



Parish church & school of

SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S

538 Brewer Street, East Hartford, CT 06118

Tel: (860) 568-5240 Fax: (860) 568-0673

E-mail: stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.stchris-eh.org

PRIEST

Rev. Vincent J. Curran, Pastor

DEACON / RCIA DIRECTOR

William Gilles – 633-8997

PARISH TRUSTEES

Kay McNamara
Stephen Kleva

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Roch Girard – 568-5879

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Michael Munley – 683-8594

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASS'T.

Bonnie Szalay – 568-5240

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Carol Waterman – 521-7411

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Maria Sousa – 895-8692

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sandra Bonfiglio, Martha Gaudreau
and Kevin Hadyka – 895-8692

CHURCH CUSTODIAN

Roger Dube

MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Monday – Friday: 7:30 AM

Holy Days: As announced in the
preceding Sunday Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday afternoon: 3:15 – 4:00 PM
or Anytime by appointment

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Kathleen Madej – 568-4100

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Karen Santacross – 568-4975

SCHOOL SECRETARY

Audrey Bjorkman – 568-4100

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Alice Gosselin – 568-5001

HOME / SCHOOL ASSOC. PRESIDENT

Ellen Rudzis – 289-5598

SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

www.saintchristopherschool.org

PARISH & SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

Dianne Rumsey

ROSARY and MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Wednesday: 7:00 PM - Chapel

BAPTISMS and PRE-BAPTISM PROGRAM

By appointment with Deacon Bill Gilles
- 633-8997

MARRIAGES

Please contact Parish Priest at least
six months in advance at 568-5240

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Toni Amberg – 568-9069

COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Cathy Reynolds

COORDINATOR OF PRAYER TREE and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY

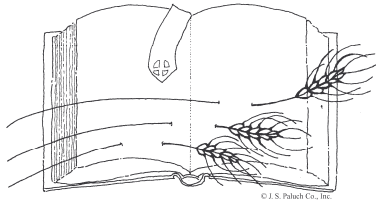
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**The Most Holy
Body and Blood
of Christ**

May 25, 2008

“Not by bread alone does one live,
but by every word that comes forth
from the mouth of the Lord.”
– Deuteronomy 8:3b

Mass  *for the
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, May 24 – 4:30 p.m.
Jose Figueiredo (*Wife Maria*)

Sunday, May 25 - 8:00 a.m.
Charles Bernard - 3rd Anniversary
(*Wife Cathy*)

Sunday, May 25 - 10:30 a.m.
Mark Tardiff (*Family*)

Monday, May 26 – 9:00 a.m. (Memorial Day)
**For Those Who Have Died in
Military Service to Our Country**

Tuesday, May 27 – 7:30 a.m.
Ben Hancock
(*Frank, Sally, Sarah & Heather Vernile*)

Wednesday, May 28 – 7:30 a.m.
Doris Frazier
(*Dave & Chickie Amberg*)

Thursday, May 29 – 7:30 a.m.
Marilyn Gaudette (*Jeanne Lagace*)

Saturday, May 31 – 4:30 p.m.
Albert Dumez (*Family*)

Sunday, June 1 - 8:00 a.m.
Settimo & Mary Tamiso
Tom & Rose Del Rocco
(*Family*)

Sunday, June 1 - 10:30 a.m.
Anna Andre
(*Eugene & Anne Morin*)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (May 18): \$ 7,392
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 7,682

Catholic Communications Campaign: \$1,588

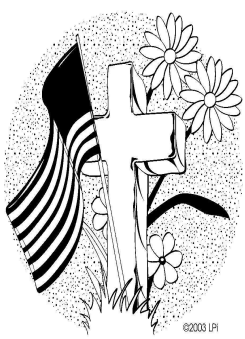
My sincere thanks for your generosity to our parish! Together we bring Christ’s saving presence to our community and to our world.

with Gratitude,
Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread."
(I Corinthians 10: 17)

The U.S. Bishop's teach us (in their pastoral letter on stewardship) that the Eucharistic celebration should lead to works of charity and mutual help. The heart of stewardship is this "Eucharistic stewardship."



