



*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**

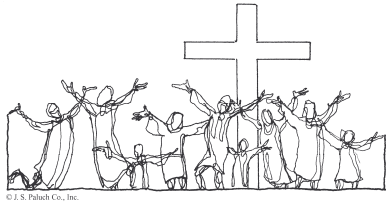
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

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

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Twelfth Sunday  
in  
Ordinary Time**

**June 22, 2008**

“Sing to the Lord, praise to the Lord,  
for he has rescued the life of the poor.”  
– *Jeremiah 20:13*

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

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)

Monday, June 23 – 7:30 a.m.

**Deceased Members  
of the Traynor & Divane Families**

Tuesday, June 24 – 7:30 a.m.

**Jeannine Belliveau**  
(Members of the Adult Social Club)

Wednesday, June 25 – 7:30 a.m.

**Paul E. Franklin - 3rd Anniversary**  
(Wife Claire)

Thursday, June 26 – 7:30 a.m.

**John F. Wardwell, Sr. - 22nd Anniversary**  
(Wife Sandra)

Saturday, June 28 – 4:30 p.m.

**Bill McCarthy - In Memory of His Birthday**  
(Wife Kay)

Sunday, June 29 - 8:00 a.m.

**Charles Stebbins**  
(Family)

Sunday, June 29 - 10:30 a.m.

**Mass of Thanksgiving for  
Fr. Curran’s 10th Anniversary of Ordination**

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (June 15): \$ 6,784  
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 7,435

Many thanks for all you do support our parish and its many ministries!

with Gratitude,  
Fr. Curran

**A STEWARDSHIP SUMMER REMINDER**

For those families who summer “away” from St. Christopher’s, please remember our parish relies on your support even during the summer months. Envelopes can be mailed or a summer offering can be made directly to the church at 538 Brewer Street, East Hartford, CT 06118. Thank you for your stewardship of our parish!

– Fr. Curran

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

*“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever does not acknowledge me before others I will not acknowledge before my heavenly Father.”*  
(Matthew 10: 32-33)

Acknowledgment of God is recognition of what God has done for us. To fail to recognize that all we have and are is His gifts to us is to not recognize Him.



**SANCTUARY  
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of Ed McNamara**  
(Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**For Those Who are  
Poor, Homeless or Oppressed**

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

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING**

**for Fr. Curran**

The 10:30 a.m. parish Mass next Sunday, June 29, will be a Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr. Curran in celebration of his 10th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood.

The Parish Council will be sponsoring a reception honoring Fr. Curran. This reception will be held in the church hall immediately following the Mass. Sunday Brunch food donations will be appreciated. Donations can be dropped off in the church hall prior to Mass. Coffee, tea, juices and hot chocolate will be available.

Please plan to join us! Thank you!



**Please pray for:**  
Marion Santomenno

Our Parish is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:

**Alessandro Morgan Wierbicki**



**WELCOME NEW ALTAR SERVERS**

A group of six new altar servers recently completed training with Deacon Bill. They are:



Kathryn Adams	Ariel Hlavaty
Annabelle Duva	Craig Hlavaty
Patrick Gay	Colins Nwafor

We congratulate them and know they will be great additions to our parish's altar server ministry. We are grateful to them for their willingness to serve, and to their parents for the encouragement and support they have given to their children in their desire to take part in this ministry.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

St. Christopher Church was recently presented with the *Rose of the VNA Corporate Award* by Visiting Nurse Association Health Care, Inc. This award was made possible by the volunteer efforts of the almost 20 St. Christopher parishioners who are involved with the Meals-on-Wheels program. We'd like to acknowledge these parishioners and extend our appreciation for their efforts in ensuring that homebound seniors within our community are provided with a well-balanced, nutritious meal.



Yvon Belliveau	Geneva Ramsey
Jeanine Girard	Jack Ramsey
Jessie Handel	Jane Stebbins
Lorraine Leone	Anne Sullivan
Paul Leone	Richard Sullivan
Helen Little	Mary Traynor
Kay McLaughlin	John Traynor
James Nolting	Jean Tyburski
Claudette Nolting	Rose Yergeau

We also wish to recognize Jeannine Belliveau who was an active member prior to her passing earlier this month.

**BIRTHRIGHT BABY BOTTLES**

Thank you so much for your generous response to the Birthright Baby Bottle fundraising effort! The bag full of baby bottles was so heavy, I could barely get it up the stairs to the Birthright office. I have been a volunteer at Birthright for over a year now, and I would encourage others to consider joining in to support this wonderful ministry right here in East Hartford. Birthright supports women who are in crisis pregnancies to give their babies life. East Hartford's Birthright is in need of Friendship Counselors so that we can reach out to more women in the Hartford region: *training will be provided*. If you believe you are being called to this ministry, please contact Mary McNamara in the Birthright office at 290-8800 or please feel free to contact me at 568-5001. Thank you and God bless you!

Shalom, Phil Gosselin

**GOSPEL INSIGHTS***Matthew 10:26-33*

“There is no need to be afraid,” Jesus tells the Twelve in today’s Gospel. We are being reminded today that to become a follower of Christ in the full sense (as opposed to just a churchgoing Catholic), and that to spread his message of love, justice and peace in word and practice will be seen by some people as a real threat to be resisted.

