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

Visit us on the web: stedmundcampionparish.org

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
StEdmund3@gmail.com
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 (August 25): $6,074*

*Includes $570 received through our Online Giving program and $140 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

On this weekend, when we rest from our usual labors, loving Father, we pray for all who shoulder the tasks of human labor — in the marketplace, in factories and offices, in the professions, and in family living.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift and opportunity of work; may our efforts always be pure of heart, for the good of others and the glory of your name.

We lift up to you all who long for just employment and those who work to defend the rights and needs of workers everywhere.

May those of us who are now retired always remember that we still make a valuable contribution to our Church and our world by our prayers and deeds of charity.

May our working and our resting all give praise to you until the day we share together in eternal rest with all our departed in your Kingdom as you live and reign Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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 a All Teachers, Staff and Students As They Begin a New School Year

♀ The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Loving Memory of Anna Louise Brugnetti (Sister, Clorinda Zocco)

Please call the parish office to schedule a dedication. The suggested donation is $15.
REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED
Grade K-8 Classes Begin on September 15
Now is the time for families to register children entering grades K-8 this fall for the 2019/2020 religious education program. This program begins in September and runs through April. Classes are held at Saint Christopher School on Sundays from 9:00–10:15 a.m. First Communion and Reconciliation preparation is a two-year program beginning in Gr 1. The registration form can be downloaded from our website at stedmundcampionparish.org (select Religious Education) or it can be obtained by contacting the religious ed office at 860-895-8692.

TONY MELENDEZ
IN CONCERT
Saint Edmund Campion Parish is proud to host the world famous author/composer/musician Tony Melendez in concert on Friday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m in Saint Christopher Church. You’ll hear selections to suit a wide variety of musical tastes including contemporary, calypso and Christian songs in his skilled acoustic style. Tony was born without arms, but it did not stop him from learning how to play a guitar with his feet. Tony has entertained and inspired audiences around the world with his amazing musical skills, his courage and accomplishments, and the power of his example. Tickets for the concert are $25 (adults 18-64), $20 (seniors 65+) and $10 (youth 17 and under) and can be purchased online at:
https://osvhub.com/saint-edmund-campion-parish/forms/tony-melendez-concert
(Note: this site works well with Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge and Mozilla Firefox. It does not function correctly using Internet Explorer.)

Tickets can also be purchased after all weekend Masses leading up to the week of the concert unless an announcement to the contrary is made prior to the start of Mass. You can also purchase tickets by using the order form at the bottom of the flyer that can be found at all entrances of both churches.

This concert is open to the public. Seating is limited so don’t wait to purchase your ticket. Proceeds will benefit the capital improvements fund of Saint Edmund Campion Parish.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS
Saint Christopher School began its 56th year on August 28! This new school year will start with fun events like the Color Fun Run and Ice Cream Social for the kids and families on Sept. 7. Our annual Golf Classic is also planned for Monday, Sept. 16 at the Glastonbury Hills Country Club. Please join us – shotgun start is at 12:00 noon! Call the school office at 860-568-4100 for more information.

PARISH COUNCIL CHRONICLE
Our parish council is currently looking for new members to replace those who are unable to fulfill their term. If you are interested in serving on our parish council and would like to learn more about this opportunity, you are invited to attend an orientation meeting being held on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Saint Christopher church hall.

The parish council meets again on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Peace church hall. (Note: This date is a change from what was published in last weekend’s bulletin.) If you have any suggestions or concerns you would like the parish council to address, please contact Lori Brunette, parish council president, at 860-904-2116 no later than September 10.

PRAYER/SHARING GROUP
Our Prayer/Sharing Group will meet again this Thursday, September 5 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.

♫ IN MEMORIUM ♫
Please pray for the following parishioners who passed on to eternal life during the months of July and August.

Mario Agnes • Virginia Fay • Sophie Gudlewski Charlotte Judd • Lawrence Palumbo, Jr.
Bruce Rataic • Joseph Raymond Frank Senerth • Mary Wall

“If Christ is my life, then death is my gain.”
– Philippians 1:21
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATION
On Sunday, October 13, at 2:00 p.m., the annual Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph for married couples observing their 25th, 50th, 60th and other special wedding anniversaries in 2019. Archbishop Blair will be the main celebrant. Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows, followed by a simple reception and an opportunity for a photo with Archbishop Blair. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. In order for you to receive a special invitation in the mail and for your names to be printed in the program provided that day, you must respond to this invitation by Sept. 20 by contacting the parish office at 860-568-5240. If you are celebrating a special anniversary this year, but you are unable to make it to the ceremony on October 13, please call the parish office in order to register to receive a special congratulatory certificate from Archbishop Blair.

AMIRAH HOUSE UPDATE
Our parish has officially adopted the One-on-One Rooms at the very first Amirah House in Connecticut which will provide a safe home for adult victims of sex trafficking. We are excited about this opportunity to assist with rehabbing this house so it can be opened to provide refuge for those seeking to break free from exploitation and heal in a safe community on their journey toward lasting hope. Our two small rooms are next to each and will be used by interns and for one-on-one meetings. We have received a few monetary donations as well as many needed items for our rooms. Our Knights of Columbus Council #4 has kindly offered to provide some funds if needed to acquire anything that may not be donated. We are still in need of two smaller sized desks and desk chairs as well as a door that will be installed between our two rooms. If anyone has a connection to an organization that could donate a door that fits the existing doorway space, it would be greatly appreciated. If you would be willing to make a monetary donation or have any of the items that are needed please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at igoose@comcast.net.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Since 2003 our Prayer Shawl Ministry has been creating shawls, lap blankets and baby blankets to console those who are grieving, comfort those who are ill, help celebrate a joyous occasion, and welcome those who are baptized. We invite you to join our parish ministry of prayer, service and love. We gather in the Saint Christopher church hall on the 2nd Monday of the month from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Our starting date is September 9, 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. For more information, please call Santa Vallone 860-568-1772.
STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The first verse of today’s first reading from Sirach captures one of the key elements of stewardship. It says, “My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts.” The word “humility” literally means “of the earth” or in a phrase which might mean more to us “down to earth.” The good steward realizes that he or she receives everything from a loving and generous God. That can be a humbling recognition.

“True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less,” is how the eminent author and theologian C.S. Lewis put it. We are important in the eyes of God. Jesus emptied Himself in our behalf. He was humility incarnate. Washing the feet of His Apostles, He comes to us at every Mass in common bread and wine.

If we practice and pursue stewardship as a way of life, we choose to let others be more important; we are not controlling; we support others in silent ways. Are you willing to let God take charge of your life? Being a steward means that. That is the message from Sirach, and it is a message given us by Jesus over and over.


LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<th>Sunday 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</th>
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<td>Psalm 68: 4-7, 10-11</td>
<td>Psalm 96: 1, 3-5, 11-13</td>
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<td>Psalm 52: 10-11</td>
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<td>Psalm 54: 3-4, 6, 8</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.”

Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW

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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, September 8 – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our bond with Jesus takes absolute precedence over all other bonds, familial or social. Love of riches or their selfish use is absolutely incompatible with love for the poor. Your attitude toward your possessions— all of which you hold in stewardship for God— shows where your heart is in relation to true discipleship. Take a journey through Romans 12:9-21 if you have doubts about how kingdom kids need to live.