**MEMORIAL DAY
PARISH MASS**

The Parish Mass for Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. instead of at 7:30 a.m. As we pray for all veterans, especially those who gave their lives for our country, let us also pray for peace in our world.

Please pray for:

Shirley C. Carbonneau
(mother of Sue Kleva)
Rev. Patrick J. Curran
Eda D'Aloisio





THANK YOU

We thank the teachers of the Grade 2 children of our parish, Lori Brunette and Diane Johnston, for preparing the children for their Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion.

We also thank those who supported the teachers: Fr. Curran, Angela Brunette, Kevin Hadyka, Kathleen Madej, Maria Sousa and Carol Waterman. And we especially thank the parents for raising their children in the practice of our Catholic faith. We share their joy and the joy of their children as they join others nourished at the table of Our Lord.

"The effect of our sharing in the body and blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive."
— Pope St. Leo the Great



SANCTUARY LAMPS



The candle in the church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of
Salvatore Toce - 20th Anniversary
and Rose Toce - 19th Anniversary
(Barbara Sander & Family)**

The candle in the chapel burns this week for the

**Men and Women of the Military
who are Serving Our Country**

For information on scheduling a weekly dedication, please call the Parish Office at 568-5240. Suggested offering is \$15.00.



In Memory of
Scott Cattanach
St. Christopher Church Hall
**Friday ~ June 20
1:45 – 6:30 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to make an app't.

Today is "Commitment Weekend" at our parish for the 2008 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please pray about your decision and make a pledge or one-time gift. For your convenience, you will find pledge cards and pencils at the ends of each pew. Thank you in advance for your support!



**1st ANNUAL PARISH
TALENT SHOW & POT LUCK DINNER**

Saturday, June 21 - School Gym

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Talent Show at 7:00 p.m.

Talented individuals of all ages are needed. Contact Scott Gay at 569-0617 or by e-mail at scottgay95@gmail.com. More information will be announced in next weekend's bulletin.

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club will meet on Monday, June 2 at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall. Our special guests will be East Hartford Police Officer Dave Rhoades and his K-9 companion Charlie. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call Rose Yergeau at 568-4029.

Please Note: A Board Meeting will be held on Monday, June 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall.

Reminder: There is NO Social Club meeting in July. We will meet in August on Monday the 4th at 5:00 p.m. for our annual summer picnic.

**THE 2008 CATHOLIC
RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION**

Next weekend, May 31/June 1 our parish will participate in the 2008 Catholic Relief Services Collection through our second collection. Please see the insert in this Bulletin for further information. You have been very generous in your support of this Appeal in the past, and we ask for your continued support and prayers as we help our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

GOSPEL INSIGHTS

The Feast of Corpus Christi

In a way we have already celebrated this feast. We did so on Holy Thursday in Holy Week. On that occasion, the emphasis was on the institution, the gift of the Eucharist to us as one of Jesus' last acts before his suffering and death. It was, moreover, to be an enduring memorial of that great liberating act by which God's love would be forever kept before our minds.

One reason why we may have this second feast of the Eucharist is that it takes place during the more joyful period of the Easter season when we can celebrate it with greater freedom from the constraints of Lent and Holy Week. In many parts of the world, there will be a solemn and joyful procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the parish grounds or even through the public streets.

Maybe today we should emphasize more the community dimension of the celebration of the Eucharist which is often missing. We tend to see "going to Mass" very much in individual terms. If "I" fail to "go to Mass" through "my own fault", "I" have committed a sin. We also tend to talk about "hearing" Mass, or being "at Mass". We ask questions like: "Who said the Mass?" The priest himself may even be heard to announce: "I am saying this Mass for the repose of the soul of..." or "I am saying this Mass for all of you here".

On reflection, these expressions are very strange. They tend to present the Eucharist as something that the priest alone does on behalf of other people. People seem to feel themselves present at a performance in which they are only expected to be physically present. This is sometimes further accentuated by a choir doing all the singing (that is, if there is singing) and a "commentator" shouting out all the prayers over the microphone. Quite a number of people come in late and many leave before the end. These things are all so common that we hardly notice them. We may even accept these things as the way things should be. But it tells us a lot about what it means to people to be present (or not present) at the Eucharist.