It is quite an illusion, which we sometimes live under, to think that the perfect Christian is someone who is loved and admired by all. On the contrary, such a person may likely be bitterly hated “for my name’s sake”.

To be a fully committed Christian involves loving others with the same love that Christ showed for us but it is no guarantee whatever that we will be loved in return. We are not Christians in order to be loved and looked up to but to proclaim by word and example the vision of a fully human life that Jesus taught us.

This will mean quite often calling in question the less than human standards that often prevail in our societies. The Christian is a “sign of contradiction” as our vision of life calls into question many of the prevailing values of society. To do that, even in the most loving and non-violent and non-manipulative way, can be seen as a negative judgment by some and invite retaliations of hate, bitterness, violence – and sometimes death.

Today’s Gospel reminds us that we do have a responsibility to stand up and be counted. And, thank God, many are still doing so. *“If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of others, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of others, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.”* At the same time, we are assured of God’s protection and help.

The greatest danger is not the loss of our lives, although some people will be prepared to make any compromise to survive physically. As Jesus says, *“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but*

(continued in the next column)

**(Gospel Insights - continued)**

*cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell.”* The greatest fear is not that we may be killed but that we may be seduced into betraying those values on which our integrity as human persons depends. To save our “bodies” at the expense of Truth, at the expense of Love, at the expense of Justice, at the expense of Freedom, at the expense of Human Solidarity – this is the real danger. That is the real death.

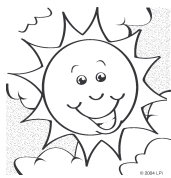
If we find that we are not known to be Christian, or that being a Christian seems to be no different from being anything else, if we find that our Christian communities, our parishes, leave no mark on their surrounding society, then we need to ask ourselves seriously what kind of Christian lives we are leading and what kind of witness to the Gospel we are giving. It is not enough simply to assembling together once a week. Our lives – individually and together – need to witness visibly to justice, equal dignity of all, honesty, a spirit of service, sharing resources, defending the weak and marginalized...

To be a living witness to Christ may generate some hostility among people we know. As for instance, when we insist on being honest rather than “on the make”, serving rather than manipulating people for our own ends, friendly and fair to all and not just to “one’s own”, standing up for immigrants and strangers to our community. It is better to be right with Christ than wrong with the crowd. One needs confidence in Christ, in oneself and a conviction that the only way that benefits all is the Way of Jesus.

– The Liturgy Committee

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Last Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass, a brief Commissioning Ceremony was held as we welcomed to our parish four new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. They are **Ann Bradley, Lindsay Gay, Jackie Luizzi and Peggy Vasko-Murray**. We offer our congratulations and prayers to each of them. May God bless them in this ministry.



## WELCOME SUMMER!

Now that school's out for the summer, many children and families are preparing for their summer vacations. This past week, we officially welcomed summer, so we thought it was a perfect time to share with you the following article obtained from [www.catholicmom.com](http://www.catholicmom.com) and written by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle.

### KEEPING PRAYER IN SUMMER

Summertime can be a time of well-deserved rest and also a welcome change of scenery. While making plans for our families this summer, let's not forget about the prayer. A change in schedule once we hit summertime and an eagerness to "get away from it all" could cause us to lose touch with our spiritual needs.

#### Prayer Strategies

One strategy to be sure that we keep prayerful this summer is to begin each day with prayer. This simple suggestion may seem like a no-brainer to a praying individual; however, the busyness of mornings and preparations for summer outings of even the well intentioned "pray-ers" can cause prayer time to become lost in the commotion.

Getting on our knees when we face each new day and giving it right over to the Lord will indeed start the day off with the proper disposition. Parents should teach their children to do the same. A morning offering in our own words or a more formal version at the breakfast table works very well with our captive *hungry* "audience!" We can offer our hearts to God throughout our days as well. Teaching our children to begin their day with prayer is an invaluable lesson that will remain with them as they grow older and navigate life on their own. Pope John Paul II emphasized the importance of family prayer.

When making plans for family trips, perhaps we can think about including shrines, basilicas, and holy places and incorporate them into our trips. When researching places of interest for our family this summer, we can utilize the many Catholic magazines, newspapers, and websites that often highlight

(continued in the next column)

### (Keeping Prayer in Summer - continued)

interesting places for pilgrimages and visits. We can attempt to attain that nice balance of nourishment for our family's spiritual life as well as the fun and enjoyment for our senses to be relaxed or entertained.

Summer travel affords us many opportunities for prayer. Prayers such as the rosary can be said in common in the family vehicle en route to a vacation spot or while traveling to the beach, park, or picnic area for day trips. Each child can voice a prayer of petition about something that is close to their heart and offer prayers of thanksgiving for God's gifts – including family time together. Naturally, we will want to ask our good Lord for His protection over our family as we travel.

Whatever your family plans may be this summer, be sure to have fun, enjoy, and offer your joyful heart to the Lord! Your example of prayer throughout your summer days will inspire your family and the others that God puts in your midst. Have a happy and holy summer!



Mass Times was developed in 1994 to help traveling Catholics find a church nearby to their destination. When you visit their website at [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org), you can begin your search of locating parishes near to your destination. The search will show the church name, address, and phone number for all churches in the area. Worship times are maintained by the individual churches, so it recommended that you call the church directly to verify their schedule of Masses.

### 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 or at [lisamarie313@comcast.net](mailto:lisamarie313@comcast.net).