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

Mass Schedule:
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 27): $7,364*
High School Collection: $1,490
*Includes $855 received through our Online Giving program and $240 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish and for the Catholic High Schools throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford!

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 PROGRAM
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 online giving website:

www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754

Faith, hope, and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.
— 1 Corinthians 13:13

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

In Memory of Donald Roberge (Prayer Sharing Group)

➢ The candle at the Saint Christopher campus burns this week

In Loving Memory of Huguette Paquette (Friends)

Please call the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering is $15.
PARISHIONER IN NEED
BAKE SALE
February 9 and 10
Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their 10th Anniversary Bake Sale next weekend, February 9 and 10. We celebrate ten years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist many members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Your support has helped us succeed.

Please continue to watch out for those in our parish who may need assistance and may be hesitant to ask for help. Even those we have helped in the past may still be struggling and we ask that they or someone on their behalf come forward if necessary. Let’s be aware of those who need care.

The Bake Sale will be held next weekend after all Masses celebrated at the Saint Christopher campus. Please plan to stop by to pick up a baked good item. Donations of baked goods are very much welcomed…and needed. (Please indicate if there are nuts in the ingredients.) Donations can be dropped off in the church hall next weekend before any Mass celebrated at the Saint Christopher campus. Thanks!

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.

FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE
This Sunday, February 3, is the Feast of Saint Blaise. At all Masses this weekend, Father John and Father Joseph will give the traditional blessing of throats from the altar in place of the final blessing. The words of the blessing are as follows:

Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

SCHOOL MASS
A Mass will be celebrated with the students and staff of our parish school this Tuesday, February 5, at 9:00 a.m. All are invited.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION
Our parish school is most grateful for the number of Box Tops for Education coupons we receive each week from our parishioners! Clipped coupons can be placed in the offertory basket on any weekend. If you have any hanging around right now, please turn them in ASAP. Box Tops are submitted twice a year – March 1 and November 1. Thank you for supporting Saint Christopher School in this way!

AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED
Saint Christopher School will be celebrating their 20th annual gala and auction on April 27, 2019. This event is the school’s largest fundraiser of the year and we need your help making this year even better than the last. Below are some ways that you can help support our school. All donations can be dropped off at the school or left at the church tagged for the auction. All donations are tax deductible. Here are some suggested donations:

- Any new and unopened item (i.e., toys, sports equipment, movies, event tickets, jewelry, home goods, linens, frames, baskets)
- Gift cards (these can be used to purchase filler items or they will be added to baskets)
- Completed gift baskets

If you have any questions or would like to receive a tax receipt for your donation, please contact Tanya Rosario at rosariotanya@gmail.com or you can contact Mrs. Welch at 860-568-4100.

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

Mary “Barbara” Byrne • Ann Cherwinski
Philip Hanlon • Carmela Holland
John Hollis • Camille Pelletier
Donald Roberge • Edith Russell

“If Christ is my life, then death is my gain.”
– Philippians 1:21
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Saint Columbus Council #4

The local assembly and council will meet this Thursday, February 7, 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

Paczkies are Coming!
A free Paczki will be given after Sunday Masses on March 3 for every adult ticket sold for the following:

Fish Dinner ~ Friday, March 8, 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace church hall. Adults $8.00, kids (6-12) $3.00 – to benefit the PIN ministry. We will hold only one fish dinner this year and no tickets will be sold at the door.

Corned Beef Dinner ~ Saturday, March 16, 5:00 p.m. at Saint Christopher church hall. $12.50/person in advance; $15 at the door. Kids under 6 are free (limit 2/adult).

The Knights are looking for Catholic men who want to make a difference in their community. Seminarians, full-time college students and full-time military men can now join for free and pay no dues. Please contact the Grand Knight, Ernest Mintel, at 860-569-7593 for more information.

JOB OPPORTUNITY
Our parish and school are looking for an accountant who can work flexible hours between the two sites. Applicant must be proficient in QuickBooks, Excel and Word. If interested in getting more information, please contact Kathleen Welch at the school office at 860-568-4100.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION
Mercy and Xavier High Schools will present Sister Act at Mercy High School in Middletown on Sat. March 9 at 7pm and Sun. March 10 at 2pm. Visit mercyhigh.com for more information.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. will award three scholarships of $2,000 each to Catholic students who are high school seniors and who plan to attend a four year college in Fall of 2019. The club has awarded over $115,000 to 164 scholarship recipients during the past 67 years. Students are chosen on the basis of financial need, scholarship, character, leadership and achievement. Applicants must reside in Hartford County. The deadline to submit a scholarship application is March 15, 2019. Please visit catholicgraduatesct.org to see more information and to download the application.

THE SIGN OF PEACE
With the cold and flu season underway, each of us has the responsibility of taking precautions to prevent the spread of these illnesses. We need to wash our hands frequently, take care where we cough and sneeze, and scrutinize our habits and procedures where the spread of infection seems most possible. During the celebration of Mass when we are asked to offer the sign of peace, please do not be offended if someone chooses not to shake hands with you during the sign of peace. An appropriate gesture for those who are concerned about spreading the flu virus might be to strive for eye contact rather than physical contact. You could give a wave of your hand or clasp your hands together and bow gently to those around you, and with a smile say “Peace be with you.”

BIRTHRIGHT NEEDS YOU!
Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling and practical support. Their guiding principle is: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN. Birthright has served in Connecticut since 1972 and has helped thousands of mothers and babies. There are eight Birthright locations in our state with one of these locations right here in East Hartford. Volunteers are desperately needed, especially Spanish speaking volunteers. Training is provided. For more information, please contact our East Hartford Birthright location at 860-290-8800.
GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today’s gospel story is a continuation of the story from last Sunday. Last Sunday Jesus had demonstrated and claimed that he was the fulfillment of the Prophet Isaiah’s announcement of the anointed one, the Messiah, who would bring healing and good news to the poor and oppressed. His listeners had no problem at all with that claim of fulfillment by Jesus. In fact, they were just “amazed at the gracious words” that Jesus proclaimed in the synagogue. But then they began to question his pedigree – his ancestry and his carpenter background. That sure didn’t sound to them like the proper credentials for a Messiah! Jesus knew where this would lead, so he reminds them of a truth, that no prophet is accepted in his own native place. But what they could not live with was the idea that a Gentile would be placed on an even par with the chosen people! That was more than they could accept in their limited understanding of God’s plan of salvation, and their misunderstanding of their own role in that plan. The actions of the local folks are clear: they wanted to expel Jesus from their town, by killing him if that was necessary. Consider your own actions. Do you realize that you expel Jesus from your life every time you choose to sin? How often have you taken him to the brink of your heart, and given him that eternity-losing push? The Good News is that this Messiah always gives you one more chance. It is up to you to take it. – http://www.kateriirondequoit.org/resources/sunday-reflections/4th-sunday-ordinary-time-c/

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.”

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

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, February 10 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah is called to be a messenger for the Lord and responds, “Send me!” Like Isaiah, we are summoned daily by the Risen Lord. We are reminded of the saving power of the gospel and know in our heart of hearts that, as St. Paul wrote, believing in anything else won’t lead to anything.