



*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](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.stchris-eh.org](http://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](http://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 – 214-9287

## **COORDINATOR OF PRAYER TREE and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY**

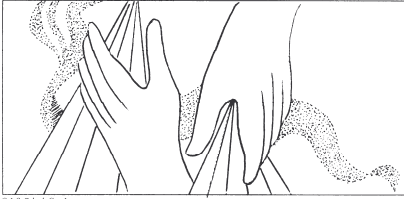
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

## **COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE**

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Eleventh Sunday  
in  
Ordinary Time**

**June 15, 2008**

“Without cost you have received;  
without cost you are to give.”

– Matthew 10:8b



Saturday, June 14 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Deceased Members of the Barone Family**  
(Tonie Carrabino)

Sunday, June 15 - 8:00 a.m.  
**Bud Meyer**  
(Daughter Carol)

Sunday, June 15 - 10:30 a.m.  
**Fr. William McGrath - 1st Anniversary**  
(Family)

Monday, June 16 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Sister Mary Brendan**  
(Niece)

Tuesday, June 17 – 7:30 a.m.  
**James Mulholland**  
(The Traynor Family)

Wednesday, June 18 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Mark Tardiff**  
(Family)

Thursday, June 19 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Lucia Viglione**  
(Daughter Jean Walker)

Saturday, June 21 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Dinis Leonardo**  
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, June 22 - 8:00 a.m.  
**Gerry Martin**  
(Wife Jan & Family)

Sunday, June 22 - 10:30 a.m.  
**Mark Tardiff (Family)**

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (June 8): \$ 6,835  
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 6,918

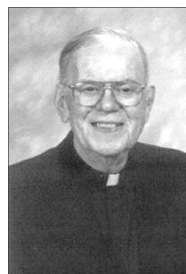
My personal thanks for your generous support  
which is so essential for our parish!

with Gratitude,  
Fr. Curran

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

*"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;  
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out  
laborers for the harvesting." Matthew 9:37-38*

A steward is not a spectator. We are not called to  
simply cheer on other people as they do good works.  
All of us are expected to roll up our sleeves and  
participate in the work of the church.



**FR. WILLIAM McGRATH**  
8/8/20 - 6/18/07

This Sunday we remember in a  
special way our beloved former  
pastor, Fr. William McGrath, on the  
first anniversary of his passing. May  
he be rewarded for his goodness and  
faithfulness to his ministry and may he continue to  
pray for us as a parish family.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fr. Curran



**Please pray for:**  
Marine Cpl. Christian Cotner  
Michael Fastiggi

●●● POSTPONED ●●●

**Talent Show & Pot Luck Supper**

Please be advised that the Talent Show and Pot Luck Supper originally scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 21 is being postponed. It is our hope that this event will be held sometime in the fall. Thank you.



**SANCTUARY LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of  
Joseph Tardiff and Eudore Nadeau  
(The Tardiff Family)**

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**All Fathers  
Living and Deceased**

For information about scheduling a dedication, please call the parish office at 568-5240.

**CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES**

**Upcoming Event**

Come enjoy the fun, food and great outdoors at Wickham Park for Credo's annual picnic on Sunday, June 22, beginning at 1:00 p.m.. The park has an aviary, scenic walking trails, beautiful gardens and more! Credo supplies the burgers, hot dogs, soda and water. \$6.00 per person. Attendees are asked to bring: Last name beginning with A-N a salad or side dish; O-Z fruit, snacks or dessert. Park entrance fee of \$4.00 per vehicle is paid at the gate. Bring a friend or carpool. Ask the gate person for directions to Beech Grove III. Look for the blue and white balloons. Credo events are open to all Catholics who are single, widowed or divorced. For more information, please call Rose at 860-229-4405.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
DEACON BILL GILLES!**

As was mentioned at Mass last week and in a bulletin article, Deacon Bill just celebrated the 17th anniversary of his ordination. During these past 17 years, Deacon Bill has served two parishes – Saint Dunstan's in Glastonbury and Saint Christopher's. For the first 16 years, he did so while working at Travelers. Because of a number of (joyous) family events this summer, Deacon Bill has asked for a leave or sabbatical for the summer, and we are happy to give him some time to devote to his family (and himself) over the course of the next 2½ months. With the exception of three summer weddings, Deacon Bill will take the summer off from other duties at St. Christopher's. He and Eileen will still be an active part of our Christian community during this time. Deacon Bill will return to his regular duties following the Labor Day weekend.

in Christ's Peace,

Fr. Curran



(II) Melissa Lora & Brian Renouf

**LABORERS NEEDED**

Today's scriptures employ mixed metaphors—images of sheep and shepherds, priests and people, harvest and laborers—all of which intermingle to create a web of meaning on which we have based our understanding of Christian vocations. Above all, these images help us see Christian vocations as an extension and expression of Jesus' own ministry in the world. They lend themselves especially well to a reflection on the vocation to ordained priesthood. The scriptures for today help us understand the role of the ordained in the life of the Church. They also encourage us to pray for an increase in the number of candidates for priestly ordination, for "the harvest is abundant but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37).

**GOSPEL INSIGHTS***Matthew 9:36 - 10:8*

So often we pray for “vocations” but we do so in a very narrow way as if the only vocation was to be a priest or religious (or sometimes a deacon). And somehow we always seem to be thinking of other people, people we do not know, certainly not people in our own family or our own children. Today, let us hear the call made to ourselves and reflect on how we can answer.

