Saint Edmund Campion Parish

The merged parishes of Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace and Saint Christopher

Our Lady of Peace Church
370 May Road
East Hartford, CT 06118

Mass Schedule:
Sunday: 9:00 am
Friday & Saturday: 9:00 am

Saint Christopher Church
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

CONFESSIONS
(Saint Christopher Church)
Saturdays: 3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS
(Saint Christopher Church)
6:00 pm
Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration and Benediction • Perpetual Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal • Scriptural Rosary

THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP
(Our Lady of Peace Church Hall)
6:30 pm
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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – June 23, 2019
PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (June 16): $6,710*
*Includes $570 received through our Online Giving program and $95 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

PETER’S PENCE COLLECTION

Next weekend we will take up the Peter’s Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

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, visit our secure website at https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754. Please call the parish office for more information.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR. JOHN!

This Wednesday, June 26, Father John will celebrate his 66th birthday. We offer him our good wishes and pray that he be blessed with God’s boundless love, calming peace and heavenly joy throughout the coming years. Happy Birthday Father John!

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 Who Are Affected by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
(In Recognition of National PTSD Awareness Day ~ June 27)

The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Loving Memory of Louisa Harvey
(Bud & Dolores Harvey)
SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP
July 8 - 12 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Saint Christopher Campus

-morter Deadline Extended to June 28-
Registrations are now being accepted for this year’s Summer Vacation Bible Camp. This year’s theme is Digging for Treasure: Parables Revealed. Parables first appear to say one thing, but the stories actually have a much deeper meaning. Time and again they reveal things about the kingdom of heaven, about God, and about how much God loves us. The parables are stories to treasure. We invite children who are entering grades K-12 to come along on the journey, to listen up, dig deep and to hear what Jesus had to say! Registration forms are available at all church entrances or can be downloaded from the parish’s website at stchris-eh.org/vbc.php.

LIFE AFTER CONFIRMATION
This course will continue through July!
Classes for those who have been confirmed who are high school and college aged will meet again on June 23, July 7 and July 21. We meet from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. on the second floor of our Parish Center, 580 Brewer Street (use the Saint Christopher School pre-school entrance). *If we are not at the door, please ring the bell.*

This informal course is typically held every other week. If you have not been able to check us out during the school year due to heavy school assignments, now is the time to come and see what we’re all about!

Class starts with 15 minutes of a movie in line with our faith, followed by studying the 4 pillars of our faith: The Creed, Sacraments, Commandments and Prayer. Dig deeper into our rich and beautiful faith with a great group of young men and women. For more information, please call Mr. and Mrs. Hartley at 860-796-0165 … or just show up! Regular attendance is optional. Come when you can!

HAPPY 60th ANNIVERSARY!
This coming week our parishioners Raymond and Pauline Bilodeau will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. Ray and Pauline were married by Father Henry Murphy on June 27, 1959 at Saint Christopher Church. We offer to them our sincere congratulations, along with our prayers for God’s blessing on them and their loved ones.

PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHS
In early May many of our parish families were photographed by Lifetouch for our parish pictorial. If you are one of the families who participated and elected to have your complimentary 8x10 photograph sent to the parish office, we are pleased to announce that your photo has arrived and is ready for pick up. Please contact the parish office at 860-568-5240 to make arrangements.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Congratulations and welcome to the following new members of Saint Christopher Council #4:
- Ralph Federico
- Leo Forte
- Chuck Garen
- Roger Laflamme
- Richard Moynihan
- John Zullo

Congratulations and welcome to the following new member of Msgr. Thomas Drennan Assembly #1571 Fourth Degree:
- Emmanuel Nadeau

There will be no business or dinner meetings for both the Assembly and Council during the months of July and August. There will, however, be officer and service program planning meetings.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. If you would like to join, contact Grand Knight Ernest Mintel at 860-593-2509 or simply go to www.kofc.org/joinus and enter our Council #4 for local information.

Saint Christopher Church Hall
Monday ~ June 24, 2019
11:15 am – 4:15 pm
Call 1-800-Red Cross to make an app’t.
This drive is being sponsored by People Empowering People in honor of Jayden Szkirka of East Hartford. Jayden, 11 years old, was recently diagnosed with Osteosarcoma. The People Empowering People program is a personal, family and leadership development program. PEP helps participants focus on their own personal strengths. They enhance their communication skills, problem solving abilities, parenting and relationship skills, and they achieve a greater understanding of and become more involved with their communities.
CONNECTICUT WELCOMES
Amirah Program & the Transitional Home!
The Underground, a grass-roots, faith-based initiative dedicated to ending sex trafficking and sexual exploitation in Connecticut are thrilled to announce that Amirah has secured a safe home location in the Greater Hartford area – the first home of its kind in Connecticut! The Amirah Program will be accepting adult survivors of sex trafficking and is hopeful that the opening will happen by October 2019. Throughout the summer they are looking to churches, communities and businesses to help them establish the home in the following ways: to adopt a room and help them clean, paint, furnish and decorate it into a lovely space. Let’s see if we can put together a team of volunteers from Saint Edmund Campion Parish. If you are interested in volunteering for this project, please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net.

