



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 – 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



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**Fourteenth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

July 6, 2008

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.”

– Matthew 11:28

*Mass for the
Intentions for the
Week*

Saturday, July 5 – 4:30 p.m.
Patricia Clark - 3rd Anniversary
(Family)

Sunday, July 6 - 8:00 a.m.
Maurice DeMerville
(Darlene Graham)

Sunday, July 6 - 10:30 a.m.
Paul F. Giansanti
(Henry & Anne-Marie Langenfeld)

Monday, July 7 – 7:30 a.m.
John & Louise Olinatz
(Children)

Tuesday, July 8 – 7:30 a.m.
Jeannine Belliveau
(Stella Cormier)

Wednesday, July 9 – 7:30 a.m.
Paul E. Franklin
(Wife Claire)

Thursday, July 10 – 7:30 a.m.
Ruth Flaherty - In Memory of Her Birthday
(Daughter Anne)

Saturday, July 12 – 4:30 p.m.
Manuel Machado
(Wife & Daughter)

Sunday, July 13 - 8:00 a.m.
Joseph Leonardo (Mom, Dad & Daughters)

Sunday, July 13 - 10:30 a.m.
Gerard J. Lafleur - 9th Anniversary
(Daughter Gloria Jean)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (June 29): \$ 6,403
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 7,055

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

with Gratitude,
Fr. Curran

**REMEMBER ST. CHRISTOPHER
CHURCH IN YOUR WILL**

How will your earthly possessions be used when you
have died? Will any benefit the Church that has
played an important part in your life? A simple
bequest of some portion of your estate to
St. Christopher’s can help maintain and preserve our
wonderful parish for years to come. Please speak to
your attorney about such a bequest.

WEEKDAY MASS - CHAPEL

Please note that our parish chapel will be used during
the summer months for the weekday celebration of
our Mass. Our chapel, because of its size, is
especially suited for our weekday celebration of the
Eucharist.

Celebrating weekday Mass in our chapel is also
part of our attempts to be good stewards of our
energy resources.



**SANCTUARY
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week for the

**People of the
United States of America**

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

Peace on Earth

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

Thank You

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A special thanks to all who made my 10th anniversary celebration so memorable. I'd like to thank our trustees Kay McNamara and Steve Kleva for their support. I would also like to thank Roch Girard and members of the Parish Council who helped to coordinate the reception following the Mass. A special thanks as well to Michael Munley and members of the Finance Council for their assistance. My heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Carol Waterman, our Music Director, who coordinated the music and prepared the program for the Liturgy. Thanks to our cantors and choir members who practiced for weeks learning new and difficult music. You were truly impressive! Thanks as well to our musicians whose talents added to the richness of the Liturgy. Thanks to our children's choir and the children of our Vacation Bible Camp for their inspiring enthusiasm and singing. As always, thanks to Deacon Bill for his help and support. Thanks as well to our Lectors, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Altar Servers for their assistance during the Liturgy and throughout the year.

I also want to thank all of the parishioners of St. Christopher's for your love and support. Thanks too for your gifts, cards and baked goods. They are very much appreciated!

with Gratitude
Fr. Curran



The Parish Council Reception Committee wishes to thank the many people involved in the outstanding success of this event. The lovely ladies for their help in maintaining the beverage tables. The generous number of helpers who maintained the food tables. Frank McMahan for handling the arrangements for the cake. Our many talented bakers, sandwich makers, pasta and fruit and vegetable plate suppliers. Steve DiMotta, Kevin Hadyka and members of the Bible Camp who helped us set up on Friday. The able-bodied people who helped dismantle the tables and chairs on Sunday. The gracious men and women who helped clean the kitchen and the hall. And our gratitude to those who attended the reception.

Thank you all and God Bless you ~ Kay McNamara

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008 - SYDNEY

As many of you know, I will be attending World Youth Day in a few weeks. I am attending this event with a group of adults and teens from St. James Parish in Rocky Hill as well as St. Bartholomew Parish in Manchester. We leave for our pilgrimage on July 9th and return on July 21st. Throughout our time in Australia our group will be writing about our activities at www.mycatholicvoice.com. Here you can follow along with me on my pilgrimage.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of the parishioners of St. Christopher's for their support. Through both your prayers and your financial contributions you have made this pilgrimage possible for me. Thank you for giving me this once in a lifetime opportunity to share my faith with other Catholic youth from around the world.

Peace,
Kevin Hadyka



As parishioners of St. Christopher's, we can feel great pride in our parish pilgrim Kevin Hadyka. By our prayers and good wishes for him and the youth of our Church, and by his prayers for all of us, we too will be making our spiritual pilgrimage to Sydney!

Fr. Curran

THE CATHOLIC WORKER

A few copies of the Summer 2008 issue of The Hartford Catholic Worker are available on the Free Materials Rack in the Church Hall. The Hartford Catholic Worker is published quarterly by the St. Martin De Porres Catholic Worker community, a lay community of Catholics, and like minded friends, living in the north end of Hartford, working and praying for an end to violence and poverty. Their ability to house the homeless, feed the hungry, and work with the children depends on contributions from their readers. They can be reached at: 18 Clark Street, Hartford, CT 06120; (860) 724-7066.

GOSPEL INSIGHTS

Matthew 11:25-30

There are two apparently contradictory sides to the Gospel. On the one hand, there are very radical demands made on us in the following of Jesus. An example of these ‘hard sayings’ was the Gospel of last Sunday. *“Anyone who prefers father or mother... son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me...”*

Last week’s rather demanding readings need to be balanced against the passages into today’s Mass. The Gospel still calls for total giving of self, not as the denial of that self but as the only way to find one’s true self. At the same time, our God is a God of infinite patience and compassion as we stumble along in our efforts to unite ourselves fully with him.

