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)
6:00 pm
Eucharistic Exposition,
Adoration and Benediction • Perpetual Novena in Honor of
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal • Scriptural Rosary

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@aohtc.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 (October 14): $ 7,073*
Parish School Collection: $ 2,345**

*Includes $735 received through our Online Giving program and $160 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $180 received through our Online Giving program and $207 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish community!

**BE A MISSION VOICE!**

World Mission Sunday Collection ~ This Weekend

This weekend, with Catholics of the world, we are called to offer, at this Eucharistic celebration, our prayers and our generous financial support, through The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, to continue the mission of Jesus. Today we “speak up” through our prayers and personal sacrifices for our brothers and sisters in the Missions. $25 helps support a catechist for a month in Latin America; $75 provides for the work of religious Sisters in Africa; $100 assists children in schools in Asia. As always, your prayers are your most treasured gift to the Missions. Your prayers and financial help, offered today, World Mission Sunday, support mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ’s witnesses to a world so in need of His healing love and peace. Thank you for your support.

**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 Victims of Bullying
(National Bullying Prevention Month ~ October)

* The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of
Robert Boardman ~ 6th Anniversary
(Wife Helen ~ 6th Anniversary)

To schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication, please contact the parish office. Suggested donation is $15.
MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN

My dear friends,

I’m happy to announce that Archbishop Blair has approved my request to have a new heating and air conditioning system installed at the church on the Our Lady of Peace campus. The system in place now is original to the building meaning that it is 44 years old! Our Finance Council has been working hard assessing the project, meeting standards set by the town, accepting bids, and selecting a contractor, all under the guidance of our building manager, Stephen Roczynski. Work will begin shortly. I was hoping that October and November would be warmer than usual, but that doesn’t seem likely this year. Therefore, it may be necessary that, during the time of installation, Masses celebrated at the Our Lady of Peace campus (Sunday, daily and funerals) be relocated to the Saint Christopher campus. I’ll try my best to give you notice in advance if such a move is necessary.

Also, at the church on the Saint Christopher campus, when Masses are not being celebrated, all the doors will be locked except the one facing the Marian Garden (on the west side). Otherwise, of course, all doors will be unlocked for the daily and Sunday Masses as well as for funerals and other functions (Wednesday devotions, confessions). Access to events in the church hall will be made through the glass doors facing the parking lot. This is a measure to improve security at the church. Those wishing to make a visit to the church when it is not being used should enter through the door facing the Marian Garden.

May God bless you during these autumn months,
Father John Gwozdz

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE

We will meet again this Wed., Oct. 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. We have completed the Book of Revelation and Father John will be joining this Wednesday for a Revelation rap session! The Bible Study group has decided to explore the Book of Job next. Please join us! Our group meets every other Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Come when you can and bring your Bible! Questions? Please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

This month’s Children’s Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, October 28 at 10:30 a.m. at the Saint Christopher campus. Students in Grades K, 1 and 8 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 again on Tuesday, October 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. This rehearsal is open to any adult or child who is interested in singing in the family choir at the Children’s Liturgy being celebrated on Sunday, October 28 at 10:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692.

24 HOURS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saint Edmund Campion Parish will be participating in this year’s 40 Days for Life campaign by offering 24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration from 6:00 a.m. on Friday, November 2, to 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 3, in the church at the Saint Christopher campus. It is a wonderful experience and we know that prayer is efficacious. Life is precious from birth to natural death and everywhere in between. This time in front of the Body of Christ, praying for life, will be grace filled. We are seeking to fill every one-hour time slot during this 24-hour period with two people. Please consider participating by signing up for one (or more) one-hour time slot. A signup sheet can be found in the sanctuary of the church at the Saint Christopher campus. The church is open most days from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. Questions? Please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net.

PRAYER/SHARING GROUP

Our Prayer/Sharing Group meets every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the hall at the Our Lady of Peace campus. All members of Saint Edmund Campion Parish and their friends are invited to attend. Please join us in an evening of Prayer, Song, Scripture Sharing and Friendship. Refreshments follow each meeting and all are welcome to stay. Please come and join us!
THANK YOU!
We, the pilgrims traveling from Saint Edmund Campion Parish to Panama for World Youth Day this January, would like to thank everyone who attended the fundraiser dinner last Saturday, 10/13! It was a wonderful evening and a very successful fundraiser! It is through the generosity of our parish family that we are able to go on this life-changing trip and we are so grateful for everyone’s support.

