The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field

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
Sunday: 8:30 am
Monday: 8:00 am

Saint Christopher Church
538 Brewer Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Saturday: 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

PARISH OFFICE
860-568-5240
StEdmund3@gmail.com
Bonnie Szalay, Office Manager

RECOMMENDATION TO CONFESSIONS
Leo Forte, Coordinator
860-895-8692
stchrisre@gmail.com

Kristi Gillespie
Director of Youth Ministry and Confirmation
860-895-8692
stchrisym@gmail.com

CONFESSIONS
(Saint Christopher Church)
Saturday ~ 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)
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 SUPPORT
What We Collected (July 19): $ 5,231*
- Includes $1,898 from the in-church collection, $974 received through our Online Giving program and $2,359 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!

MISSION COOPERATIVE APPEAL
Thank you to those of you who made a donation to support the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. We collected a total of $407 which will benefit their mission work in several African countries.

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.

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
  Sandra Leonard DeVivo
  In Remembrance of Her Birthday  
  (Family)

Please contact the parish office to schedule a sanctuary lamp dedication. Suggested offering: $15.
FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK
While we’ve been on partial lockdown, things have been busy at the parish:

➢ I am happy to welcome Julio Maturana as our new parish Accountant. He was hired on July 2. After reviewing the resumes of fifteen candidates, and conducting interviews, a sub-committee of our Finance Council advised me that Julio would be best for the position and, indeed, he’s off to a good start. He has an extensive background in accounting, including much experience with Archdiocesan procedures.

➢ I’m pleased to announce that the Very Rev. George Mukuka, JCL, PhD, will take up a long-term residence at the Our Lady of Peace Rectory beginning August 1. Father Mukuka is the Judicial Vicar for the Metropolitan Marriage Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Hartford. We’ve been busy getting the rectory in good order for him. The parish will receive a monthly housing allowance from the archdiocese. It is important to note that Father Mukuka is not part of the parish staff and is not expected to take part in parish ministries or activities. His work is with the archdiocese.

➢ You may have noticed that three parking spaces are being constructed on the east side of the Saint Christopher Rectory. This will make it easier for visitors to access the parish office. Visitors won’t have to park in the spaces north of the rectory and then make the long walk around to the front door.

➢ We were just weeks away from beginning the project to have the pews refinished at Saint Christopher Church when the coronavirus became a pandemic. Given the fact that all parishes have experienced a decrease in offertory donations while in total or partial lockdown, the archdiocese will allow only essential projects to go forward while others, such as the pew refinishing are put on hold. Given the uncertainties the virus still imposes on us, we will receive permission to go forward when it is determined that it is financially prudent to do so.

(continued from the previous column)

➢ I want to thank everyone who has continued to support the parish in the past four months even in the face of the financial uncertainties we are all facing. I’m glad that we are now able to gather for Mass again while observing the necessary precautions.

– Father John

ADULT BIBLE ADVENTURE
We will meet again this Wednesday, July 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel at the Saint Christopher campus. (The chapel is located inside the school building – a.k.a. the Parish Center, 580 Brewer St.). We will begin our next session with chapter 21 in the Acts of the Apostles. Our time together begins with music to center ourselves and then we have opening prayer. We then read sections of our chosen scripture and discuss it. Sometimes our discussions are supplemented with audio or video commentary. We end with a closing prayer and return home with joyful hearts because we encountered God’s truths in the scripture. Please join us! All adults are welcome! Our group typically meets every other Wednesday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Come when you can and bring your Bible! Questions? Contact Deacon Phil at 860-568-5001 or at imgoose@comcast.net or Steve Cadwallader at 860-568-5477.

ROOTED IN FAITH ~ OPENING WIDE OUR HEARTS
On Wednesday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m., the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford will continue its conference series with the webinar: The Black Catholic Experience and Racism in the Catholic Church. All too often leaders of the Church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others. In this webinar Deacon Arthur Miller will share some of his Black Catholic experiences and suggestions to help us move forward as one body of Christ. The Webinar is FREE; advanced registration is required and can be done by visiting: www.catholicsocialjustice.org. For more information, you may contact Lynn Campbell at the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry at 860-242-5573, ext. 2689.
The Human Trafficking Task Force would like to provide an opportunity for people of the Archdiocese to pray against human trafficking and to learn more about human trafficking.

- Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights. Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims.

- The World Day against Trafficking in Persons was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution December 2013.

- Learn more with our educational presentation to be launched on our website July 30.

  http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/
  human-trafficking.html

- Join us in praying for an end to human trafficking on Thursday, July 30 at 12:00 p.m. by offering up the following prayer:

  Loving Father,
  We seek your divine protection for all who are exploited and enslaved. For those forced into labor, trafficked into sexual slavery, and denied freedom. We beseech you to release them from their chains. Grant them protection, safety, and empowerment. Restore their dignity and provide them a new beginning. Show us how we might end exploitation by addressing its causes. Help us reach out in support of victims and survivors of human trafficking. Make us instruments of your spirit for their liberation. For this we pray through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
  Amen.

  “Together we can and must employ our energies so that these women, men and children can be freed, thus putting an end to his horrible trade...”
  – Pope Francis, December 12, 2013 in his address to new ambassadors to the Holy See

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

Due to the limitations imposed by the Governor for indoor social gatherings, we will not be able to hold our summer picnic in August. We hope we will be able to resume our monthly meetings beginning in September. We’ll keep you posted. For more information about the Saint Edmund Campion Parish Adult Social Club, please call Frank and Joan Perrone at 860-568-6229.

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.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today’s Gospel continues a series of parables which Jesus shared to teach us and His Apostles and disciples. One of the better known statements from today’s brief parable (The Parable of the Hidden Treasure) is: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field.” Then a man seeking that treasure sells all he has and buys that field. We may think that we are the “man” seeking the treasure, which is identified as the Kingdom of Heaven, but that might be incorrect. The field is more likely the world in which we live; the Man is not us, but Jesus; and the treasure is, quite simply, each of us. Jesus gave everything for us; He gave everything to “purchase” the world; and we must understand that we are the treasure He sought. He has blessed us in incredible ways, but especially as our Savior and Redeemer. Part of being a faithful steward is recognizing those blessings, appreciating those gifts, and making an attempt to return those gifts to Him through our Church and through the way we live our lives. – https://www.catholicsteward.com
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.

Happiness

Happiness is a by-product of living the right kind of life. True happiness comes as a result of living in all respects the way you believe God wants you to live, with regard to yourself and other people. The only way to be truly happy is to try to do God’s will.

– Unknown

TRUST IN GOD

“We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God’s plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

Saint Gabriel School PreK - 8th Grade

- 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 to receive enrollment information.

Saint Gabriel School
77 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095
860-688-6491 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.

Monday - July 27:

Tuesday - July 28:
Jeremiah 14:1-7; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday - July 29:

Thursday - July 30:
Jeremiah 18:1-6; Psalm 146:1b-6ab; Matthew 13:47-53

Friday - July 31:
Jeremiah 26:1-9; Psalm 69:5, 8-10, 14; Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday - August 1:
Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Psalm 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Matthew 14:1-12

Sunday - August 2:
Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 145:8-9, 15-18; Roman 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21