

*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**

Sarah Poirier, Martha Gaudreau and  
Kevin Hadyka – 895-8692

E-mail: [youthministry@stchris-eh.org](mailto:youthministry@stchris-eh.org)

## **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**

Corrinne Lomazzo

## **HOME / SCHOOL ASSOC. PRESIDENT**

Bridget Cooke

## **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**

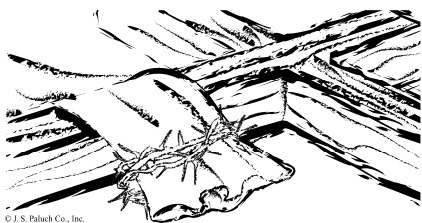
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388  
[bcr2@hotmail.com](mailto:bcr2@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

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

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Twenty-six  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**September 28, 2008**

*“Have in you the same attitude that is also in  
Christ Jesus.”*

– Philipians 2:5

*Mass*  *for the  
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, September 27 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Richard Briggs - In Memory of His Birthday**  
*(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, September 28 - 8:00 a.m.  
**Susan Stark Vincek**  
*(Marge & John Leonard)*

Sunday, September 28 - 10:30 a.m.  
**Margaret Phelan**  
*(Dave & Chickie Amberg)*

Monday, September 29 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Rev. John P. Hannon**

Tuesday, September 30 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Georgette Miller**  
*(Marion Sullivan)*

Wednesday, October 1 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Donald T. Restivo, Jr.**  
*(The Garabedian Family)*

Thursday, October 2 – 7:30 a.m.  
**Rev. John P. Cook**

Saturday, October 4 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Michelle Paradis**  
*(Omerine & Elmer Gendreau)*

Sunday, October 5 - 8:00 a.m.  
**James Sheehan - 3rd Anniversary**  
*(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, October 5 - 10:30 a.m.  
**Eleanor Spears**  
*(Children)*

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (September 21):\$ 6,266  
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 6,886

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

with Gratitude,

Fr. Curran

**WELCOME  
FR. FILBERT MHASI**

This weekend we welcome Fr. Filbert Mhasi to our  
parish. He will make an appeal on behalf of the  
people of the Archdiocese of Gulu in northern  
Uganda in East Africa.

The Archdiocese of Gulu has been seriously  
affected by an ongoing war in northern Uganda  
and southern Sudan. They have already lost  
thousands of lives and property during this  
ongoing conflict. More than 80% of their  
population has been forced to abandon their homes  
and live in refugee camps in their own country  
under very inhumane conditions.

Let’s extend a warm welcome to Fr. Filbert and  
make a generous sacrifice through the second  
collection for the support of his mission.



**SANCTUARY  
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week for

**Fr. Filbert Mhasi  
In Thanksgiving for His Missionary Work**

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**The People of  
the Archdiocese of Gulu**

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

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE - URGENT PLEA!**

As you all likely know by now, St. Christopher Church is participating in 40 Days for Life; prayers will be offered for respecting life at all stages. During this 40 day campaign, parishes will be engaging in 24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration, as well as, 12 hours of prayerful vigil at the abortion clinic in Hartford during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Our day to pray for life is Tuesday, October 7. Thank you to all the wonderful people who have signed up so far, but we still have time slots unfilled: For the 24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration that will be held in our church building, we need a prayer warrior for 1:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. For the 12 hours of prayer at the abortion clinic, we need prayer warriors for all time slots except 6:00 a.m. Please consider participating in the prayer vigil at the abortion clinic for the need is great and this component of the 40 Days for Life campaign is critical. Thank you! For more information or to reserve a time slot, please call me at 568-5001 or e-mail me at imgoose@msn.com.

Shalom, Phil Gosselin



October is Respect Life Month. During this time, the Church throughout the world prays for a renewed sense of the sacredness of every human being, from conception to natural death. The Pro-Life Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford will be holding special events. The first event is as follows:

**Respect Life Mass**

Archbishop Henry J. Mansell will celebrate Mass and commission new pro-life representatives.

Sunday ~ October 5 ~ 2:00 p.m.  
(Children's choir performing at 1:00 p.m.)  
Cathedral of St. Joseph  
140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford

**HOPES COLLECTION**

The annual HOPES collection which was originally scheduled for this weekend was taken last weekend so we could accommodate Fr. Filbert Mhasi's visit this weekend. If you have an offering you'd like to give for the HOPES collection, you may place it in the regular collection this weekend. Thank you.