(Gospel Insights - continued)

The Eucharist is *essentially and of its very nature a community action* in which every person present is expected to be an active participant. We are here, on the one hand, recalling what makes us Christians in the first place - our identification with the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. And that identification with Jesus is expressed not through a one-to-one relationship with him but in a community relationship with him present in all those who call themselves Christian. We relate to him through his Risen Body, which is the whole community bearing his name. There is no place in Christianity for individualism. It is a horizontal faith: we go to God with and through those around us.

Every Lord's Day we come together as that Body, as a community, to say thanks to him and hence the name "Eucharist" which means "thanks". It is regrettable, then, if we are only in church to "keep the Third Commandment" on a purely private, individual, devotional basis. With that mentality, it will not be surprising if we think it does not matter if we are late or leave early. Because, with that mentality, "going to Mass" is a private affair for me and all the others who "happen" to be there, too.

Some even resent that there is too much going on. They wonder why they cannot be "left in peace to say their prayers". It is true some Mass celebrations can be overactive or over-intrusive but, on the other hand, it is not a time for contemplative prayer. One can do that much better at home. The whole point of being at Mass is to celebrate joyfully together with one's fellow-Christians as a community of the disciples of Jesus.

We have moved from a purely priest-centered Eucharist at which the laity are passive spectators to one that is community-centered because that is where Christ is to be found. The priest still has his role, of course, as the one who presides. He is the focal point of unity around which the community gathers but it is the community, including the priest, who celebrates.

(continued in the next column)

- The Liturgy Committee

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

- ❖ We encourage you to take a bottle home ❖
- ❖ Bottles will be collected next weekend ❖

Our parish's Pro-Life Committee wishes to thank all the families who have taken a baby bottle home. There is still a large supply of bottles remaining, so we encourage all of our families to take one home. On behalf of Birthright we will collect the bottles filled with coins, cash or check on the weekend of May 31/June 1. This is an opportunity to support a project that saves the lives of unborn children and makes a lasting difference in the mothers' lives. Any help you can give is much appreciated!

RETREATS

Women's Weekend Retreat

A retreat is a great opportunity to be with other women and to rediscover the presence of God in your life. There is still room for you to attend the Women's Retreat Weekend June 6-8 at the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford. The retreat begins on Friday evening with a buffet dinner and ends on Sunday around noon. Retreat offering is \$200. To register call 521-0440 or visit their website at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. The next retreat in our Archdiocese is scheduled for June 6-8. For more information or to register for this retreat weekend, please contact Mary Hayden at 203-882-1326 or at mmhdfc@sbcglobal.net.



- (I) Nicola Nall & Andrew Medlock
- (II) Kimberly Gaughan & Christopher Collibee

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL 18th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Saturday ~ June 7, 2008

Brochures are available at the entrances to the church and provide information about this year's golf tournament and sponsorship opportunities. All proceeds from this event will benefit the young people of our parish school. Your support is needed and essential!

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

Gift cards are available this weekend after all Masses. We invite you to learn more about this fundraising program that benefits our parish school by seeing our volunteers after Mass or by contacting Lisa Evans at 568-8944 / lisamarie313@comcast.net.

LITURGICAL REMINDER

Prior to Mass please be respectful of Christ's presence in the tabernacle and of fellow parishioners who have come early to pray. Greetings and talking can be done in a low voice that is respectful to all. Thank you!

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

There are times a parent feels consumed by the demands of family. In today's gospel Jesus tells us we are on the right track for we are called to "give our flesh." It is in total giving of ourselves we discover our life and actually give life to others.



SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP

June 23 - June 27, 2008
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Registrations are now being accepted for this year's Summer Vacation Bible Camp – *Power Lab* – being held here at St. Christopher's. Children entering grades K-6 this coming fall are invited to register as Lab Crew Members. Registration deadline is June 1st. For more information or to obtain a registration form, please call Steve DiMotta, Camp Director, at 895-8692 or 558-3413. Register today so your child can discover Jesus' miraculous power this summer at Vacation Bible Camp!!