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
Leo Forte 860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com

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

Find Us on Facebook: Saint Edmund Campion Parish, East Hartford
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (October 6): $9,837*
*Includes $855 received through our Online Giving program and $3,513 from mail-in offerings which includes one family’s biannual donation of $2,923.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

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 website at stedmundcampionparish.org. Click on the Online Giving button on the left side and you will be connected to our secure Online Giving server.

PRAYER
Mental prayer in my opinion is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us. The important thing is not to think much but to love much and so do that which best stirs you to love. Love is not great delight but desire to please God in everything.

– Saint Teresa of Ávila
(Feast Day: October 15)

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 Affected with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
(In Recognition of OCD Awareness Week ~ 10/13-19)

The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Loving Memory of Edwin G. & Lillian B. Jones
In Remembrance of Their Birthdays
(Daughter Janette Forte)

Please call the parish office to schedule a dedication. The suggested donation is $15.
A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN

My dear friends,

The concert by Tony Melendez at our parish on October 4 was a powerful and spirit-filled witness to God’s goodness in his life and in ours. Born without arms, Tony learned how to play the guitar with his feet. He is living proof that when God gives us a talent, he will see that nothing stands in the way of expressing that gift.

Not only did he play for our parish in the evening, he also gave a special performance for our school children in the afternoon. It will be a memory they will keep for the rest of their lives; and such a witness can only be given in a Catholic school.

Tony will always be best remembered for the time when he played for Saint John Paul II during the pope’s visit to Los Angeles in 1987. The pope was so visibly moved by Tony’s performance that he practically leapt off the stage to thank him personally and give him a kiss on the cheek. Tony also had the privilege of playing for Saint Teresa of Kolkata (better known to us as Mother Teresa). What a graced privilege it was for God to seal his talent with the kiss of two saints!

How blessed we were that Tony, who shares his talent around the world, came to us. Everyone who experienced this inspiring event will never forget it!

I can’t thank enough Marie Gallo-Garabedian and her crew for organizing this rare faith-opportunity.

For nothing is impossible with God!

May God bless us all, Father John Gwozdz

SING A NEW SONG UNTO THE LORD!

We invite the youth of our parish (siblings and parents/guardians too!) to participate in our Family Choir who will lead the music at our first Children’s Liturgy of the new school year being celebrated on October 27 at 10:30 a.m. A short rehearsal is planned for Tuesday, October 22 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in our Chapel. (Our chapel is located inside our Parish Center, 580 Brewer Street.) For more information, please contact Toni Mintel at 860-569-7593.

Prayer is talking with God. God knows your heart and is not so concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart.

– Josh McDowell

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Saint Christopher Council #4

The outpouring of prayers, service and donations in the past two weeks has been nothing short of humbling! Hurricane Dorian packed a punch, but the Knights swung into action as we have done so many times before. Over the past few weeks, supplies were sent out to the communities affected by tornadoes and flooding in North Carolina. The Knights on the ground were able to distribute these supplies to the communities ensuring that necessities like food, water, cleaning supplies and diapers were readily available. In the Bahamas, containers with generators and other supplies have been delivered to a church in Freeport where they were unpacked and distributed. A local government official agreed to guide the Knights to the worst hit areas of the island to deliver supplies to those most in need. It was a difficult and complicated relief effort, but every hurdle was quickly overcome. This can be attributed to hard work by those on the ground and an immense prayer response. Thank you for your prayers. The outpouring of donations is nothing short of awe inspiring — every dollar donated goes straight to those affected by Hurricane Dorian and other disasters. On behalf of those affected, thank you for your generosity. You can follow the continuing relief efforts on our social media platforms and www.kofc.org.

Harvest Dinner

This dinner to help hurricane victims is open to everyone and take-out orders are available.

Saturday, October 19
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Saint Christopher Church Hall
Roast Beef, Potatoes, Butternut Squash, Tossed Salad, Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Tea, Soda

Bring and share your favorite harvest dessert!
Adults: $12.50, Children under 12: $5.00

Tickets are available for purchase after all Masses this weekend.
(Contact Bob Falkevitz at 860-568-5452 to purchase tickets at other times.)