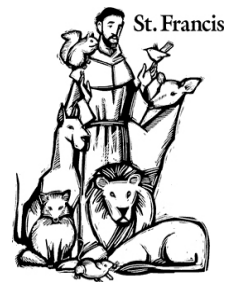
**RALLY FOR MARRIAGE**

**• September 28 •**

This Sunday, September 28 at 2:30 p.m. the Family Institute of Connecticut will hold a Rally for Marriage on the steps of the state Capitol in Hartford. This will be Connecticut's most important marriage protection event yet. A Connecticut Supreme Court ruling imposing same-sex 'marriage' on our state could come any day now. It is urgent that pro-family state residents converge on Hartford in the thousands to stand up to the Court and demand the right to let the people decide. All Knights of Columbus members are urged to provide leadership in attending this important event.

**BLESSING OF ANIMALS**

In observance of the Feast of St. Francis, a Blessing of Animals rite will be held on Saturday, October 4 at 12:00 noon in our church parking lot. We invite you to bring your beloved pet so he/she can receive a special blessing.



**“ST. PAUL,  
APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES”**

**Thursday at St. Dunstan's**

St. Dunstan's program, exploring the personality, accomplishments, failures and lasting impact on today's church of this amazing saint, will hold its second presentation THIS THURSDAY, Oct. 2 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Father Bannon Hall. We are exploring St. Paul's incredible missionary journeys and the content of his theology. Additional meetings will be held on Thursdays; October 9, 16 and 23. Come and learn about this "Apostle to the Gentiles." Bring your Bibles; additional materials will be supplied. For more information, call Walter Twachtman 633-7837. Pope, Benedict XVI has declared this year, "The Year of St. Paul," to encourage more study, reflection and understanding of this great saint and apostle.

**GOSPEL INSIGHTS***Matthew 21:28-32*

In today's gospel, Jesus tells a story about two sons who are faced with a moral decision. With their decision to change course, Jesus helps his listeners recognize themselves in the story. With today's parable Jesus teaches that the kingdom of God is available to sinners just as much as it is available to the righteous. All that is needed is a decision for change, a change of mind and heart.

Living a moral life is about freely responding to a loving God. We are responsible for our choices. We have the freedom to choose what is right and what is wrong. We can turn to God to help us make good moral choices. God's law is written on our hearts. Catholics rely on Church tradition, scripture and the support of the teaching authority of the Church to help interpret God's law. Our conscience also helps us choose between right and wrong. God's voice calls us to do good and avoid evil. We call this inner voice our conscience.

Catholic teaching emphasizes that the morality of our actions depends on three things: The object, the intention, and the circumstances. First, the object of our moral act is what we knowingly choose to do or not do. The object may be good or evil. Second, the intention is our motive for choosing a moral act. Our purpose for doing the action affects the goodness or evil of the action. A good intention can not turn a morally evil act into a good act. The end does not justify the means. A bad intention, however, can turn a good act into an evil one. Third, the circumstances are the details surrounding the act. Circumstances increase or lessen the goodness or evil of a moral act. Catholic moral teaching holds that for an action to be judged as morally good, all three things, (the object itself, the intention, and the circumstances) must be good.

Throughout our lives we are faced with moral choices. Church teaching can help us make good decisions. Through prayer, listening to Church teaching and seeking advice from people we trust, we can arrive at a good moral decision, in agreement with our conscience.

**Religious Education****LAST CALL FOR  
CONFIRMATION SIGN-UPS!**

If your 9th or 10th grader is planning on enrolling in the Confirmation program and has not yet done so, please contact the Youth Ministry Team at [youthministry@stchris-eh.org](mailto:youthministry@stchris-eh.org) or 895-8692 as soon as possible! Informational meetings have already been held. There is material and information about changes to the program that you will need if your child is planning on participating in the program. Today (Sunday, 9/28) the 9th grade students will be attending a mandatory Opening Retreat in the school gym from 11:30 - 3:30. Classes will begin on Saturday, October 4 and Tuesday, October 7.

