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
Will resume after Easter 2019.
(Our Lady of Peace Campus)
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@sbeglobal.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

Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
— 1 John 3:2

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

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

Find Us on Facebook: Saint Edmund Campion Parish, East Hartford
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (December 16): $7,058+
- Includes $735 received through our Online Giving program and $466 from mail-in offerings.
Thank you for your support of our parish!

Note: Due to the early transmission deadline imposed by our bulletin publisher for this weekend’s bulletin, the collections taken up last weekend and at our Christmas Masses will be reported in next weekend’s bulletin.

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 secure website: www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754

FAMILY IN CRISIS
Today’s Gospel gives us the only real glimpse we have into the life of the Holy Family during the childhood of Jesus. Here we see a family in crisis. A son is lost and frantic parents search and search until they finally find him. We hear these words from the mother of Jesus: “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety” (Luke 2:48). We can only imagine the distress felt by Mary and Joseph. Their love for their son brought them to their wits’ end. Let us take the opportunity this day to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph to intercede for us in times when our families experience anxiety and fear.

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 Peace in the World
❖ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of
Jimmy Shephey
(Grandma)
SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Tuesday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses for this Solemnity will be celebrated as follows:

Vigil ~ Monday, December 31 ~ 5:30 pm
(Saint Christopher Campus)

Tuesday, January 1 ~ 8:00 am
(Saint Christopher Campus)

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE
We will meet again this Wednesday, January 2, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. We will start chapter 7 in the Book of Job. All are welcome! Our group meets every other Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Come 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.

AN APPEAL TO WIVES!
We appeal to the wives of our parish to encourage your husbands to attend our parish’s Men’s Retreat being held January 11-13, 2019 at Holy Family Retreat House in West Hartford. There’s a reason there are many more retreats scheduled for men than for women; we need more help! Not only will you enjoy a football-free weekend, you’ll get a shiny new husband back in return. Together the men of the parish will take a journey, with the hope of discovering who we are and how what we do matters. We’ll reflect on how living an ordinary life of holiness can lead to extraordinary happiness and peace. Contact Deacon Phil about an opportunity for a first-time retreatant to go as a guest of Holy Family. Register online at holyfamilyretreat.org or if you do not have access to the internet or have any questions, please contact Ray Simeone at 860-569-8451 or at rjsimeone95@comcast.net or Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
The local assembly and council will meet this Thursday, January 3 in the Saint Christopher Church Hall for their monthly business meetings at the following times:

6:30 PM – 4th Deg. Assembly Meeting
7:30 PM – Council Meeting

9 Days for Life ~ January 14-22, 2019
9 Days for Life is a multi-faceted novena for the respect and protection of every human life. Each day, a different intention is accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information. Anyone can participate by going to http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/nine-days-of-prayer-penance-and-pilgrimage.cfm. At this location you will be able to register via e-mail, text and mobile app (coming soon). This event is a required service program for the Knights of Columbus Councils but we encourage all to participate.

Upcoming Events
1/15: Family Pot-luck Supper
1/20: 10:00 AM @ New Haven, St. Mary Church, annual K of C Pro-Life Mass/Silver Rose Final Devotion and Baby Shower for unwed mother shelters
1/20: 2:00 PM, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford, Solemn Mass for Virgin Mary of High Grace
1/27: 12:00 NOON, 2nd and 3rd Degree Ceremonies, Our Lady of Fatima Church, 382 Hope Hill Rd., Wallingford. First Degree Members wishing to take the higher degrees are requested to contact Grand Knight Ernest Mintel at 860-569-7593 for arrangements.

The Knights are looking for Catholic men who want to make a difference in their community. Please contact the Grand Knight, Ernest Mintel, at 860-569-7593 for more information.

DO YOU NEED PRAYER?
We stand firmly on God’s promises that when we call Him, He will answer (Isaiah 65:24). Our prayer team is available to intercede on your behalf and take your request before God.

Contact Sally Ann Tanasi with your prayer requests: 860-569-4072 or 6834angeleyes@gmail.com
THANK YOU!! To the more than 38,800 generous donors who have pledged over $9,900,000 to the 2018 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, Our Faith, Our Future!!

As the year is coming to a close, this may be your last chance to help the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal achieve the goal of $10 Million in the 2018 tax year!

This year’s Appeal goal has been a challenge — but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives. For the third year in a row – thanks to the generosity of the donors to this year’s Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, Our Faith, Our Future – the Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide over $1,000,000 in critical funding to over 200 local, community based, organizations. This funding provides support to families and individuals for life’s basic necessities: a warm meal, a bag of groceries, a place to sleep, or a place to turn for guidance and support. The Annual Appeal is one way to express thanks for the blessings with which God has graced us and to share our blessings with our neighbors.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at [www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal-impact-2](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal-impact-2). NO Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

If you have not yet made a gift, please prayerfully consider making your pledge or gift today. Every gift makes a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and families throughout our Archdiocese, in a way that exceeds anything we could hope to achieve on our own. Please visit the Appeal website at [www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org) and follow the link Our Faith, Our Future, to learn more and to make your pledge or gift today.

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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND ACTION EVENT**

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed annually on January 11. Beginning in 2010, by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry in collaboration with The Underground CT is offering ‘Gather Together,’ a Human Trafficking Awareness Event on Saturday January 12, 2019 at Saint Bartholomew Church, 45 Ludlow St., Manchester. Expert speakers will present on the reality of trafficking in CT, the work being done, and how churches can help. Equal Exchange will offer a Fair Trade chocolate tasting and a presentation on labor trafficking in the cacao industry. Doors open at 8:15 a.m. for registration and coffee. Presentations begin at 9:00 a.m. Pre-register by email at theundergroundct@gmail.com. For more information, please contact Lynn Campbell at 860-242-5573.
SAINT EDMUND CAMPION
SOCIAL CLUB
CHRISTMAS PARTY
On Monday, December 17, the club members met at the Manchester Country Club for a delicious luncheon, followed by a sing-a-long. Several members formed a group— the “Saint Edmund’s Angels”— and they led the singing of Christmas carols.

They also sang lyrics written by club member Ray Maselek sung to the tune of “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen.” The theme of the song is about how disappointed he is at how commercialized Christmas has become. Frosty the Snowman made a surprise visit. He danced and sang, and the group had a wonderful time throwing artificial snowballs at him. The sing-a-long culminated with the singing of “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24</td>
<td>Galatians 4: 4-7</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, January 6 – The Epiphany of the Lord
The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh— have come to be understood as symbols of Christ’s royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say.