suitable for all ages. Entrance fee is $10 per person or $25 per family (3 or more). Tickets are only available at the door. Questions? Call 860-289-7916.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Thanks to all of you who made the Paczki and Fish Dinner sales so successful! The Friday Fish Dinner was so successful that we will continue the dinner in the OLOP Hall this Friday, February 23, and possibly for the remainder of Lent if participation continues.

Tues., 2/20, at SC, 6 PM, Council Pot-Luck Supper
This is our monthly dinner for council members and their families. The main entree will be Lasagna. We will be presenting Council Shirts to our PGK wives and our widows. Please contact the Grand Knight to select a side dish or dessert.

Fri., 2/23, at OLOP, 6 PM Fish Dinner
prior to Stations of the Cross to benefit our World Youth Day pilgrims. Tickets on sale this weekend after the 9:00 AM Mass at the back of the OLOP Church and after 10:30 AM Mass at SC in the church hall or contact Bob Falkevitz at the number below.

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

Sat., 3/17, at SC, 6 PM Corned Beef Dinner
to benefit our World Youth Day pilgrims.

Corned Beef or Mac ‘n Cheese
Boiled Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots
Irish Soda Bread, Tossed Salad
Coffee and Soda - Dessert
Price: $12.50/Person or $15.00/ Person at the Door,
Children under age 6 Free (limit 2/Paid ticket).
Tickets available this weekend after the Sunday Masses as described above.

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 or rfalkevitz@att.net for more information.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. will award three scholarships of $2,000 each to Catholic students who are high school seniors and who plan to attend a four year college in Fall of 2018. Deadline to submit scholarship applications is March 15, 2018. Visit catholicgraduatesct.org.
GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today’s Gospel, Mark tells us that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark’s Gospel, the desert marks the beginning of Jesus’ battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus’ final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>Psalm 23: 1-3a, 4-6</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 25 – Second Sunday of Lent

Transfiguration gives us a “peek” at the Kingdom, as Jesus reveals his divine glory. We have the Holy Trinity represented in the voice (The Father), the cloud (Holy Spirit), and Jesus transfigured. This Trinity comes to live within us at our Baptism, and the Transfiguration story reminds us of our destiny. Lent is a time of Surrender, giving up our old ways so that we can be transformed back into the image God. We achieve this through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving; what is our progress so far?