



*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 – 214-3500

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

Bridget Cooke – 202-3692

## **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**

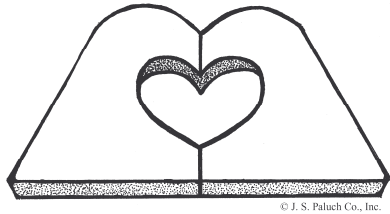
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388  
[bcr2@hotmail.com](mailto:bcr2@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

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

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Thirtieth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**October 26, 2008**

*“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”*

– Matthew 22:37

*Mass*  *for the  
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, October 25– 4:30 p.m.

**Leena V. Johnson**

*(Daughter Carol & Family)*

Sunday, October 26 - 8:00 a.m.

**James Migliore**

*(Eugene & Anne Morin)*

Sunday, October 26 - 10:30 a.m.

**Gordon Gilles** *(Dave & Chickie Amberg)*

Monday, October 27 – 7:30 a.m.

**Mary Ravera** *(Steve & Sue Kleva)*

Tuesday, October 28 – 7:30 a.m.

**Agnes Lincoln** *(Elaine Kirko)*

Wednesday, October 29 – 7:30 a.m.

**Eileen Husseini** *(Ralph & Peg Viola)*

Thursday, October 30 – 7:30 a.m.

**Evelyn Kaeser** *(Dorothy Clark)*

Saturday, November 1 – 4:30 p.m.

**Charles Natalie**

*(Brother, Dom and Family)*

Sunday, November 2 - 8:00 a.m.

**John Vignone**

*(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, November 2 - 10:30 a.m.

**For the Faithful Departed  
Who Have Died with Christ  
November 2007 - October 2008**

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (October 19): \$ 6,398

Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 6,613

Many thanks for your generous support of our parish! Together, we make St. Christopher’s the vibrant and welcoming faith community Christ calls us to be.

with Gratitude,

Fr. Curran

**PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY**

Today is Priesthood Sunday, a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States and to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church. By our priests’ faithful teaching, preaching and witness, the whole Church community grows in its mission to the God of Love in the world. Their service to our parishes is a sacrifice. By sacrifice, we mean, priests give their very selves in order that the whole Church might continue to further Christ’s mission left to the Church.

We take this opportunity on Priesthood Sunday to express our appreciation for Fr. Curran and to thank him for ministering Christ to us and for faithfully serving our needs. May God bless you, Fr. Curran!



**SANCTUARY  
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week for

**In Loving Memory of  
Audrey H. Flasch**  
*(Carol F. Waterman’s Mom)*

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**In Thanksgiving for Fr. Curran  
and for All Men Who Answer God’s Call  
to the Priestly Ministry**

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

### ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Our parish will celebrate the memory of those who have died since last November during our 10:30 Mass on Sunday, November 2. A candlelight service within our Eucharistic Liturgy will commemorate each of the deceased.

In preparation for this celebration, we invite parishioners who have lost a family member this past year, even though they may not have been buried from St. Christopher, to put a photo of your loved one with a name card on our Memory Board in the church hall.

#### Please note:

A reception will be held in our church hall following the Mass. We kindly request donations of baked goods that can be served at this reception. All donations may be left in the church hall prior to the start of Mass. We thank you for your support!

– Toni Amberg, Bereavement Coordinator



### ANOTHER THANK YOU!

*Your participation in 40 Days for Life has truly made a difference. In the first ten days, we have confirmed eight babies saved from abortion at the Hartford GYN Clinic at 1 Main Street. This is truly the gift of life.*

*Some are praying, some are fasting and some are keeping vigil outside the abortion clinic; some are doing all three. Regardless of which piece is being observed, each adds to the powerful plea for an end to abortion in this country.*

*Thank you for your part in 40 Days for Life. Thank you, too, from the babies who now will enjoy the gift of life, and from mothers, fathers and families who have been spared much sorrow from abortion.*

*In gratitude,*

*Mary Lou Peters  
40 Days for Life Coordinator  
Archdiocese of Hartford*

### ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The next gathering of the Adult Social Club will be Monday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall. The later date is due to the hall being reserved for Election Day. More information about the November gathering will be provided in next weekend's bulletin.

### CT CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The first CT Catholic Men's Conference is set to be held on November 15, 2008 at the Convention Center in Hartford. For more information, please contact our parishioner Bob Mazurkivich at 568-5030 or visit [www.ctcatholicmen.org](http://www.ctcatholicmen.org).

### FLU CLINICS

The Health & Social Services Department of the town of East Hartford is sponsoring two flu clinics for residents of East Hartford who are 65 years of age and older (proof of residency and age is required). There is no cost to receive the flu vaccine. The clinics will be held at the South End Senior Center on 70 Canterbury Street on the following dates and times:

Tuesday ~ November 4: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Friday ~ November 14: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.\*

\* Based upon availability of vaccine

For more information, please call the Department of Health & Social Services at 569-5659 or 291-7324.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### St. Christopher Council Forming

The Knights raised over \$144 million for charity and donated more than 68 million hours of volunteer time in 2007. We seek to broaden the ranks of the Order to provide still greater service to the Church, by forming a new council to serve this parish. A man's time investment can be as little as 24 hours per year. Want to find out how you can earn your child's parochial tuition? Want to learn more about the Knights? Simply leave your name and number on the card available at the poster on the church bulletin board located at the back exit. You will be notified of an information meeting in the near future.

**LOVE OF GOD**

It's easy to tell when two people love each other. They like to be near each other and spend time together. They share intimate thoughts and feelings. They enjoy making each other happy. And knowing that they are loved allows them to reach out to other people and treat them with love and respect.

