



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

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

E-mail: 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

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

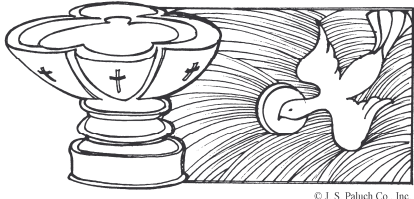
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388
bcr2@hotmail.com

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Commemoration
of all the
Faithful Departed**

November 2, 2008

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*"If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him."*

– Romans 6:8

*Mass for the
Intentions*  *for the
Week*

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 1, 2007 - October 31, 2008

Monday, November 3 – 7:30 a.m.

Madelaine Maillet

(Norman & Edith Daigle)

Tuesday, November 4 – 7:30 a.m.

Paul E. Franklin *(Wife Claire)*

Wednesday, November 5 – 7:30 a.m.

Agnes Lincoln *(The Traynor Family)*

Thursday, November 6 – 7:30 a.m.

Gloria Blackburn *(John & Moira Traynor)*

Saturday, November 8 – 4:30 p.m.

Dinis Leonardo *(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, November 9 - 8:00 a.m.

Carolyn Brand *(Madeleine Bradstreet)*

Sunday, November 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Louis Sciarra, Jr. - 3rd Anniversary

(Wife & Family)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (October 26): \$ 6,583

Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 8,254

Propagation of the Faith: \$ 2,071

My sincere thanks for your generosity to our parish! Together we bring Christ's saving presence to our community and to our world.

with Gratitude,

Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love:" (Wisdom 3:9) Stewardship is a life of service. The reward for faithful stewardship is the knowledge of truth and eternal life with God.

SCHOOL MASS

A Mass will be celebrated with the school children on Wednesday, November 5 at 9:00 a.m. All parishioners and school families are invited to this liturgy!



**SANCTUARY
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week

In Loving Memory of

Roger Yergeau

In Remembrance of His Birthday

(Wife & Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

For God's Blessings & Healing Presence

for Kylie Cohen's Sister Barbara

(St. Christopher's Prayer Tree/Line)

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

OFFICE HOURS

Our parish office will be closed on Monday, November 3, so Bonnie, our Administrative Assistant, can enjoy a retreat day. We will reopen on Tuesday, November 4 at 8:30 a.m. Thank you for your understanding!

LOST AND FOUND

We recently found in our church a silver necklace with a dolphin pendant. If you believe you are the owner of this necklace, please call our parish office at 568-5240.

TEEN MASS - NEXT SATURDAY

The Youth Ministry will be sponsoring its first Teen Mass of the new school year next Saturday, November 8, at the 4:30 Vigil. The teens of the parish will be ministering as lectors, greeters, collectors, and musicians during the Mass. This is an opportunity for the youth of our parish to experience liturgy in a way that speaks to them personally. If you have a teen in your house, please consider joining us for this liturgy. Teen Masses will be held again in January, March and May.

Please note: All confirmation students are required to attend two Teen Masses a year. Please sign-in at the church hall when you enter for Mass that Saturday. Thank you! ~ Youth Ministry Team

2009 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are pleased to announce that our supply of 2009 Entertainment Books are scheduled to arrive this coming week. To check on their availability, please call the parish office at 568-5240 or the Youth Ministry office at 895-8692 or by e-mail at youthministry@stchris-eh.org. All proceeds from the sale of these books support our Youth Ministry.

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. BINGO will follow a short meeting. Pumpkin pie will be served. **Each member is asked to bring a non-perishable food donation for the Food Bank.** If you have any questions, please call Helen Little at 568-3080.

HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES



The summer months have left our food bank shelves quite empty and it's time to be thinking about our holiday food boxes. On Thursday, November 20 we will be packing the Thanksgiving food boxes for delivery on Sunday, November 23 to our neighbors in need.

