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

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

Second Sunday of Lent ~ March 17, 2019
**Mass Intentions for the Week**

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

Saturday, March 16 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
❖ Deceased Members of the Colbert & Sydor Families (Mary Alice Sydor)

Sunday, March 17 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
❖ Joseph Leonardo (Mom & Daughters)

Sunday, March 17 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
❖ Eugene “Gene” Dion (Elizabeth Fox)

Sunday, March 17 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
❖ Fred Schifer ~ 5th Anniversary (Wife & Family)

Monday, March 18 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
❖ Dinis Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Tuesday, March 19 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
❖ Frank Wroniak (Grandparents)

Wednesday, March 20 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
❖ John & Louise Olinatz (Children)

Thursday, March 21 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
❖ Deceased Members of the Gagnon Family (Elmer & Omerine Gendreau)

Friday, March 22 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
❖ Holy Souls in Purgatory
   Especially Those Who Have No One to Pray for Them

Saturday, March 23 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
❖ Barbara Pearl
   (Maryann Kaminsi, Mary Blain & Edie Gieras)

Saturday, March 23 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
❖ André Charron (Wife)

Sunday, March 24 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
❖ For the Repose of the Souls in Purgatory
   (The Langenfeld Family)

Sunday, March 24 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
❖ Gary D’Alesandro ~ 11th Anniversary
   (Wife Mary & Family)

Sunday, March 24 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
❖ Beverly Connors (The Wilmes Family)

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (March 10): $5,893*
Parish School Collection: $1,842**

*Includes $560 received through our Online Giving program and $445 from mail-in offerings.

**Includes $95 received through our Online Giving program and $117 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish community!

ALL ABOUT CHANGE

On this Second Sunday of Lent the scriptures remind us that when we have an encounter with our God, things are bound to change. In the first reading God tells Abram to raise his eyes to the sky, promising descendants as numerous as the stars. Abram’s act of faith in the Lord is sealed in covenant, forever changing the course of salvation history. In the Gospel story of the Transfiguration, always proclaimed on this Lenten Sunday, the Lord Jesus changes in appearance before the eyes of the apostles who, like Abram, raise their eyes to the spectacle in the sky. It is Saint Paul who brings it all together for us: “He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body” (Philippians 3:21). Lent is all about change, all about conversion. Let us cast our own eyes to heaven, awaiting that day when we will be changed—when we will share in Christ’s glory.

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 Church burns this week

For Those Afflicted With HIV/AIDS
(In Recognition of AIDS Awareness Day ~ March 20)

❖ The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Memory of Lou Priest, Jr.
   (Joe Martocci & Jean Nowik)

Please call the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering is $15.
A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN
My dear friends,

Many of you know by now that I’ve been diagnosed with vertigo which means that there is an imbalance in my inner ear, a condition that prevents me from being able to balance myself at times, especially when walking.

With the help of medication and physical therapy, I’m working to restore my balance. It may take a while but I’m making progress every day, little by little. To keep my balance when walking I need to hold onto things once in a while and I can’t stand for long periods of time.

I appreciate the many expressions of concern and kindness you’ve extended to me in the past week, especially your prayers which are working. I’m especially grateful to the school children who wrote beautiful get well wishes.

The symptoms first appeared on the afternoon of Ash Wednesday, and so I find that dealing with this condition has had a special meaning for me as I go with you through the days of this Lenten season.

May God bless you all,
Father John

FAMILY CHOIR REHEARSAL
Our last Children’s Liturgy for this school year will be celebrated on Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m. Those who are interested in singing with the family choir are asked to attend our rehearsal on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:15 p.m. in the Chapel at the Saint Christopher Parish Center (580 Brewer Street). For more information, please contact Toni Mintel at 860-569-7593.

PAINT NIGHT FOR ADULTS
Saint Christopher School is hosting a Paint Night for adults on Friday, March 22 from 6:30pm - 9:00 pm in the Saint Christopher church hall. A paint master will give step-by-step instructions for creating your own masterpiece (an awakening of Spring blossoms), while you socialize and enjoy BYO light snacks and drinks with friends! Cost is $35 per person, which includes all supplies. 50% of the proceeds will go to support Saint Christopher School. Registrations must be received by Wed., March 20. Questions? Please e-mail Teresa at teresaaw1722@gmail.com and put “Paint Night Question” in subject line.

FAMILY NIGHT DINNER
Saint Christopher School is hosting a community event – a Pulled Pork Dinner – on Sat., March 30 in our school’s gym, with doors opening at 5:00 p.m. Great food - Great company - Great fun! Adults are $12, Seniors $10, Children (5-12) $6 and children 4 and under are free. Maximum family charge for 2 Adults & Children is $30. Menu to include pulled pork, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, corn, coleslaw, cornbread, hot and cold beverages and dessert items. 50/50 drawing and gift item drawings. Tickets will be available after all Masses this weekend and next weekend. They will also be available at the door. Questions? Please call Marie 860-836-5514 or send an e-mail to Danielle at stchrisdvargas@gmail.com.

PLEASE HELP!
HOMEFRONT IS COMING SOON
HomeFront Day, Saturday, May 4, 2019 is approaching fast. For those who are not familiar with the HomeFront project, it is a community outreach program, a one-day repair blitz (7:00 am to about 4:00 pm) for a neighbor in need, where Saint Edmund Campion Parish forms a crew to perform necessary home repairs and the HomeFront organization provides the materials. The typical HomeFront recipient is elderly, disabled or a single parent and their total household income must qualify as low-income within their community.