Sincerely, Ginamarie Garabedian and Maddie Gay

FOOD BANK NEWS
Thanksgiving is just around the corner and although our pantry is pretty well stocked with food items, we are in need of some non-food items for the holiday baskets: laundry detergent, soap (hand and bath), toilet paper and paper towels, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

During the upcoming winter months, donations of the following foods would be appreciated: coffee, tea, jelly, canned hash, stews and soups and other meals that our clients can prepare with minimal trouble.

We appreciate all that is donated to the food bank, and the items above are only suggestions. If you have any turkeys, chickens or hams that you would like to donate, they would also be greatly appreciated as we do not always get enough of these items to complete our baskets.

Not only do we provide for the clients given to us by East Hartford Social Services, we also prepare holiday baskets for anyone who is in need within our own parish family. If you or anyone you know is in need this holiday season, please contact me, Diane Warner, at 860-202-8462 or Bonnie at the parish office. Also, if a situation arises and you need assistance from us, please let us know that as well.

This year we will be picking up turkeys from Foodshare on Saturday, November 17. Town Social Services will send out a letter to the clients advising them that they will have to pick up their baskets that Saturday afternoon between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m. We will pack the baskets with the non-perishable food items on Thursday morning, November 15 at South Congregational Church.

I thank all of you who support our food bank; your generosity is overwhelming. I am also blessed to have so many volunteers who give of their time each month. Thank you! – Diane Warner, Coordinator

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS
Sunday ~ November 4 ~ 10:30 a.m.
The All Souls Memorial Mass in memory of our beloved departed will take place at our 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, November 4. A candlelight service within the Mass will commemorate those from our parish who have gone to eternal life this year (November 1, 2017 - October 31, 2018). We invite parishioners who have lost a family member or close friend this year, even though they were not buried from our parish, to join us for this liturgy and to bring with you that morning a photo of your loved one with a name card to be placed on our Memory Board. Please arrive early so your picture can be placed on the board before Mass begins. If you lost a loved one this past year who was not buried from our parish and you’d like his/her name to be included in the program, please call the parish office by Oct. 30. Please note that this Mass is likely to be a bit longer than a regular Sunday Mass to allow for all those who wish to come forward to light a candle.

A reception will be held in our church hall following this Mass on November 4. We kindly request donations of baked goods and finger foods that can be served at this reception. All food donations may be left in the church hall prior to the start of Mass. If you would like to volunteer to help with the reception (setup, serving, cleanup) or would like more information, please contact Jean Nowik at 860-568-8873. We thank you for your support!

– Saint Edmund Campion Parish Consolation Ministry

MARRIAGE BANNS
Kara O’Leary & Brian Vignati

M. LOUISE SWEETLAND SCHOLARSHIP
The M. Louise Sweetland Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for this year’s scholarship candidates. If you are a registered member of the parish and have a child(ren) attending either a Catholic grammar school or high school, you are encouraged to see Father after Mass today to pick up an application. Alternatively, you may call Kevin Burns at 860-209-2378 to arrange to have an application sent by regular mail or by e-mail. The deadline to submit applications is October 31, 2018. Completed applications may be given to Father, be dropped off at the parish office or returned to Kevin Burns.
**ROSARY CRUSADE**

My Dear Participants in the Rosary Rally,

Although there were only 27 of us on Saturday, October 13, we accomplished much, and I am very proud! Our rallies here in the States were joined by 27 other nations around the world, bringing the world-wide Rally total to 23,018.

I know that the graces we’ve received from Our Lady are sufficient; however, I have to thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping Saint Edmund Campion Parish take part in this amazing adventure.

– Edie Gieras, 2018 Rosary Captain

**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, October 28 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In Christ, we are given spiritual sight. And we can exercise this spiritual sight by allowing God to reign in our lives and by following His commands. We must remember that Jesus is our light, and that we must cling to His truth so that we are never blinded to God. Jesus is the light that can save us from living a life estranged from Him.