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: 8:30 am
Monday: 8:00 am

Saint Christopher Church
538 Brewer Street
East Hartford, CT 06118

Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 10:30 am
Tuesday - Thursday: 8:00 am

Visit us on the web: stedmundcampionparish.org

Rev. John P. Gwozdz, Pastor
860-568-5240 • fr.gwozdz@aohct.org

Mr. William Bartlett, Deacon
deaconbill@yahoo.com

Mr. Philip Gosselin, Deacon
imgoose@comcast.net

Find Us on Facebook: Saint Edmund Campion Parish, East Hartford

CONFessions
(Saint Christopher Church)
Suspended Until Further Notice

Wednesday Devotions
(Saint Christopher Church)
Suspended Until Further Notice
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)
Suspended Until Further Notice

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, Coordinator
860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com
PARISH SUPPORT

What We Collected (May 17): $ 4,278*

*Includes $879 received through our Online Giving program and $3,399 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish! We appreciate those of you who are mailing in your offertory envelopes, dropping your envelopes off at the parish office or making your donations using our Online Giving program. Your continuing financial support of the parish is crucial for its ongoing operation and the obligations to employees, etc.

ONLINE GIVING

If you’d like more info about our online giving program, please visit our secure website at www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754.

SANCTUARY LAMP

The lamps beside the tabernacles in our churches 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 Victims of the Coronavirus

➤ The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week

In Memory of

All Military Personnel Who Died While Serving in the United States Armed Forces
HOMEFRONT UPDATE

HomeFront Day was supposed to be Saturday, May 2, 2020 but the coronavirus has made it necessary to reschedule this little miracle. The HomeFront organization is leaning towards a new date of September 12, 2020 and we will operate under the assumption that this will be the actual date unless something unexpected happens.

For those who are not familiar with the HomeFront project, it is a community outreach, a one-day repair blitz (7:00 am to about 4:00 pm) for a neighbor in need, where Saint Edmund Campion Parish will form a crew to perform necessary home repairs and the HomeFront organization provides the required materials. The typical HomeFront recipient is elderly, disabled or a single parent and their total household income must qualify as low-income within their community.

We have not been matched with our HomeFront recipient yet but we need begin to assemble our crew.

If you would be willing to assist, there are many ways to get involved. We will need skilled persons such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc., but we will also need folks who can do common homeowner tasks such as raking, painting, pulling weeds, mowing the lawn, cleaning, etc.

We can make a difference, but it won’t happen without you. Please say YES! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or by e-mail at imgoose@comcast.net.

THE CELEBRATION OF MASS

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday ~ May 24 ~ 10:00 a.m.
LIVE on Facebook
from our Parish’s Chapel
Father John ~ Celebrant & Homilist


The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford has been working as hard as ever this year to prepare for the annual Bishop Rosazza Social Justice Conference. This linchpin event of our office brings together those involved in social ministry from across our own archdiocese and beyond for formation, inspiration and connections.

As you know, concern about the coronavirus and the risk it poses for major gatherings has caused the cancellation of many events. With regret, we are cancelling our physical gathering in June out of concern for the health and well-being of our attendees and speakers in these uncertain times.

BUT - we have GOOD NEWS! Instead, we will launch a new ON-LINE experience on June 6, the original conference date, and attendance will be FREE and open to all!

Our theme, Open Wide Our Hearts, will be offered as a year-long “online conference” in response to the recent US Bishops’ Pastoral Letter on Racism. The topic is too important, and too timely, to let it go.

We will begin on Saturday, June 6 with a 60-minute webinar featuring our scheduled keynote speaker, Alejandro Aguilera-Titus.

Registration is Free but is Required

You will be asked to provide an e-mail address so a link to sign on can be sent to you.

For more information and to register, please visit here:

http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/open-wide-our-hearts.html
LAUDATO SI': ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

Laudato si' (English: Praise Be to You!) is the second encyclical of Pope Francis dated May 24, 2015. The encyclical has the subtitle "on care for our common home". This encyclical letter can be read by going here: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html.

In a sign of unity, on this Sunday, May 24, at 12:00 PM local time, we are asked to pray a common prayer (see below) for the 5th anniversary of Laudato Si’.

Loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
You created us in your own image and made us stewards of all your creation.
You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we may attend to your gift of creation.
Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.
May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.
Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic,
Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good,
Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent,
Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor,
May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen
DEVOTED TO PRAYER

Today, as we await Pentecost, we come to the end of the baptismal homily from Peter that we have heard over the past few weeks. This homily was written by a realist who knew the joy and the glory of a resurrection faith, but also knew that the strength of that faith would be put to the test and tried in suffering. Earlier this year we heard Jesus preach, “Blessed are you when they insult you . . . because of me” (Matthew 5:11) and this is echoed today by Peter. These words are also formed in the image of Christ who prays to the Father in heaven today, a prayer that is placed in John’s Gospel right before Jesus endures his suffering and death. Our awaiting the Spirit, awaiting our mission for Christ means that we are, most likely, awaiting some sort of trial and suffering. We don’t endure the same degree of persecution that Peter and John knew, but each of us has our faith put to the test eventually. And it is for this reason that we, like Jesus and like those faithful followers gathered in the upper room, devote ourselves to prayer.

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WE BELONG TO GOD

Today’s readings describe the days after the Ascension. The apostles and those close to Jesus are trying to adjust to his absence. The apostles return to the upper room where they have spent so much time waiting. Acts tells of how they stayed together and prayed. First Peter reminds those still waiting that the suffering they experience joins them to Jesus. In the Gospel Jesus prays in order to remind us that he and the Father are one. Jesus’ prayer is for those of us who are left behind. It is a reminder that we belong not to ourselves, but to the Father, and that everything, including the Son, is a gift from the Father.

THEY PRAYED

All of the readings recognize the sadness and fear that the apostles and we experience when we suffer the loss of Jesus again. Jesus dies and we suffer. He is risen and we rejoice. Now we are going to lose him again, not through death, but through his ascension. In Acts and in John’s Gospel, the apostles and Jesus pray as a way to prepare for and adjust to his departure. The psalm is a prayer to sustain us when we are afraid by anticipating the time when we will be together again. First Peter urges us, during this time of separation, to join our sufferings with those of Jesus and respond as he responded. All these readings are reminders that it is through prayer that we are united despite time, space, distance, life, or death.

THIS IS ETERNAL LIFE

It is easy to remember the distress we feel when someone we love goes away. Death is the most profound loss, but we feel some of this same pain when someone moves away to take a new job or goes off to school or gets married. People we love leave us all too often. The days immediately after they leave are the hardest as we adjust to their absence. The days become easier as we experience the ways they remain with us by remembering the times spent together and anticipating the time when we will be together again. Jesus’ prayer teaches us that by remembering and anticipating we experience the eternal life of love, a life and love that do not end with distance or death. Eternal life is rooted in the love of the Father, the Son, and the Spirit that remains with us. If our life, loves, and suffering are joined with Jesus, then we know eternal life and love even as we live in a world of loss.

TODAY’S READINGS

Acts 1:12–14
Psalm 27:1, 4, 7–8
1 Peter 4:13–16
John 17:1–11a
The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal changes lives through service. In addition to assisting the underserved of our communities, your gift helps those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Your gift to the Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church and our faith. Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2020 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully consider a gift today. Please know that every dollar of your gift will have a positive impact in someone’s life.

https://appeal.archdioceseofhartford.org/donations/