**THANK YOU!**

On the cover of last weekend's bulletin, we extended our thanks to the catechists of our parish who are instructing our children in the Catholic faith this school year. In addition to those who were listed, we wish to extend our appreciation to **Marie Garabedian, Martha Gaudreau, Christina Hannon** and **Sarah Poirier**. We are grateful to all our catechists for their dedication and commitment to the young people of our parish.

**RETREAT WITH SR. HELEN PREJEAN**

On Wednesday, October 8, Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford will sponsor a day and evening retreat with Sr. Helen Prejean, C.S.J. *Dead Man Walking: The Journey Continues* will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will repeat from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The requested offering of \$30.00 includes lunch or dinner. Author of the book *Dead Man Walking*, Sr. Helen has been instrumental in sparking national dialogue on capital punishment and in shaping the Catholic Church's newly vigorous opposition to all state executions. Visit [holyfamilyretreat.org](http://holyfamilyretreat.org) or call 860-521-0440 for more information.

**CREDO - EVENING OF PRAYER**

Credo Catholic Singles will continue their monthly gathering of prayer in the Chapel at our Parish Center on Tuesday, September 30 at 7:00 p.m. This is an evening of prayer, reflection and conversation led by Credo member Andrea M. who has an MA in Spirituality and is a Spiritual Director trained through the Mercy Center. All are welcome. No RSVP necessary. Come and deepen your faith and experience of God in a safe, supporting group. Visit [www.credocath.com](http://www.credocath.com) for more information about Credo Catholic Singles.

**ADULT SOCIAL CLUB**

The next gathering of the Adult Social Club will be on Monday, October 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall. Our guest speaker will be Michael Mancini, Manager of Design and Construction at The Metropolitan District. Mr. Mancini will speak about the \$2.1 billion Clear Water Project in Hartford and how it will affect East Hartford. Refreshments will be served. Please call Rose Yergeau at 568-4029 with any questions.

**MEET THE CANDIDATES**



Steve Fournier (GP), John Larson (D), Joe Visconti (R) will be at St. Bridget Church in Manchester on Sunday,

October 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The candidates will be asked to respond to questions on important issues of justice in our society. Come and hear how each candidate responds. Become informed and know the candidates' positions so that you can vote responsibly. All are welcome, refreshments will be served. Questions? Call Diane at 649-9827.

**EAST CATHOLIC FALL FESTIVAL**

East Catholic High School's annual Fall Festival will take place next Saturday, October 4, from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Free Admission! Enjoy food, fun and entertainment the whole family will enjoy including a Cow-Chip Raffle with \$10,000 in cash prizes being awarded. New this year - Arts & Crafts vendors along with pumpkins and mums! For more information, please call Sarah Adanti at 649-5336, ext. 234.

**ATTENTION!!**

**ShopRite SHOPPERS**



If you are a ShopRite shopper who has a *PricePlus* card, you can help our parish school earn free educational equipment! Your participation in this program costs you nothing and it won't interfere with credits you might be earning for any other shopping promotions at ShopRite. All you need to do is see one of our school volunteers after all Masses this weekend, September 27-28. Share with us your *PricePlus* card number and our parish school will begin receiving benefits from all your future purchases! Thank you for your support!

**ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL'S  
2nd ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION  
Sept. 29 thru Oct. 26**

[www.saintchrisauktion.cmarket.com](http://www.saintchrisauktion.cmarket.com)

Get a head start on Christmas shopping and help our parish school at the same time! Please take a moment and browse through the above website and bid on items such as restaurants, get-aways, museums, sports collectibles, salons and much more. Check out our great deals! All funds raised in our 2nd Annual Online Auction will be used for the purchase of new classroom desks for our students. Thank you for your support and happy bidding!

**TAG SALE**

**St. Christopher School**

**Saturday ~ October 18 ~ 8:00 AM - Noon**

**Rain or Shine!**

**Rent a Table for \$10 to Sell Your Items**

This Tag Sale is being hosted by St. Christopher's Home-School Association. The rental fee for the table benefits the students of our parish school. The money you make from the sale of your items is yours to keep! Each seller is responsible for "manning" their own table and St. Christopher School is not responsible for any unsold items. We will do the advertising! Tables must be reserved by October 3. Please contact Karen Long at 263-8769 or at [klong31@comcast.net](mailto:klong31@comcast.net).