PRAYER/SHARING GROUP
Our Prayer/Sharing Group will meet again this Thursday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Peace church hall. All members of Saint Edmund Campion Parish and friends are invited to attend. Please join us for an evening of Prayer, Song, Scripture Sharing and Friendship. Refreshments follow each meeting and all are welcome to stay. For more information, please call Phyl Tyrseck at 860-568-3855, Barbara Veci at 860-568-2701, Pat Roberge at 860-568-5777, Barbara Hanson at 860-965-9162 or Leo Forte 860-568-7383.

SAINT EDMUND CAMPION SOCIAL CLUB OFFERING TRIPS
Saint Edmund Campion Social Club is now offering the following trips. Please note that all our trips are open to the public. All are welcome to join us.

Ogunquit, Maine: Sept. 4-6 – includes a show at the Ogunquit Playhouse
Quebec City & Montreal, Canada: Oct. 28-31 – visit St. Anne de Beaupre Shrine, St. Joseph Oratory, Notre Dame Basilica in Montreal, sightseeing & more
Lancaster, PA: Nov. 19-21 – see “The Miracle of Christmas” at the Sights and Sounds Theater, two other shows, and much more

For further information about the trips, feel free to contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
THANK YOU!! to the more than 31,700 generous donors who have pledged over $8,200,000 to the 2019 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations!!

It is only with YOUR help that we will be able to achieve the Annual Appeal goal of $10 Million! This year’s Appeal goal may be a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenges many suffer each and every day of their lives. The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2019 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.

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 and follow the link Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations, to learn more and to make your gift today. All pledges towards this year’s Appeal can paid through December 31, 2019.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD
Today’s scriptures all deal with offering sustenance, beginning with Melchizedek presenting Abraham a little bread and wine along with a blessing. Then there is Paul reminding the fractious Corinthians how eating the bread and wine sustains them as they proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. Finally, Jesus provides rest and sustenance for his disciples, along with five thousand others who show up. . . . God’s ongoing hospitality in the Eucharist has continued over generations to offer rest and sustenance. What could be better than having the Lord coming to dwell within us, giving us the nourishment necessary to sustain us on our journey?

— James A. Wallace, C.SS.R.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019

On June 7 during a special Mass celebrated at Saint Christopher Church, the 8th grade students received their diplomas. At their Class Night Banquet held earlier that week, awards were given for academic excellence in each subject area. The Saint Christopher Award for excellence in character and service was awarded to Richard Oliveira. At the graduation the Rev. Henry J. Murphy award for the highest grade point average was awarded to Mary Poirier. These students are moving on to East Catholic High School, Xavier High School, The IB Academy, East Hartford High School and Manchester High School. 64% of the class is continuing in Catholic schools. Our best wishes go with all of them!

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, June 30 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We hear about people in Luke’s gospel “volunteering” to follow Jesus. But he warns them about the difficulties of being a disciple. Serious choices have to be made, and the commitment to Jesus has to be unconditional. There is no “fine print” in this contract or covenant with Jesus; it is simple and straightforward. Jesus wants to conquer our entire heart; are we ready to surrender, or do we still want to “negotiate” terms?
SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP

WISH LIST

Our Summer Vacation Bible Camp is being held July 8 - 12 at the Saint Christopher Campus. We are seeking donations of the following items:

- **Paper Towel Tubes**
- **Gold Coins from the Catholic Relief Services Mailings**

If you are able to help us, please leave your donation next weekend in one of the specially-marked boxes (one box is located in the sanctuary of the Saint Christopher Church and one box is located in the main vestibule at the Our Lady of Peace Church). Donations can also be dropped off at the parish office by July 5. Thank you!

Registrations are still being accepted! Please visit [stchris-eh.org/vbc.php](http://stchris-eh.org/vbc.php) for more information and to download the registration form or you may contact the parish office at 860-568-5240. **The registration deadline has been extended to Friday, June 28.** Don’t let your child(ren) miss out on all the fun… register them today!