In today’s Gospel Jesus begins by calling his first harvesters. He picked out twelve of his disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to liberate people from them and to heal every disease and sickness. Notice that the mandate is not just ‘religious’. It is for both spiritual and physical healing, the making whole of the complete person at every level.

These disciples are called “apostles”. It may surprise us that this is the only time this word is used in Matthew’s gospel. A disciple is basically a follower, someone who learns from a master and becomes more and more like him. The word ‘apostle’ is a more active word. It implies someone who is entrusted by his lord and master with carrying an important message to others. Obviously, of course, one has first to be a good disciple before becoming a reliable apostle.

Why twelve? Because in the old Israel there were the twelve sons of Jacob, who became the patriarchs and the heads of the twelve tribes into which Israel was divided. These twelve apostles are the leaders of the new Israel, the new Kingdom being established through Jesus.

They are certainly a mixed bunch of people. Some of them were probably illiterate, which was not such a serious handicap in those days when there were hardly any books. One of them was a former tax collector, one of a class much despised for its venality and corruption. Another seems to have been some kind of anti-government rebel or subversive. And one, of course, turned out to be a traitor.

(continued in the next column)

**(Gospel Insights - continued)**

It does not give us much reason to say, as sometimes people do, that “I am not good enough to do the Lord’s work”. When we look at the Church today in all its vastness and complexity and in the extraordinary cultural richness it has given to the world we are amazed that this was all begun by people of such limited competence. If Jesus could use them, he can certainly use us. Can we say to him today, “*Here I am, Lord; use me*”?

And what are these missionary apostles to do? They are to proclaim that “*The kingdom of heaven is near!*” This does not mean that people are all going to die in the next day or two and go to “heaven”. Matthew always goes out of his way to avoid using the name of God and ‘heaven’ is one of his favorite substitutes. So we are talking about the kingdom of God. And that kingdom is not a place. It might be better to speak of the reign, the kingship of God. The kingship of God is close because of the presence of Jesus Christ. We enter the kingdom not by going somewhere but by aligning ourselves totally with the Way of Jesus, when his thoughts become our thoughts, when his ways become our ways.

Finally, says Jesus, “*You received without payment; give without payment.*” Yes, all that we have is God’s gift to us. God’s gifts to us are literally price-less. They are meant to be used freely and liberally for the benefit of all. We are not in the business of sharing our faith for the money or the kudos it brings. To paraphrase President John Kennedy: “Ask not what others can do for you; but what you can do for others.”

– The Liturgy Committee



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.



## ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL GRADUATION

The St. Christopher Class of 2008 received our diplomas on Friday, June 13. The ceremony was the completion of a journey that began when we walked through the doors as pre-kindergarteners. This journey saw some of our classmates and teachers move on to other places, while others have grown in knowledge and understanding at St. Christopher School. We do know that without the support of the parishioners, this journey would not have been possible. With that in mind, the Class of 2008 would like to express our sincere thanks to all of you.

Each year, St. Christopher School has offered different challenges and experiences. We took our annual trips to the Big E in the fall and to High Meadow in the spring. Our trip to New York was wonderful with shopping, seeing “Mamma Mia”, and visiting St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Times Square, and Rockefeller Center. Our year also included a class retreat at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary.

Although field trips are great fun, we were active in the classroom as well. We studied religion, history, science, math, English, literature, Spanish, technology and geography. To name a few major projects, International Night, a celebration of world cultures, was held in March. We studied the periodic table in science, read To Kill A Mockingbird in literature, learned how to graph equations in Math, and wrote essays in Spanish. Our technology class gave us the opportunity to create our own PowerPoint yearbook. In History, we analyzed political cartoons, and constructed scenes from the Great Depression. No one could forget the hilarious performance of “Cactus Point” that the Drama Club performed in June.

Now the journey takes a different turn with our upcoming high school years. In September, we will all go our separate ways. Many of us will continue our Catholic school education at East Catholic, Mercy and Xavier High Schools. Others are attending the International Baccalaureate Academy, while others are continuing their educations at magnet high schools and local public high schools. We all graduate with the values and work ethic that we were taught at St. Christopher School.

The class of 2008 extends our gratitude to the parishioners of St. Christopher Parish. Our heartfelt thanks to each of you!

– St. Christopher School Class of 2008

Robert Belcher	Christina Jones
Steven Bertelsen	Gavin Lomazzo
Kaitlyn Brennan	Robert Maher
Michael Bucior	Genna Marcin
Michael Dajczak	Austin McKinley
Katarina DeFreitas	Susan Montalvo
Michael Dodge	Emmaleigh Pepe-Winshell
Daniel Duffey	Aysa Perez-Dean
Benjamin Duva	Chandon Phulbus
Matthew Garcia	Michaela Quinn
Clint Gosselin	Ashleigh Sargent
Sheila Hunkeler	Samantha Sasso
Shannon Hurley	Mara Skowronek
Benjamin Jablonski	Erica Szalay
Ryan Jarish	Josee Walker



**Fr. Curran, Deacon Bill Gilles and the entire parish staff wish all the fathers of our parish a Happy Father’s Day!**

Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives.

Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their stepchildren's love and respect.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.