The Baptism of the Lord
January 13, 2019

A voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
Luke 3:22

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
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@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

Find Us on Facebook: Saint Edmund Campion Parish, East Hartford
PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (January 6): $7,861*
What We Collected (December 30): $8,276**
Holy Day: Mary, Mother of God: $1,660

*Includes $1,190 received through our Online Giving program and $784 from mail-in offerings.
**Includes $685 received through our Online Giving program and $573 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

TAX STATEMENTS

We are happy to provide tax statements to our parishioners who request one. If you regularly use your envelopes to make your offerings to our parish and wish to receive a tax statement, please contact the parish office by phone: 860-568-5240 or by e-mail: stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net

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.

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 Continued Protection of Religious Freedom for All
(In Recognition of Religious Freedom Day ~ 1/16)

❖ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of
John St. Onge ~ 8th Anniversary
(Wife Simone)

Please call the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering is $15.
MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN

My dear friends,

As we begin a new year, I want to give you an update on our Parish Appeal collection which began in October. As of January 9, $34,940 was pledged and $32,590 was actually received. I want to thank those parishioners who contributed any amount to this Appeal. Your generosity will help us to make sure that our parish expenses do not exceed our parish income. It’s not too late to give if you have not already done so. Just call the parish office at 860-568-5240 and ask for a contribution card.

Work is progressing on replacing the heating/cooling system at the Our Lady of Peace campus. New compressors have been installed, the door to the utility room has been widened, and soon the rest of the equipment will be installed. If this work requires that the heat in the church be shut off for a time, then you will be given notice in advance if Masses at the church have to be relocated to the Saint Christopher campus.

I also want to express my gratitude for the many ways you have supported our parish – giving of your time, talent and treasure. We’re off to a good start for this new year.

May God bless you all and always,

Father John Gwozdz

SAINT EDMUND CAMPION
ADULT SOCIAL CLUB
MEMBERS-ONLY MEMORIAL MASS
AND COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Monday ~ January 21 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Saint Christopher Campus

In place of our regular meeting, Father John will be celebrating Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 21 in memory of the deceased members of our Social Club. A Communion Breakfast will immediately follow in the church hall. (Please note that you must be a club member to attend the Communion Breakfast.)

Our membership committee will be on hand that morning beginning at 9:30 a.m. to accept your $15.00 for the 2019 dues and to handout ID badges which are ready for pickup.

If you are planning on attending the Communion Breakfast, please RSVP to Edie Gieras at 860-216-3024 or Mary Rice at 860-568-5429 by Jan. 17.

If you signed up for the Breakfast at our November meeting, then it is not necessary that you call as you are already on the list.

If you would like to learn more about the Social Club, please call Frank or Joan Perrone at 860-568-6229.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We are most grateful when family members request that donations may be made to Saint Edmund Campion Parish in memory of their loved one. Most recently the family of Eugene “Gene” Dion made this very request and $445 has already been donated in Gene’s memory. May he rest in God’s eternal embrace.

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE

We will meet again this Wednesday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. We will begin with chapter 10, verse 16 in the Book of Job. All are welcome! Our group meets every other Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Join us 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.
IN GRATITUDE
As we come to the end of the Christmas season, I want to thank all of those who helped to make it a beautiful celebration of the birth of our Lord. I am grateful to those who participated in our Giving Tree Program. Special thanks to those who decorated our churches so beautifully, to those in our Music Ministry who gladdened our hearts with joyful sound, to those who enriched our worship as Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Ushers and Greeters. Truly the child Jesus was given honor and praise by our parish family of Saint Edmund Campion Parish. May God bless you and your loved ones in this new year.

– Father John

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Our Prayer Shawl Ministry gathers in the Saint Christopher church hall on the 2nd Monday of the month from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. We meet again this Monday, January 14, but feel free to join us at any time. Bring a friend. We have plenty of yarn and needles for those who wish to learn. If you would like to know more or you or someone you know would like to receive a prayer shawl, please contact Santa Vallone at 860-569-1772.

† IN MEMORIUM †
Please pray for the following parishioners who passed on to eternal life during the month of December.

Eugene “Gene” Dion • Constance Fastiggi
Richard Gates • Rosemary Ptachcinski
Michael Salzarulo

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

FAMILY CHOIR REHEARSAL
Our Family Choir will be rehearsing again on Wednesday, January 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. This rehearsal is for any adult or child who is interested in singing in the family choir at the next Children’s Liturgy being celebrated on January 27 at our 10:30 Mass. For more information, please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, at 860-895-8692.

SOCIAL CLUB DAY TRIP
The Saint Edmund Campion Social Club is sponsoring a day trip to see Andy Cooney’s Irish Cabaret at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Flyers have been placed at the church entrances. Reservations are on a first come-first served basis, so please make your reservation early. For more information, please contact Joan Perrone at 860-568-6229.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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-roes-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 Potluck Supper Cancelled
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 Honor Guard muster is at 1:30 p.m.
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.

Brian Aselton Memorial Blood Drive
St. Christopher Church Hall
Friday ~ January 18 ~ 1:30-6:30 pm
Please call 1-800-Red Cross

Blood Drive
REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD
The other night I was looking out the window as the sun was setting and the layers of clouds allowed the sun to create an extraordinary sunset, painting some clouds with a golden hue, while others were orange and red, moving to purple and gray. It was a stunning moment. The baptism of Jesus is one of those brief moments of beauty, occurring in the first three Gospels (and alluded to in the fourth). Luke’s account differs from the others in that the dramatic moment does not occur as Jesus is coming up out of the water but only after his baptism, while he is praying. Luke’s Gospel has been called the Gospel of prayer, and from its beginning the adult Jesus is presented as one who prays. At this moment of intimacy, “heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove” (Luke 3:21–22). While he was at prayer, the voice spoke to him: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (3:22). From here on we find that Jesus is under the influence of the Holy Spirit, and this Spirit directs him first into the desert to be tested, then into his years of service. With this solemn celebration of the baptism, we too are sent back into the days called “Ordinary Time,” reminded that God has spoken these same words to us at our baptism: You are my son, my daughter. I delight in you. I send you forth to serve as my Son, Jesus, went forth to serve, accompanied by the Holy Spirit. – James A. Wallace, C.SS.R. Copyright © 2012, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>Psalm 97: 1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9</td>
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<td>Psalm 95: 6-11</td>
<td>Psalm 78: 3, 4bc, 6c-8</td>
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<td>Psalm 96: 1-3, 7-10</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.”

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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 20 – The Baptism of the Lord
In the second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits — the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine!