“If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let the weeds and the wheat grow together until harvest.”
Matthew 13:29-30
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (July 12): $ 4,932*

*Includes $2,183 from the in-church collection, $674 received through our Online Giving program and $2,075 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS
Per the guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese, collections will not be taken up during Mass in the usual way. Rather, you are asked to deposit your envelopes in the baskets placed at each aisle as you come in to the church. Ushers will then take the baskets to a secure place.

ONLINE GIVING
Are you interested in supporting our parish through the convenience of Online Giving? You can make a one-time gift or you can sign up for recurring gifts. If you’d like more info, please visit our secure website at https://www.osvhub.com/saint-edmund-campion-parish/funds.

LIVE TODAY
“Live today the way you will wish you had lived when you stand in judgment before God.”
– Anonymous

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 Loving Memory of Joseph Chitwood
In Remembrance of His 50th Birthday
(Mom & Family)

Please contact the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering: $15.
**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

When the churches were reopened for weekend Masses earlier this month, an extra Mass was scheduled on Sundays at Our Lady of Peace to accommodate the need for social distancing. The attendance for the past two weeks has shown that an extra Mass is not necessary and so, starting on Sunday, July 26, instead of having Masses at 7:30 am and 9:00 am at Our Lady of Peace, one Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 am. The Mass schedule at Saint Christopher Church will remain the same: 4:00 pm on Saturday and 10:30 am on Sunday.

**Weekend Mass Schedule**
(effective July 26)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saint Christopher School</th>
<th>Our Lady of Peace</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Sunday: 8:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday: 10:30 am</td>
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**WEDNESDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS**

Did you know that we have devotions every Wednesday night in Saint Christopher Church? If you are looking for quiet time with Our Lord and prayers to our Blessed Mother, then join us for our Wednesday Devotions.

6:00 pm the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration followed by benediction at 6:50 pm. It is then followed by Novena Prayers of the Miraculous Medal of Our Lady. This prayerful time concludes with recitation of the Scriptural Rosary in which passages from the Bible help us to meditate on the Mysteries of Our Lord according to the liturgical season: the Joyful Mysteries during the weeks of Advent and Christmas, the Sorrowful Mysteries during Lent, the Glorious Mysteries during the weeks of Easter, and the Luminous Mysteries during Ordinary Time.

**DO YOU NEED PRAYER?**

We stand firmly on God’s promises that when we call Him, He will answer (Isaiah 65:24). Our prayer team is available to intercede on your behalf and take your request before God.

Contact Sally Ann Tanasi with your prayer requests.
860-569-4072  6854angeleyes@gmail.com

**2020 COOPERATIVE MISSION APPEAL**

This Weekend

In light of the current Covid-19 pandemic and the fact that our friends in missionary communities are unable to travel during this crisis, we will NOT have “in-person” mission appeals in the Archdiocese this year. Instead, it was decided that every parish in the Archdiocese would take up a second collection on the weekend of July 18-19 for the Mission Cooperative Appeal.

Through this collection, our parish will be supporting the African missions of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are religious educators who staff schools and other establishments in over thirty countries. Your contributions will especially benefit young men who are preparing to enter religious life and needy students in the African countries of Kenya, Lesotho. Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Please be generous with your prayers and financial support for the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

Donation envelopes can be found at the church entrances for those who wish to use an envelope. We thank you in advance for your generosity to the missions, serving the poorest of the poor.

**GOOD SEEDS**

Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flour. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables — the parable of the man sowing good seed. Lest we think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus’ interpretation should be seen for what it is — a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today’s believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today’s Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to prepare for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be.
“If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let the weeds and the wheat grow together until harvest.”
Matthew 13:29-30

FRESH LESSONS

Today we are faced with the powerful and almighty God, who deals with us, not out of anger and punishment, but out of kindness and forgiveness. God is forgiving and loving to those who ask and persevere in prayer. Even if we do not know how to pray, the Spirit of the Lord helps us, for God knows what the Spirit means, “because [the Spirit] intercedes for the holy ones according to God’s will” (Romans 8:27). With God’s help, we can be the good seed and not the weeds. If we contemplate the parables, and pray for the guidance of the Spirit, we are able to see ever fresher lessons in these stories.

PARABLES

These are the weeks of parables, and although we have heard them all many times, they never lose their freshness, for always, if we look, we can perceive a new angle.

The parable of the weeds and the wheat, so simple on its surface, is puzzling enough for the disciples to ask Jesus for an explanation. In our own gardens, we tend to yank up the weeds all through the growing season. But in the parable, the weeds and the wheat are allowed to grow together until the harvest. If the good people and the evil people remain mixed throughout life, it puzzles us sometimes: why are people who do bad things not punished? How is it that God allows bad things to happen to good people?

THOSE TINY THINGS

Our God is indeed a God of might; yet that might leads not to vengeance, but to forgiveness. Everyone is offered an opportunity—many opportunities—for forgiveness. Even a little good can blossom into something wonderful. The mustard seed of the Middle East is so tiny that one can barely pick one up with one’s fingertips. (Those familiar with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd know about this wonderful parable, and the tiny dish of mustard seeds that is kept in the atrium for the children to contemplate.) Yeast makes the dough rise to be baked into delicious bread. All of these wonders come from tiny beginnings, if we are ready to hear and understand these mysteries.

Our prayer too is heard by God, even if we do not really understand what we are praying for: “for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit . . . intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit” (Romans 8:26-27).

So if our small prayers are offered with a sincere heart, they are heard by God, even if we don’t always know what it is we do when we pray. Are we praising, blessing God, asking for something? The Spirit knows and intercedes for us.

TODAY’S READINGS

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Psalm 86: 5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30]
ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD CATHOLIC BIBLICAL SCHOOL

Now with distance learning options!
The Catholic Biblical School (CBS) invites adults to encounter Jesus in Sacred Scripture from the perspective of Catholic faith. On-site “hub” classes begin in Derby, Hamden and Bloomfield just after Labor Day. “Satellite” classes for simultaneous hybrid learning will be set up to accommodate geographically distant students. Visit this website to check out their brief promotional video:

https://catholicedaohct.org/prospective-students

You may also contact BJ Daly Horell at catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org. Now enrolling new students through August 31, 2020. Need not be Catholic to enroll.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom.” (Matthew 13:24, 37-38)

As children of God, we are all “good seeds.” We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God’s plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others, and share our financial gifts to help build God’s kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow “good seeds” on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

Saint Gabriel School - Enroll Today!

- Small classrooms with desks arranged to practice social distancing.
- Students and teachers will wear personal protective equipment.
- School regularly cleaned and sanitized following health guidelines.
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizing will be encouraged.

Contact us today to schedule a private tour and receive enrollment information.

Saint Gabriel School
77 Bloomfield Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095
860-688-6401
www.stgabrielschool.org

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Daily readings can be easily accessed on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ website by going here: http://usccb.org/bible/readings/ Another easy way to access the daily readings is to download the free Laudate App* from the Apple App store or Google Play.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday - July 20:</th>
<th>Thursday - July 23:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micah 6:1-4, 6-8;</td>
<td>Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Psalm 36:6-7ab, 8-11;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;</td>
<td>Matthew 13:10-17</td>
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<td>Matthew 12:38-42</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday - July 21:</th>
<th>Friday - July 24:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Psalm 85:2-8;</td>
<td>Jeremiah 3:14-17; Jeremiah 31:10-12abcd, 13;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew 12:46-50</td>
<td>Matthew 13:18-23</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday - July 22:</th>
<th>Saturday - July 25:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Song of Songs 3:1-4b or</td>
<td>2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Psalm 126:1bc-6; Matthew 20:20-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Corinthians 5:14-17;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 63:2-6, 8-9; John 20:1-2, 11-18</td>
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<th>Sunday - July 26:</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52</td>
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* Indicates an app for downloading the daily readings.