Whatever demands Jesus may make on our following of him, he wants to be at all times truly a source of comfort, of consolation and of forgiveness and reconciliation. Whatever demands life may be making on us, he is there too to be called on. When we are in difficulties and pain, we can ask him to take them away. He may not always do so but we can expect him to restore our peace. For we need to remember that Jesus is not to be seen as an escape from our problems. Sometimes he will give us peace not from our pain but within our pain. There can be the danger that we expect Jesus or his Mother or some other saint or the Church to be there to wave a magic wand that wipes away all our problems, all difficulties, all obstacles.

Jesus says today, *“Shoulder my yoke... and you will find rest... Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* A yoke we think of as a heavy (and very burdensome, even painful) piece of wood laid on the shoulders of an ox. But, because of the yoke, the ox can pull the weight of the cart behind it more easily. It is a burden which is also a help. The words of Jesus often seem, at first sight, to be very burdensome. *“These are hard sayings; who can take them?”... After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went about with him”* (John 6:60,66).

(continued in the next column)

(Gospel Insights - continued)

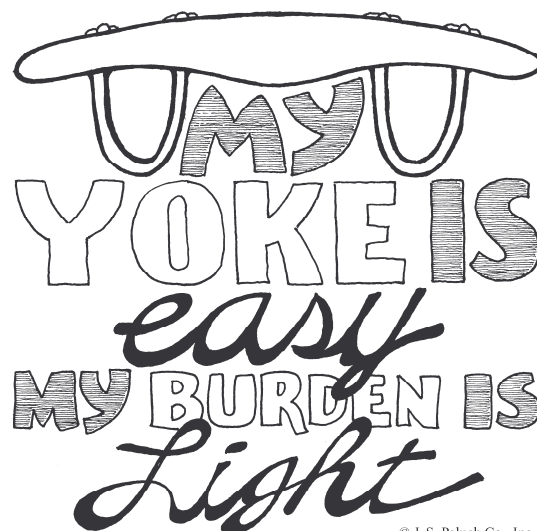
Yet, in fact, once understood, we know that there can be no other way of living in true freedom and peace.

There is still another way of understanding the image of the yoke. Think of it as a double yoke, where two oxen can work together better. We now have a lovely image of Jesus and me yoked together, pulling together. “Shoulder my yoke” then becomes “Share my yoke”. Where I go, he goes along with me, pulling together with me and making it all the easier.

There is really no conflict between the two sides of the Gospel. There is only one Jesus, only one Gospel. We are called to be with Jesus all the way, accepting his life vision, his standards, his values - unconditionally. This calls for the simplicity and openness of children rather than intellectual sophistication. Accepting Jesus all the way is not intended as a burden but as a source of comfort, peace, liberation and joy.

Happy are those who carry the “burden”, the yoke of the Gospel. Jesus has the secret of living well. Isn’t it time that we Christians discovered this wonderful secret and began to share it with others?

– The Liturgy Committee





14th ANNUAL GIANT TAG SALE

A Giant indoor Tag Sale with aisles and aisles of treasures will be held at the Sisters of Saint Joseph Convent, 27 Park Road in West Hartford on the following dates and times:

Friday, July 11: Noon – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 12: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

(\$1 admission on Friday – Free on Saturday)

Clean and usable donations are being accepted (please...No books, No clothing, No large furniture, No computers). Donation drop off times are as follows:

Monday, July 7: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 8: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 9: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 10: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
(No donations accepted on Friday)

This tag sale benefits Tabor House residences sponsored by Sisters of Saint Joseph for homeless men and women living with HIV/AIDS & AIDS Project Hartford. Call David at 523-9136 or Loretta at 563-9217 for more information.

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

Dhriti Choudary Mallavarapu
Cristabella Marie Pellingra



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Come to me, all you who weary and are carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." Matthew 11:28-29

Generosity is not a burden, but a liberating experience. It liberates because the generous person is walking in the yoke with Christ sharing gifts and challenges.

ARCHDIOCESAN LIBRARY

Summer hours at the Archbishop O'Brien Library at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, 467 Bloomfield Avenue in Bloomfield, are Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The collection is comprised of books and media on Catholic and Christian theology, spirituality, biblical studies, church history, lay and pastoral ministry, saints, catechesis and more. In addition, there is a wide selection of newspapers, journals and magazines. Internet access and interlibrary loan service is available.

A number of new DVD's have recently been purchased including *Bella*, *Amazing Grace*, and a series on Saints. Latest books by Pope Benedict XVI are ready for checkout. Also available are Christian classics and contemporary fiction, books on-tape, and CD's.

Members of the Archdiocese of Hartford and the general public are invited to register for membership for a small fee. For more information, please call 860-242-5573, ext. 115.

COME, JOIN OUR BIBLE JOURNEY!

It's time to register for Year 1 of the Archdiocesan Catholic Biblical School! This program is intended for adults who wish to meet the Lord in a deeper way through Scripture, and who seek the assistance that a guided journey provides. In both content and companionship the Catholic Biblical School offers an enriching experience that will bring God's word to life for you! Participants have said that it has changed their lives.

The Archdiocesan Office of Religious Education is now taking registration for classes beginning in September 2008. Registration period: May 15 – August 15. Early registration is advised since the complete registration process takes about two weeks, including mailings. Number and location of classes also depend on registration. For further information, please contact Sr. Jewel Renna at the Office of Religious Education in Bloomfield at (860) 243-9465 or by e-mail at jrenna@adh-ore.org. You may also visit their website at www.orehartford.org. Look under "News" on the home page.



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