We hope you will be able to help us fill our shelves to ensure that our neighbors do not go hungry this holiday season. We are in desperate need of:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Canned Vegetables | Cereal |
| Instant Potatoes | Peanut Butter |
| Tuna | Jelly |
| Cake Mix | Frosting |
| Canned Soup | Spaghetti Sauce |
| Gravy | Pasta |
| Mac & Cheese | Baked Beans |
| Canned Fruit | Stuffing Mix |
| Cranberry Sauce | Jello |

TURKEYS

Non-perishable donations may be left in the area in front of the baptismal font. Please DO NOT leave turkeys in these baskets. Call Eleanor Domler at 569-7396 or Kay McNamara at 568-5650 to pick them up. We are most appreciative of your continued support and help

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.



ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 4, is Election Day. Inserted in this weekend's bulletin are two flyers – one prepared by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and one prepared by the Connecticut Catholic Conference. We encourage you to read these inserts before you exercise your right to vote.

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. A training class will be held in the near future.



Music Ministry

Choir Members Needed!!

St. Christopher's Adult and Children's Choirs are seeking new members (especially Bass and Tenors) who wish to offer their talents to help enhance the sung prayer of our parish community during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Please join us this coming week. The following is our rehearsal schedule:

Adult Choir (high school – adult)
Thursdays ~ 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Children's Choir (grades 2 – 8)
Thursdays ~ 4:30–5:30 p.m.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

Choosing a family cemetery lot is inevitable. Instead of leaving this decision to a loved one, a friend or perhaps even a stranger, why not make this a family decision now? The Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford is offering until November 15 the opportunity to purchase pre-need graves with interest-free payments up to four years. For more information, please call their office at 646-3772.

REFLECTION

The Scripture readings for today all give rich matter for reflection and touch on the reality of death in general, something we will all have to face some day and for which we should be ready. After all, the Lord will come *"like a thief in the night"*. We do not want to have the door closed in our face and hear those terrible words: *"I do not know you."* Scripture constantly warns us to be ready to meet our Lord at any time.

Today, as we remember those who have gone before us, we are aware that our future destiny with God depends to a large extent on how seriously we have taken Jesus' words to our hearts. For those who have put their own chosen way of living before everything, there is the likelihood that in death they lose everything. They hear God saying to them, *"Your will be done"* but they also hear him say, *"I do not know you."* On the other hand, there are those who gave themselves so completely to Jesus and his Way that they surrendered their lives, perhaps as martyrs.

In between are probably the rest of us - wanting to go all the way with Jesus but so often holding back, hedging our bets, wanting to have the best of both worlds. When it comes time for us to leave this world, we are a bit like a ragged doll, needing to be cleaned and tidied up before we can come face to face with our all-perfect, all-holy God. And they are the people we are remembering today.

Let us, then, make a prayer of today's Mass our own: *"God, our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and returned to you in glory. May all your people who have gone before us in faith share his victory and enjoy the vision of your glory forever. Amen."*



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. This event promises to be fun, exciting, and informative. For more information, please take home a copy of the flyer available at the entrances to the church, or you may call our parishioner Bob Mazurkivich at 568-5030 or visit www.ctcatholicmen.org. Register today and take your faith to the next level!

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!

BIRTHRIGHT

Birtheright of Greater Hartford invites you to attend an orientation on Monday, November 10 at 7:30 p.m. in their East Hartford office at 914 Main Street, Suite 216. Friendship counseling and clerical volunteers are needed. Training is provided. If you are interested in attending this orientation to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Birtheright, please call 290-8800 to let them know you'll attend. You can be blessed with the opportunity to nurture life!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Christopher Council Forming

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. 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 in the vestibule of the main entrance. You will be notified of an information meeting in the near future.

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL

45th ANNIVERSARY DANCE

Saturday ~ November 22, 2008

7:30 p.m. - Midnight

St. Christopher School is celebrating its 45th 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. We hope to see you there!



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