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
Mass Intentions for the Week

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

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)

Monday, March 25 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
✦ Jean McNamara
    (Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry)

Tuesday, March 26 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
✦ Miriam Ruggiero
    (Michelle, Todd, Lily & Josh Hallinan)

Wednesday, March 27 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
✦ David Amberg II (Ruth Sheehan)

Thursday, March 28 – 8:00 a.m. (SC)
✦ Dinis Leonardo (Wife & Family)

Friday, March 29 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
✦ Mary Mulholland (The Traynor Family)

Saturday, March 30 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
✦ For the People of the Parish (Missa pro populo)

Saturday, March 30 – 4:00 p.m. (SC)
✦ Bill Merrill (Fred & Pat Clark)

Sunday, March 31 – 7:30 a.m. (SC)
✦ Joseph Lavado (The Accursos)

Sunday, March 31 – 9:00 a.m. (OLOP)
✦ Santo Benacquista (Family)
    (rescheduled from 1/20/19)

Sunday, March 31 – 10:30 a.m. (SC)
✦ Jose Maria & Evangelina Sousa
    (Evangelina’s Sister Inez Chaves)

PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (March 17): $7,593*

*Includes $710 received through our Online Giving program and $625 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

COLLECTION ~

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Next weekend, March 30/31, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ’s love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection, and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The parable in today’s Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

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 Elimination of Racial Discrimination

(In Recognition of Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination ~ March 21 - 27)

✦ The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Loving Memory of
André Charron
(Wife)

Please call the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering is $15.
FAMILY NIGHT DINNER

Featuring Sue Falkevitz’s Famous Potato Salad!

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, potato salad, 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.** They will also be available at the door. Questions? Please call Marie 860-836-5514 or e-mail Danielle at stchrisdvargas@gmail.com.

ST. JOSEPH MEDAL OF APPRECIATION

Next Sunday, March 31, during a special ceremony being held at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral, Archbishop Blair will be awarding the 2019 St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation to dedicated parishioners across the Archdiocese who share their time and talents with their parishes. **Congratulations to Saint Edmund Campion’s deserving recipient, Bonnie Szalay!** Bonnie has not only been our office manager for the past 15 years, she is also a long-time parishioner and former school parent. While her two children were attending Saint Christopher School, Bonnie served as a Home & School Association treasurer, book fair chairperson, library aide and as a support member of countless committees. In her role as a parishioner, Bonnie has served as a catechist, Vacation Bible Camp director and children’s liturgy chairperson. She currently serves the parish as a lector, choir member and children’s liturgy committee member. Bonnie’s organizational and good people skills proved to be valuable assets when the three churches merged to form the new parish of Saint Edmund Campion. Bonnie can often be found going above and beyond to be sure that all is well here at the parish.

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 has moved to the following Tuesday evenings: March 26, April 2, 9, 16. They will return to Wednesday evening beginning April 24.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

The last Children’s Liturgy of this school year will be celebrated next Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m. at the Saint Christopher campus. Students in Grade 5 will participate in special ways during the Mass and our Family Choir will lead the music. Hospitality will follow in the church hall. Everyone is invited!

BLESSINGS TO OUR NEWEST EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to our newest Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who were commissioned by Father John last weekend: Julie Terlizzi, Lise Charron, Mary Mitchell, and John Carras. “Gracious Lord, you nourish us with the body and blood of your Son, that we might have eternal life. Bless our brother and sisters who have been chosen to give the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation to your faithful people. May the saving mysteries they distribute lead them to joys of eternal life.” *(from the Order for Commissioning)*

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 is alicegeoz@comcast.net and Deacon Phil’s is imgoose@comcast.net. Thank you!

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Monday is “Confession Day” in most parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford. 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.
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 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 on page two for more information about this presentation.

A PIN MINISTRY THANK YOU!
Our PIN committee would like to thank all parishioners for their recent support. Maybe you supported our February Bake Sale or helped deliver gift cards to a family in need or attended the Knights of Columbus fish dinner on March 8 or perhaps you have kept our cause in your prayers. Whatever you did, and however you did it, have helped us to provide for our parishioners in need. Please continue to Be Aware of Those Who Need Care. To best monitor requests and reach someone during the day, we ask that you contact the parish office when making referrals. Thank you!

– Toni Mintel and Maria Sousa (PIN Co-Chairs)

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE
New Time During Lent
We will meet again this Wednesday, March 27, right after Soup & Stations concludes, at about 7:00 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. (The chapel is located inside the school building – a.k.a. the Parish Center, 580 Brewer Street). We are continuing our journey in the Book of Job and we will begin with chapter 25. All are welcome! Our group meets every other Wednesday. 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.

MARIAN GARDEN
Now is the perfect time to order your slab or brick to be incorporated into our Marian Garden. The Marian Garden was initiated in 2015 as a project to commemorate Saint Christopher Church’s 50th Anniversary and to create a permanent legacy that helps celebrate those who have brought us to this great moment in our history and to provide space to recognize and celebrate those who will be part of our future. Messages can memorialize a loved one, honor someone special, commemorate an event (i.e., baptism, First Communion, graduation, anniversary) or can simply be your name as a supporter of the garden. Donation levels begin at $50. For more information or to place your order, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 or visit stchris-eh.org/mariangarden.php.
SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL NEWS

Lent is a special time to focus on giving to others. The students and staff at Saint Christopher School have been collecting food to benefit the efforts of the Hartford Catholic Worker community. We collected peanut butter one week, tuna fish the next and new pasta and sauce. We hope to help many of the homeless and hungry in Hartford. We are also collecting coins to benefit the Flint Kids Fund in Flint, Michigan. Our goal was $100 which we surpassed, so we set a new goal of $200. The members of the National Junior Honor Society visited the residents of the Village at Buckland Court last week. They brought their band instruments and entertained everyone, then played bingo. Many classes are also becoming pen pals with the students at a school in Haiti.

Saint Christopher School will hold an Open House on Sunday, March 31, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for families with PreK 3 through Grade 8 students. Discover the Catholic School option that offers academic excellence combined with a strong foundation in the Catholic faith. A small, safe environment helps all families to feel confident in the individualized attention each student receives. Join us on March 31 to learn about the potential for your child’s educational experience!

ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION ~ APRIL 27
Featuring Scott Gay as Auctioneer!
Reserve your seat today ~ Call 860-568-4100

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, March 31 – Fourth Sunday of Lent
We must never attempt to ration God’s mercy, because he is a “prodigal” lover. Nor should we ever judge another as unworthy of our forgiveness or of God’s mercy, because all love is unconditional. When you frown at the actions and words of the Scribes and Pharisees as you read scripture, are you really frowning at yourself? Lent is a good time to adjust our attitudes and actions, with a good examination of conscience.