Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 19, 2018

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
Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 18 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
♀️ Lorraine Carpenter (Barbara Casey)

Sunday, August 19 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Jean Riley (Family)

Sunday, August 19 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
♀️ Walter & Gladys Juraszewicz (Family)

Sunday, August 19 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Robert Wall (Sally & Al Labieniec)

Monday, August 20 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
Dinis Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Tuesday, August 21 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Ethel B. Hart ~ 15th Anniversary and Harold L. Hart (Carolyn V. Kronen)

Wednesday, August 22 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Antonio Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Thursday, August 23 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Evangelina Sousa (Family & Friends)

Friday, August 24 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
♀️ Roberta Vroblick (Her Daughter Valerie Vroblick)

Saturday, August 25 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
For the People of the Parish (Missa pro populo)

Saturday, August 25 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
♀️ Jose Figueiredo (Wife Maria)
♀️ Maria & Manuel Machado (Daughter Maria)

Sunday, August 26 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Roland Begin ~ 27th Anniversary (Family)

Sunday, August 26 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
♀️ Michael Sanzaro (Julianne & Garry Kelly)

Sunday, August 26 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
♀️ Evangelina Sousa ~ 1st Anniversary (Family & Friends)

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

PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (August 12): $6,755*
Parish School Collection: $2,039**

*Includes $578 received through our Online Giving program and $335 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $135 received through our Online Giving program and $72 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish community!

ONLINE GIVING
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 website at stchris-eh.org. Click on the Online Giving button on the left side and you will be immediately connected to our secure Online Giving server. You may also contact the parish office for assistance.

2019 MASS INTENTIONS
The 2019 Mass Book is quickly filling up, especially the 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses. If you are interested in booking a Mass being celebrated in 2019, especially on a particular date, you are encouraged to call Bonnie at the parish office at 860-568-5240 at your earliest convenience. Masses are booked on a first come, first served basis.

SANCTUARY LAMP
The lamps beside our church’s tabernacles remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

♀️ The light at the Our Lady of Peace campus burns this week

For the Senior Citizens of Our Parish
(In Recognition of National Senior Citizens Day ~ 8/21)

♀️ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of
The Deceased Members of the Garvey Family
(Marion Sullivan)

If you would like to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication, please call the parish office.
PICNIC PLANNING MEETING
Please help us plan a fun parish event! We’ll be holding our 2nd Annual Saint Edmund Campion Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 23, from 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. at the Our Lady of Peace campus. It will be a fun-filled afternoon of great food, fellowship and activities for all! Many hands are needed to plan this fun-packed event. Please join us for a planning meeting being held this Wed., August 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall at the Our Lady of Peace campus. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Danielle at stchrisvargas@gmail.com or Marie at garabedian@comcast.net or at 860-836-5514. Thank you!

SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL
An Investment in Your Child’s Future
Registrations for the 2018/2019 school year are now being accepted for students entering grades PreK-8. PreK children (ages 3 and 4) can be enrolled either part time or full time. Contact us for more information or stop by and see all that we have to offer! 860-568-4100 ~ saintchristopherschool.org ~ Welchbk@saintchristophersschool.org.

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), found at the entrances of the church, or it can be obtained by contacting Maria Sousa, Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692. Please help us to plan accordingly by submitting your registration by August 31.

PRAYER SHARING GROUP
Our Prayer/Sharing Group meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the hall at the Our Lady of Peace campus. All members of the Saint Edmund Campion Parish and their friends are welcome to attend. Please join us for an evening of Prayer, Song, Scripture Sharing and Friendship. Refreshments served. We hope to see you there! For more info, please call Phyl Tyrseck at 860-568-3855, Barbara Veci at 860-568-2701, Pat Roberge at 860-568-5777, Barbara Hanson at 860-965-9162 or Leo Forte at 860-568-7383.

MARIAN GARDEN UPDATE
We wish to thank all those who placed an order for our summer production. Twenty-three bricks and one slab are currently being engraved and are expected to be installed in the garden later this month. We are now accepting orders for our fall production. Orders for the fall production must be submitted by September 2. Messages can memorialize a loved one, honor someone special, commemorate an event (i.e., baptism, First Communion, graduation, anniversary) or can simply be your name as a supporter of the garden. Donation levels begin at $50. Please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 for more information.

DO YOU NEED PRAYER?
Our prayer team is available to intercede on your behalf and take your requests before God. Please contact Sally Ann Tanasi with your prayer requests or if you’re interested in joining our prayer team.
860-569-4072 ☎ 6854angeleyes@gmail.com
FATHER JOHN’S HOMILY
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Several people have requested a copy of the homily that Father John delivered this past Wednesday. We’re printing it here for those people and for those of you who didn’t have a chance to hear it.

How much is human life worth? Judging from what we see on the news, not much, or so it would seem.

Life is very cheap in places around the world where brutality is a way of life. Rare is the newscast that doesn’t have a violent story to report. And even in the womb, where human life begins, even in the womb, some tell us that it’s all a matter of “choice,” that we are the ones who decide if a life has value or not. If we want it, then it has value; if we don’t, then it doesn’t.

So, how much is human life worth? Does it have any value apart from the value we choose to give it? Is it ours to decide if human life should be allowed to keep on living?

This feast of Mary’s Assumption reminds us that God values our lives even if we don’t. We might not think much of ourselves, but in God’s eyes, we’re his masterpiece, from start to finish, from the time we’re conceived to the time of our natural death and beyond.

It was from God’s hands that we came, and it is to the hands of God that we’re meant to return. Our bodies, as well as our souls, are precious to God, and we believe that we will return to him just the way he made us: as whole persons, body and soul together and nothing less. We believe, in other words, in the resurrection of the body on the last day.

