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
Prayer, Song, Scripture, Friendship
This group will resume meeting shortly after Easter 2020.

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 Hurley, Secretary
www.saintchristopherschool.org
860-568-4100

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Leo Forte 860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com
PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (November 17): $5,804*
*Includes $675 received through our Online Giving program and $215 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

COLLECTION FOR THE AMS

The National Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS) is a triennial collection approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 2012, first taken in 2013, and again in 2016. The 2019 Triennial National Collection will be taken up at all our Masses this weekend, November 23/24. The AMS receives no funding from the military or the government in support of programs and services vital to the mission and ministry of its mission, including Vocations, Evangelization and Catechesis, Sacramental Records, Tribunal and Veterans Affairs. The AMS has no weekly collections and relies solely on the generosity of private donations to support its aforementioned programs and services. Your support of this collection will be most appreciated!

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Thank you for your generous support last weekend for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised $2,034 to support those who live on the margins and in poverty in the United States. For more information, please visit usccb.org/nationalcollections.

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 All the Faithful Departed

The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week for

For All the Faithful Departed

Please call the parish office to schedule a dedication. The suggested donation is $15.
The 30th Annual Holiday Support Program and Service of Remembrance sponsored by D’Esopo Funeral Chapel will be held on Sunday, December 1, at 2:00 p.m. at the Wethersfield Community Center, 30 Greenfield Street. For more information or to RSVP, please call Janet D’Esopo at 860-257-7635.

**M. LOUISE SWEETLAND SCHOLARSHIP**

During our 10:30 a.m. Mass at Saint Christopher Church next Sunday, December 1, we will have the M. Louise Sweetland Scholarship Presentation. This scholarship benefits students of our parish who are currently enrolled in a Catholic grammar school or high school. A reception will immediately follow this Mass in our parish hall. All are invited. **We kindly request donations of baked goods and finger foods that can be served at this reception.** Food donations may be dropped off next weekend, Nov. 30/Dec. 1, BEFORE the 10:30 Mass or before or after the 4:00 and 7:30 Masses. **Also, at all Masses next weekend, Nov. 30/Dec. 1, we will take up a special collection to support this Scholarship Fund.** Donation envelopes can be found in your envelope set. Thank you in advance for your support!

– The M. Louise Sweetland Scholarship Committee

**M. Louise Sweetland was born in East Hartford and was a communicant of Blessed Sacrament Church since its inception. She taught religious instruction at Blessed Sacrament for approximately 40 years and was the coordinator for 11 years. Miss Sweetland served God and her community in the best way possible, including establishing this scholarship fund. (Please see the collection envelope for a more complete biography.)**

**GIVE THANKS**

*Give thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day of your life. Appreciate and never take for granted all that you have.*

– Catherine Pulsifer

**STRING QUARTET CONCERT**

The Mountain Road String Quartet, of which our parishioner Michael Hwang is a member, will be performing at Saint Christopher Church on Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is Free. Non-perishable food items and a free-will offering will be accepted to benefit the Food Banks of East Hartford. A light reception will follow in the church hall. All are invited!
SAINT CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL NEWS

Thank You!
Thank you very much to all the parishioners who contributed to the school’s loose change collection. We are so grateful for your generosity. The children who benefit from Christmas Wish CT will have more joy this year because their wishes can be fulfilled. Thank you again for your support!

Breakfast with Santa
Sunday ~ December 8 ~ 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Come join us for a fun time at this year’s Breakfast with Santa. There will be great food, arts & crafts, raffles, Christmas Express and pictures with Santa. Adults are $8, Seniors are $7, children are $5 and the maximum family cost is $24 (parents and children in one family). Pre-registration is requested and can be done by calling or texting Danielle Vargas at 860-235-5421 or by sending an e-mail to her at stchrisdvargas@gmail.com.

Open House
Sunday ~ December 8 ~ 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
We invite you to join us for the Breakfast with Santa and then take a tour of our school. Saint Christopher School is an excellent school option for students in PreK 3 through Grade 8. We offer a small, safe environment, excellent academics, in-town busing, many sports and activities and tuition assistance. Check out our website at saintchristopherschool.org.

FOOD BANK NEWS
We are quickly approaching the Holiday Season and I want to thank everyone for their past donations to our Food Bank. This year we have not been able to get as many things that we had previously been able to get at Food Share so we are in special need of canned vegetables, mashed potatoes, cans of Chef Boyardee®, Hamburger Helper™, and baked beans, but anything you would like to donate is always appreciated. Donations can be left near the candle station at Saint Christopher Church and in the main vestibule of Our Lady of Peace Church. Anyone wishing to donate a turkey, chicken, ham or other meat can contact me at 860-202-8462. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season.

– Diane Warner

ADVENT RETREAT
Saint Mary’s Church of the North American Martyrs Parish presents a 3-day Advent retreat, themed Moving Mountains with award-winning speaker Deacon Arthur Miller. Deacon Miller is an author, radio and former television host, Vietnam veteran and veteran civil rights worker. He is a certified trainer in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s nonviolence philosophy. His talks will be held over three nights, December 2, 3, and 4, at 7:00 p.m. in Saint Mary’s Church, 15 Maplewood Ave, East Hartford. This event is free, and freewill offerings will be welcome. For more information, please call 860-289-7916.

Saint Christopher Council 4 Knights of Columbus received their Star Award from Connecticut State Council officers.

Shown (L-R) State General Agent John Russo, Council Membership Director Keith Garabedian, Past State Deputy Steven Bacon, Council Grand Knight Ernest Mintel, State Deputy Gary McKeone, State Chaplain Rev. Jeffrey Romans, Council Program Director Robert Falkevitz.
FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Today as a Church, we conclude our liturgical year and celebrate what is popularly called the Feast of Christ the King (the official Church name is The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe). The Gospel we proclaim shows the great mystery of our faith: In the moment of his crucifixion, Jesus is shown to be King and Savior of all. Luke's Gospel has been loaded with surprises: the poor are rich, sinners find salvation, the Kingdom of God is found in our midst. Here we see the greatest surprise of all. We are confronted with the crucified Jesus, whom faith tells us is King and Savior of all. The irony is that the inscription placed on the cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the profoundest of truth. As the leaders jeer, the thief crucified by his side recognizes Jesus as Messiah and King, and finds salvation. Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we might have imagined or expected. His kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries, but those who had the eyes of faith were able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we, too, struggle at times to recognize Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to make our own judgment. With eyes of faith, we, too, recognize that Jesus, the crucified One, is indeed King and Savior of all.


LECTIO DIVINA & DAILY READINGS

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<td>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</td>
<td>Daniel 1: 1-6, 8-20</td>
<td>Daniel 2: 31-45</td>
<td>Daniel 5: 16-17, 23-28</td>
<td>Ephesians 5: 19-20</td>
<td>Daniel 7: 19-20</td>
<td>Romans 10: 9-18</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, December 1 ~ First Sunday of Advent

There is no way we will know precisely when that “final hour” will come about, and Jesus tells us that information will not be revealed to us. The present times are the “time of the Spirit and of witness” about the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. In the meantime we walk the walk of faith and in the hope that inspires us to serve all of God’s people.