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 K of C is the organization for you.
LIFE AFTER CONFIRMATION
Great news! Our Life After Confirmation class is now underway for those who have been confirmed who are high school and college aged. This class is perfect for those in that age group who want to continue their faith education...and have fun while doing so! The next class will be held on Sunday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. in the community room 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, ring the bell or text us and we will come down to get you.

Class starts with 15 minutes of a movie in line with our faith, followed by studying the 4 pillars: The Creed, Sacraments, Commandments and Prayer. Dig deeper into our rich and beautiful faith and find answers and understanding on various topics with a great group of young men and women.

For more info, call or text Mr. and Mrs. Hartley at 860-796-0165 or just show up and check it out!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets again this Monday, October 14 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. in the Saint Christopher church hall. We invite you to join our parish ministry of prayer, service and love as we create 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. Bring a friend. We have yarn and needles for those who wish to learn. For more info or to receive a shawl or blanket, please contact Santa Vallone 860-568-1772.

SAINT EDMUND CAMPION SOCIAL CLUB
Monday ~ October 21 ~ 1:00 p.m.
Saint Christopher Church Hall
Bee sure to bee with us for our next meeting. As you know, bees are an important part of our eco system. So we have invited members of “Mama Bear” to speak to us about their experiences raising bees. This should bee very interesting. They will also have a few bee products for sale after their presentation. There will bee dessert and fellowship afterwards. For more info., please contact Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229.

SAINT EDMUND CAMPION AWARD
The Saint Edmund Campion Award Committee is seeking candidates to receive this year’s award. The award will be given to parishioners who have contributed their time and talent to the service of our parish, its programs and ministries, and service to the community. There will be three awards: Youth (through the 8th grade), Teen (High School) and Adult. Please submit a short biography outlining how the candidate has fulfilled the areas of service. Place your submission in a sealed envelope marked to the attention of the Award Committee. You may drop your submission off at the parish office or place it in any weekend’s collection basket by Friday, November 15. The award winners will be announced on Sunday, December 1 - the feast day of Saint Edmund Campion.

COLLECTION DRIVE
Saint Christopher School is holding their next Savers Collection Drive on Sunday, October 20 from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon. Gently used clothing and household goods can be dropped off at the school that morning. Proceeds from this drive support the students of our parish school.

M. LOUISE SWEETLAND SCHOLARSHIP
The M. Louise Sweetland Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for this year’s scholarship candidates. If you are a registered member of the parish and have a child(ren) attending either a Catholic grammar school or high school, you are encouraged to see Father after Mass today to pick up an application. Alternatively, you may call Kevin Burns at 860-209-2378 to arrange to have an application sent by regular mail or by e-mail. The deadline to submit applications is November 8, 2019. Completed applications may be given to Fr. John or Fr. Joseph or can be dropped off at the parish office.

Our Church is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:

Ryleigh Anna Cassarino
Lorenzo Dino Dones

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GRATITUDE

Our Gospel Reading from St. Luke relates to how Jesus healed 10 lepers. However, only one realized the full sense of his healing and he returned to say “Thank you.” To that gesture Jesus responds to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.” This is another case where something may have been lost in our translation. The last line in its original Greek might also be translated “Your faith has made you whole,” or “Your faith has made you well.” In any case, the point is the importance of gratitude to God. Jesus healed 10, but only one was really completely healed. The other nine were healed physically, but only the one who felt the gratitude was healed both physically and spiritually. In that sense he was truly “made whole” and “saved.” That is the same salvation that we seek, and the key to it would seem to be that deep sense of thanksgiving as part of our lives and how we live them. Gratitude is recognizing what there is to be thankful for. Gratitude is at the heart of our faith in the Eucharist.”


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
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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, October 20 – Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God wants us to be like the persistent widow whose constant praying keeps her in a relationship with Him. Constant prayer needs to be understood not as “hassling” God, but rather as a result of a strong faith that believes God hears prayers and will indeed answer them in his own time.