We have not yet been matched with our HomeFront recipient, but we need to begin to assemble our crew. If you would be willing to assist there are many ways to get involved. We always need skilled persons such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc., but we also need folks who can do common homeowner tasks such as raking, painting, pulling weeds, mowing the lawn, cleaning, etc.

We can make a difference but it won’t happen without you. Please say YES! For more information or to volunteer, please call Deacon Phil, 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net.

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT
Our priests are hearing confessions every Monday during Lent from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm at the Saint Christopher campus. For the times that other parishes in our area are hearing confessions, please visit ConfessionMondays.com.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Saint Christopher Council #4

Thanks to all who participated in the Friday Fish Dinner. The Knights raised $300 for the PIN Ministry. Special thanks to our cooks: Keith Garabedian, GK Ernie Mintel, PGK Ray Simeone and PGK Scott Gay.

– PGK Bob Falkevitz, Program Director

If you’re interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. The Knights are looking for Catholic men who want to make a difference in their community. For more information, visit kofc.org or contact Tony Gesnaldo at 860-508-1855.

ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

The 2019 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year’s Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese are carried forward. If you would like to make a gift, kindly mail in your pledge card or make your gift online by visiting archdioceseofhartford.org. Appeal packets are also available at the church entrances.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Saint Christopher School is accepting registrations for the school year beginning in the Fall 2019. There are openings in PreK 3 through Grade 8. We offer small class sizes and a safe environment as well as a faith-based, rigorous academic program. Look at Saint Chris as an option for an excellent education for your child! The next Open House will be held Sunday, March 31, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. For more information, please contact Mrs. Welch at 860-568-4100 or welchk@saintchristopherschool.org

ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION ~ APRIL 27

Featuring Scott Gay as Auctioneer!

This event, which is Saint Christopher School’s biggest fundraiser of the year, includes wine and beer tastings, food trucks, and live music as well as silent and live auctions. Donations of new and unopened items (i.e., toys, sports equipment, movies, event tickets, jewelry, home goods, linens, frames, baskets, gift cards, etc.) are now being accepted. For more info, please call the school at 860-568-4100.

LIVING STATIONS

Our Living Stations dramatic presentation will be held Good Friday, April 19 at 7:30 pm in the Saint Christopher Church. There are numerous roles that you can assist with to assure that this longstanding tradition continues. You can be a reader or the narrator. For non-speaking parts, you can portray Simon, Veronica, a Roman soldier, Pontius Pilate, a weeping woman or one of various citizens of Jerusalem. We are excited to report that the roles of Jesus and Mary have already been filled for this year’s Living Stations! If you have any questions or wish to assist with this wonderful presentation, please contact Alice Gosselin or Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001. For e-mail communication, Alice’s address isalicegoz@comcast.net and Deacon Phil’s is imgoose@comcast.net. Thank you!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONS MOVES TO TUESDAY NIGHT DURING LENT

Due to the Soup & Stations event being held on Wednesday evenings during Lent, our Wednesday Night Devotions have moved to the following Tuesday evenings: March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16. They will return to Wednesday evening beginning April 24.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Traditional Stations of the Cross will be led by Father Joseph at the Our Lady of Peace Church at 6:30 p.m. on the following Friday evenings: March 22, 29, April 5, 12. Our Living Stations dramatization will be presented on Good Friday, April 19, at the Saint Christopher Church. Please see the article at the top of this column for more information about this presentation.

2020 MASS INTENTIONS

The 2020 Mass Book has arrived so we are now able to book Masses for 2020. If you would like to book a Mass in 2020, 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.

DO YOU NEED PRAYER?

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 6854angeleyes@gmail.com
**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, March 24 – Third Sunday of Lent**

Underlying the parable that Jesus tells about the fig tree (Luke 13:1-9), we can see two major characteristics of our God. He is merciful, and he is just. God is merciful to us, since He has great patience and gives us another opportunity to turn our life around, to bear fruit. He is also a God of justice, because if we repeatedly refuse His invitation to bear fruit, then He will permit us to be destroyed by our own actions.

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**ADULT SOCIAL CLUB**

**Monday ~ March 18 ~ 12:00 Noon**

Saint Christopher Church Hall

Be Irish for a day…wear your green and join in the fun. Corned beef or turkey sandwiches, chips, and desserts will be served, followed by some fun music by D.J. Ed. Killingbeck. We may even have a little bit of a sing-a-long and opportunities for dancing.

2019 dues of $15 are now due. If you have not yet paid them, please stop at the Membership table and we will be happy to register you for another year of fun, travel, and entertainment. If you need further information about our club and dues, please feel free to contact Mary Vaughan, our Membership Chairperson at 860-568-7601.

**SOUP & STATIONS**

Join us for a sharing of simple soup and bread (with conversation and sharing with fellow parishioners) at 5:30 p.m. in the Saint Christopher campus church hall on the following Wednesday evenings: March 20, 27, April 3, 10. Stations of the Cross begins at 6:30 p.m. in the church. The young people from our parish school and religious education program will lead us once again in the Stations. **Volunteers are needed to prepare soup and/or bread for each Wednesday.** You may simply bring with you the item you wish to share on the Wednesday evening that works best for you. Soup and bread are all we will need. **No desserts please.**

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**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.

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**Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW**

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