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)
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
**PARISH SUPPORT**

What We Collected (June 3): $7,642

Catholic Relief Services: $2,228

*Includes $1,113 received through our Online Giving program and $370 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish and of the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Relief Services!

**ARCHBISHOPS ANNUAL APPEAL**

This weekend is Gift Commitment Weekend throughout the Archdiocese for the 2018 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal – *Our Faith, Our Future*. This is an important moment in the Appeal to ensure its success, and at all Masses this weekend there will be a brief 8-minute video that highlights, in a very personal way, some stories of your contributions at work in the lives of others, furthering the work of the gospel. This outreach can only continue thanks to OUR collective support of the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. So, if you’ve not already made a contribution or pledge, please plan to use one of the envelopes that can be found in the pews to make your contribution or pledge TODAY. If you are making your 2018 gift for the first time, or perhaps increasing your 2018 gift, please accept our sincere appreciation. Last year more than 42,000 households participated. Please help us achieve or even surpass that number of supporting households this year. Your support is vital; no one can replace you. Thank you!

**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

Those Who Give the Gift of Life Through Blood Donation

(*In Recognition of World Blood Donor Day ~ June 14*)

♀ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of John St. Onge

(*In Remembrance of Our Wedding Anniversary*)

(Wife Simone)
AN IMPORTANT NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN

Archbishop Blair Calls for a Diocesan Synod

Archbishop Blair has announced that he will call for a Diocesan Synod for the year 2020. Now, you're probably wondering “What’s a Diocesan Synod?” Canon Law defines it as “An assembly of selected priests and other members of Christ’s faithful from throughout the diocese, which the Bishop calls together for the good of the whole community, in order to assist him in deliberating on the pastoral needs of the diocese and discerning the guidance of the Holy Spirit.” (Canon 460)

In other words, it is the responsibility of those who participate in a Diocesan Synod to advise the Archbishop on the direction they think the Archdiocese should take in the future. The last one held in our Archdiocese was in 1996 and the one before that was in 1959. Given the fact that the Archdiocese has gone through many changes in the past three years, especially the restructuring of parishes, it seems that this is a good time for us, as an archdiocese, to “organize our thoughts” so to speak, as we consider what our long-term goals should be.

On the local level this long process will begin with a Parish Listening Session. Pastors have been asked to assemble no less than 50 parishioners for a Town Hall Style meeting. These parishioners will be asked to respond to three questions:

What are we (as an Archdiocese) doing well?
What are we (as an Archdiocese) doing not so well?
What are we (as an Archdiocese) not doing that we should be?

The response to each question should be no more than 2-3 minutes per person per question. The date of our Parish Listening Session will be Monday, July 23 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall of the Saint Christopher campus.

If you are seriously interested in participating in this Parish Listening Session, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 by July 20. Of course, it goes without saying that each response should be given and received with Christian charity.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP
Registration Deadline: June 11th

Registrations are now being accepted for this year’s Vacation Bible Camp which will be held at the Saint Christopher campus from July 9 to July 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon each day. This year’s theme, Surprise! Stories of Discovering Jesus, allows children to also be surprised as they discover Jesus! Each of the five Bible stories the children will hear tells them about someone surprised by Jesus. We invite children who are entering grades K-12 to come along on the journey, to open their eyes, and to see what Jesus has in store! Registration forms are available at all church entrances or can be downloaded from the church’s website at stchris-eh.org/vbc.php.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

This coming week long-time parishioners Don and Connie Stark will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Don and Connie were married on June 14, 1958 in Albany, NY. We join with their family and friends in offering our sincere congratulations, along with our prayers for God’s blessing on them and their loved ones.

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED

Now is the time for families to register children entering grades K-8 this fall for the 2018/2019 religious education program. This program begins in September and runs through April. Classes are held at Saint Christopher School on Sundays from 9:05 – 10:15 a.m. First Communion and Reconciliation preparation is a two-year program beginning in Grade 1. The registration form can be downloaded from our website at stchris-eh.org (select Religious Education) or obtained by contacting Maria Sousa, Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692.

Saint Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ July 6, 2018
1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Call 1-800-Red Cross to make an appointment.

Blood Drive
HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ABUSE
TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

If you have knowledge or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult (an adult with an intellectual disability) has been sexually abused, in any manner, by personnel of the Archdiocese of Hartford, you are urged to report this information to:

Kathleen D. Nowosadko
Victim Assistance Coordinator
860-541-6475
kathleen.nowosadko@aohct.org

In addition, you will be asked to follow up in writing with a detailed description of the facts involved in the incident. Specifics of this written report can be found in the Policies and Procedures of the Archdiocese of Hartford Relating to Allegations of Sexual Misconduct Involving Minors and Vulnerable Adults. This document is available online at www.archdioceseofhartford.org. The Archdiocese of Hartford will report any and all incidents to the proper civil authorities.

Mandated reporters in the State of Connecticut are required by law to report any incident of sexual abuse involving a minor or vulnerable adult. We encourage any Non-Mandated persons to report such incidents to the proper authorities as well. We support your right to do so.

Incidents involving sexual abuse of minors (persons under the age of 18) should be reported to:
State Department of Children and Families Care-line 1-800-842-2288

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 18 – 59 should be reported to the:
Abuse Investigations Division of the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities 1-800-842-7303

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 60 and over should be reported to:
Department of Social Services for the Elderly 1-888-385-4225

Once a written report of an incident of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult has been received, an investigation will be undertaken by, or on behalf of, the Archdiocese of Hartford.
ORDINARY TIME

Today the Church begins a stretch of Ordinary Time that will last for five months. The liturgical vigor of the Easter Season and the feasts of the Holy Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ settles down into this long stretch that opens before us.

Ordinary Time is the season of the Church year when Catholics are encouraged to grow and mature in daily expression of their faith outside the great seasons of celebration of Christmas and Easter and the great periods of penance of Advent and Lent.

Ordinary Time is a time to deepen one’s prayer life, read the Scriptures, unite more deeply with the Lord in the Eucharist and become a more holy and whole person.

Ordinary Time is a period when average people like you and me strive to become the extraordinary messengers of the Gospel that we have been commissioned to be through our Baptism.

Ordinary Time is this day, this moment. Now.

As we settle into Ordinary Time, let us pray that our faith will be strengthened as we grow more and more into faithful disciples.

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, June 17 – 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the first reading, Ezekiel speaks of a sprout or twig becoming a majestic cedar tree. He was referring to the promise of a messiah from the family of David who would make Israel flourish. So, too, does Jesus speak of his church beginning in a seemingly insignificant way but growing to give shelter to all. So, too, each of us, no matter how insignificant we may seem to be in this world, can with God’s grace grow beyond our expectations.