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus tells us that the greatest law is to love God with our whole heart and soul and mind. What does it mean to love God? Certainly it means spending time together by reading and reflecting on God's holy word. It also means sharing our thoughts and feelings with God in prayer and listening for God's voice. Where do we go to be close to God? We join God's people in worship in the church, rest in God's presence in the Blessed Sacrament, discover God in the wonder of creation and the miraculous moments of daily life. What can we do to make God happy? How do we, like the Thessalonians, "serve the living and true God"?



**LOVE OF NEIGHBOR**

The reading from Exodus makes it very clear that we serve God by serving those who are oppressed or in need. Jesus makes it more personal—we are to love our neighbors. That means those with whom we work and play and live. When we spend time with God we can't help but experience God's great love for us. And knowing that we are loved by God should make it easy to reach out in charity and justice to our neighbors both near and far away.

Thus, love of neighbor flows naturally from those who love God. We cannot truly say that we love God unless it shows in loving relationships and



compassion to those in need. At the same time, we cannot maintain our love of neighbor unless we take time to drink from the wellspring of God's refreshing love.

**OFFICE HOURS**

Bonnie, our parish's Administrative Assistant, will be attending an Archdiocesan workshop on Tuesday, October 28. The parish office will be closed on that date, but will reopen on Wednesday, October 29 at 8:30 a.m. Thank you!

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS**

Our parish is seeking young people who are interested in joining the Altar Server ministry. Boys or girls, currently in grades 5 and above, who have received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist are eligible to join. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please call the parish office at 568-5240 or send us an e-mail at [stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net). A training class will be held in the near future.



**CREDO - EVENING OF PRAYER**

Credo Catholic Singles will continue their monthly gathering of prayer in the Community Room at our Parish Center on Tuesday, October 28 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.

**HARTFORD PRAYER BREAKFAST**

You are invited to attend the Greater Hartford Multi-Faith Prayer Breakfast which will be held on Thursday, November 20 from 7:15 – 8:45 a.m. at The Artists Collective in Hartford. The Collective is on the corner of Albany Avenue and Woodland Street, 1200 Albany Avenue.

This Prayer Breakfast is for all persons who simply want to join together and pray for our city, our region and our world. At the past ten annual breakfasts, an average of 400 people from business, government, education, church and civic organizations have gathered to pray together.

For more information about this breakfast please visit [www.hartfordprayerbreakfast.org](http://www.hartfordprayerbreakfast.org). Registration is not required. Freewill offering.

### THANK YOU!

About a month ago our parish welcomed Fr. Filbert Mhasi who came to make an appeal on behalf of the people of the Archdiocese of Gulu. We received the following note from Fr. Mhasi that we'd like to share:

*"I thank all the parishioners of St. Christopher for welcoming me in their parish and for the good response of the appeal to help the children of Gulu Archdiocese, Uganda. You are all welcome to Tanzania."*

*With prayerful best wishes,*

*Fr. Filbert Mhasi*

### HOMEFRONT RESURRECTION?

As many of you know, St. Christopher Church participated in a HomeFront project for several years in the recent past. We would like to resurrect our involvement in this wonderful program, but we first would need to assemble our leadership team. The leadership team is comprised of a House Captain, an Assistant House Captain and a Volunteer Coordinator.

For those who are not familiar with HomeFront, it is a domestic program sponsored by AmeriCares where we would be helping a neighbor in our community that is financially and/or physically unable to keep their home in a livable condition. Repairs are made to their home to keep them safe, warm and dry. It's a wonderful one-day project in May 2009 that brings people together to accomplish miracles.

In the past, I have served as the Volunteer Coordinator and would be willing to continue in that role. The House Captain should be someone with construction-type experience to oversee the project, compile a list of materials needed and assist with allocation of crew volunteers to the various projects. The Assistant House Captain should be someone who is "handy" to assist the House Captain.

Please consider volunteering to serve in either of these roles. I assure you, you'll be glad you did! Please contact me at 568-5001.

Thank you!  
Phil Gosselin

### GIFT CARD PROGRAM

We'd like to remind you that gift cards are available every weekend after every Mass for many popular retailers (i.e., ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Shaws, CVS, Walgreens, etc.). Orders can also be placed for cards from hundreds of other retailers, and your cards will arrive for you to pick up the following weekend. Cards are sold at face value...so you can help our school raise thousands of dollars per year without spending an additional penny!! You can use these cards when you shop or you can give them as gifts. Visit us after Mass to see what we have to offer!

### THANK YOU -

### THANK YOU - THANK YOU!!!

A huge thank you to all of you who bought pies from our school's fundraiser over the past three weeks. You purchased over \$600 in pies and cookie dough after the Masses. In total the sale was a huge success with over \$11,000 in pies and cookie dough being sold. 40% of this amount will go directly to the HSA fundraising goal of \$95,000 which helps cover the operating costs of our school. Thank you so much for your continued support of our parish school! We couldn't have hit our goal without you!!!

Sarah Poirier

P.S. Orders will be available for pickup in the church hall on Wednesday, November 19. A reminder message will appear in the bulletin the weekend before.

### ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

### 45th ANNIVERSARY DANCE

Saturday ~ November 22, 2008

7:30 p.m. - Midnight

St. Christopher School is celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the 2008-2009 school year. One of the first events marking this occasion is a dance taking place in our school's gym. It's a casual, adults-only event where you can kick off your shoes and dance the night away. If you are interested in attending, there are flyers on the tables at the main entrance to the or you can call Karen Santacross at 569-4975.