The resurrection of Jesus was a bodily resurrection, and it’s our hope to share in his resurrection, his bodily resurrection.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a singular participation in her Son’s Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians.” That’s us, hopefully.

As we remember Mary’s share in the resurrection of her Son today, may we see our lives, may we see our bodies through God’s eyes. May we recognize that our bodies have a great dignity because they came from God; they were fashioned by his hands; they belong to him, and it is to God, we pray, that they will return.

All human life is precious. All human life is wanted; all human life is valued, by God at least, if not by anyone else.

UNIQUE BOUTIQUE ~ A Quality Tag Sale
The Parish of St. Teresa of Calcutta (Saint Bridget and Saint Bartholomew Churches) will be holding their annual Unique Boutique at 80 Main Street in Manchester. The dates and hours are as follows:

    Thursday, August 23 ~ 5pm to 8pm
    $10.00 Admission (Wine/Cheese/Shopping)

    Friday, August 24 ~ 4pm to 8pm ~ $1.00 Admission

    Saturday, August 25 ~ 9am to 6pm ~ Free Admission

WOMEN’S ACTS RETREAT
The South Windsor Catholic Community of Saint Junipero Serra Parish is sponsoring a Women’s ACTS retreat September 20 -23, 2018 at My Father’s House in Moodus, CT. The ACTS retreat is a Catholic lay retreat presented by women. This is a simple, reverent, Catholic retreat that begins on Thursday evening and ends on Sunday with morning Mass and reception. For info, please visit actsct.org or contact MaryAnn Harris at 860-280-7798.
MISTAKEN IDENTITY

A man was being tailgated on a city street in heavy traffic. Suddenly, the light turned yellow just in front of him. He did the right thing by stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by a last-minute acceleration through the intersection. The tailgating woman must already have been stressed out. Who knows what was going on in her life? Her reaction to the sudden stop was startling. She hit the ceiling and the horn, screaming in frustration at missing the chance to get through the light and making rude gestures. While she was still yelling and carrying on at the driver in front of her, she heard a tap, tap on her car window and looked up into the unsmiling face of a tall, burly police officer ordering her to get out of her car with her hands up. He put her in the back seat of his patrol car and took her to the police station, where she called a lawyer and was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, she was escorted to the booking desk, where the arresting officer was waiting with her lawyer. He said, “I'm very sorry, ma'am. This has all been a big mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cursing a blue streak at him. I noticed the ‘Choose Life’ license plate holder, the bumper stickers saying ‘What would Jesus do?’ and ‘Follow me to Saint Dominic’s’, and the rosary hanging from your rear-view mirror. Naturally, I assumed you must have stolen the car.”

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.”

Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW Copyright 2001 by Robert J. Wicks Used with permission of Paulist Press

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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, August 26 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God’s grace invites us to be Jesus’ disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.
August 14, 2018

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For some years now attention has been focused, and continues to be focused, on the sexual sins and crimes of some of our Catholic clergy and the failure of the hierarchy in many cases to respond in an immediate and decisive way to remove the offenders from ministry.

Since 2002 enormous strides have been made to remedy this situation and to protect minors and vulnerable adults from sexual abuse on the part of anyone working in the Church. An upright moral life, including sexuality, is an expectation that has been made abundantly clear to all our clergy and seminarians, whose screening and training programs have been critically evaluated and strengthened. Given the commitments that have been made by the bishops, and the norms that have been implemented, there has been great reason for encouragement.

Now the wounds are renewed by media reports about past abuse by clergy in other States, and in particular by recent revelations about the former Cardinal and retired Archbishop of Washington, Theodore McCarrick. Multiple allegations of the abuse of minors and of homosexual activity, including preying on seminarians and young priests, are abhorrent to me and to you, and a cause of renewed hurt and anger, of extreme scandal and shame for the Church.

What is deeply troubling is that although some of the former cardinal’s alleged activities were known and reported by some, nothing was done to remove him from office or to charge him with the canonical and potential civil consequences of his actions. Clearly, more needs to be done to ensure fraternal correction and accountability among bishops. According to Church law accused cardinals and bishops are to be judged, at the mandate of the Pope, by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome. I would want, and fully expect that cardinals and bishops be held to exactly the same rigorous norms and subjected to the same rigorous procedures that are applied to priests and deacons when it comes to allegations of sexual misconduct and crimes.

In a sinful world, despite our vigilance, there can be no absolute guarantee that there will not be clerics who betray or violate their sacred office sexually or in other ways. Christ’s betrayer, Judas, was one of his chosen Apostles. Against the stratagems of the devil St. Paul says we must “put on the armor of God” (Eph. 6:13).
Our hearts continue to go out to all victims of abuse, especially by clergy. The facts that have come to light over the years have been a painful and a rightfully humbling cross for all bishops, and I have experienced it very deeply and personally since becoming a diocesan bishop in 2003. I pray daily for the victims of clerical sexual abuse, I offer Mass for them, and I ask you to pray for them as well.

Recently I published for our archdiocese a prayer I had written some years ago to Mary, Mother of the Church, during the height of the sexual abuse crisis. It reads, in part: "Like you, the Church's first and most perfect member, we too stand at the foot of the cross as witnesses to what human sinfulness is capable of inflicting on the body of Christ. As your Son crushed the head of the ancient serpent who is the father of lies, so now intercede for us with God, that our archdiocese may be delivered from all evil and be preserved in holiness and truth. By your prayers hasten the coming of the justice and mercy of God." Please join me in saying this prayer, and the traditional prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, each and every day.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leonard P. Blair

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford