



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

E-mail: religioused@stchris-eh.org

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



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**Thirty-third
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

November 16, 2008

“Blessed are you who fear the Lord.”

– Psalm 128:1a

*Mass for the
Intentions  for the
Week*

Saturday, November 15 – 4:30 p.m.

Manuel Machado

(Wife & Daughter)

Sunday, November 16 - 8:00 a.m.

Joseph Leonardo

(Mom, Dad & Daughters)

Sunday, November 16 - 10:30 a.m.

Edmond Guerin

(Wife & Family)

Monday, November 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Lora Buckley *(Gail Barrett & Family)*

Tuesday, November 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Gennaro “Jerry” Viglione

(Betty Doyle & Family)

Wednesday, November 19 – 7:30 a.m.

Gennaro Viglione *(Daughter Jean Walker)*

Thursday, November 20 – 7:30 a.m.

Elvezia Labanauskas & Ferminia Tavoloni

(Marcella Tavoloni Palumbo)

Saturday, November 22 – 4:30 p.m.

Henry Therrien *(Family)*

Sunday, November 23 - 8:00 a.m.

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Cyr

(Lucien & Joan Lavertu)

Sunday, November 23 - 10:30 a.m.

In Celebration of Their

25th Wedding Anniversary

Edward J. & Beverly Miller, Jr.

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (November 9): \$ 6,372

Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 7,729

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, I’m thankful for your continuing support of our parish! As you might have noticed, due to the economy, our income is down somewhat.

Your end of the year gifts and bequests to the parish will be especially helpful and appreciated.

with Love,

Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters I will give you great responsibilities.” Matthew 25:20-21

The stewards in this parable are expected to invest their time, talents, and treasure according to their master's wishes. God expects a return on the gifts that have been given to us. This return is impossible without investing our energies for the benefit of others.



**SANCTUARY
LAMPS**



The candle in the church burns this week for

Sgt. Alan Kenneally

Wounded in action in Iraq

Please pray for him and his family

(The Riley Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

In Loving Memory of

Louis & Angela Trevison

(Daughter Mary & Family)

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

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

We invite you to pray for a loved one in a special way during this traditional month of remembrance by writing your loved one's name in the Book of Remembrance. The Book is located in the front of the church next to the Easter candle.

HOMEFRONT HELP!

HomeFront is indeed a wonderful project of neighbor helping neighbor. It is a great opportunity to help make a home safe, warm and dry for a member of our community that is physically and/or financially unable to. I received a phone call the other night from a parishioner who renewed my hope that we can resurrect HomeFront here at St. Christopher Parish. This fine gentleman is willing to be part of our leadership team. If we can get one more tradesperson to step forward to serve as a co-House Captain, we will have jumped the biggest hurdle to bring the HomeFront ministry back to our parish! For more information or to volunteer, please call me, Phil Gosselin, at 568-5001.

HOLIDAY SUPPORT PROGRAM

D'Esopo – East Hartford Memorial Funeral Chapel will sponsor the fourth annual Holiday Support Program and Service of Remembrance at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 20, at South Congregational Church, Charrier Hall, 1301 Forbes St. All are invited; no admission charge. For information and to RSVP, call D'Esopo's at 568-9420.

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tickets can now be purchased for our annual Christmas Party to be held on Monday, December 1 at 12:00 noon in the church hall. The luncheon will be catered by Krause Caterers. Tickets for members are \$13.00 per person and \$23.60 per person for non-members. Tickets will NOT be sold at the door, so you must purchase your tickets in advance, but no later than Nov. 24. If you have any questions, please leave a message for Joe Martocci at 568-5124.

NOVEMBER IS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MONTH

Catechesis is one of the Church's primary tasks. It is a Sacred Gift and Obligation. We are so thankful for our catechists and aides who give of their time and talents every Sunday. They are bringing others into a relationship with Jesus, in this case our young children. Please keep them in your prayers, as they teach our faith, through this important ministry.

with Gratitude,

Maria Sousa and Fr. Curran

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the East Hartford Interfaith Ministries will be held next Sunday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 1120 Silver Lane, East Hartford. Fr. Curran invites you to join him at this service.

Thoanks

Last week we expressed our appreciation to our Bereavement Committee for the wonderful job they did planning our Annual Memorial Mass. We would also like to thank those who so generously provided wonderful food items for the reception that was held after the Mass and for our dedicated parishioners who helped with the setup and cleanup. We are most grateful for everyone's support!

Fr. Curran

EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

East Catholic High School will hold an Open House on Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. for eighth graders and their families. The entrance exam for eighth graders will be given on Saturday, December 6 at 8:00 a.m. at East Catholic High School. Pre-registration for the exam is advised but not required. To pre-register or to get more information, please call Ms. Gryphon, Admissions, at 649-5336 ext. 238 or visit the school's website at www.echs.com.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

My Dear Friends in Christ,

There are nearly 37 million people in the United States struggling below the poverty line, and 13 million of those are children. Poverty is caused not simply by the lack of financial resources, but by the lack of quality education, affordable housing, health care, child care, fair wages, and vocational training.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has worked to create permanent, community-based solutions to the problem of poverty by funding programs that promote self-sufficiency. These successes are only possible through the solidarity of parishioners across the United States.

CCHD's efforts are funded almost entirely through an annual parish Collection. This year's collection will take place next weekend, November 22/23.

CCHD recently granted \$175,000 to 6 projects in the Archdiocese of Hartford. These groups help poor people to help themselves by addressing the root causes of poverty such as expanding access to healthcare, working for improved public housing, and organizing faith-based groups to work together for change in their communities.

We need you. You can stand in solidarity with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to make a difference in your community and all over our nation by giving generously to the CCHD collection.

Our Archdiocesan goal for 2008 is to raise \$435,000. You can help us reach that goal.

Be sure once again of my grateful prayers and all best wishes.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell
Archbishop of Hartford*

REFLECTION - TODAY'S PARABLE

God gives each person different gifts.

Despite our tendencies always to compare ourselves with others, the actual number and quality is not important. We are only asked to make full use of what we have been uniquely given and to use them for the benefit of the community as a whole. When everyone does that, the community is enriched.

Our work is never completed.

When the first two servants showed how much they had earned, they were not told they could sit back and rest. No, because of their trustworthiness, even greater responsibilities were given to them. "To everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough."

The one who will be punished is the one who does nothing.

The man with one talent did not lose it. He did not do anything at all with it. If he had tried and failed, he would have met compassion and forgiveness. It is not just those who do evil deeds who will lose out but also those who have no positively good works to show.

To the one who has more will be given; from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Jesus is saying that those who share generously the gifts they have been given are likely to find themselves constantly enriched (this, of course is what tithing can bring). It is the law of the Gospel; it also a law of life which many of us, in practice, find hard to believe.

We need to spend some time reflecting on what particular talents or gifts God has given us. Some of us are clearly very gifted but there is no one, absolutely no one, who can say they have been gifted with nothing. And we can ask ourselves how are we using our particular gifts in the service of our Christian community and the wider society? Any other use of them is to bury them in a napkin and render them unproductive. If we were to die today and met Jesus and he asked us, "How did you use the gifts and talents I gave you? Who benefited and how from those gifts?" What would we be able to say in reply?



**PIES ARRIVE ON
WEDNESDAY!
November 19
12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.**

Pick up for the Lyman Orchard pies and cookie dough is this Wednesday, November 19, from 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m. If you placed an order through the school's Lyman Orchard fundraiser, please stop by the church hall on Wednesday to pick up your order. If you have any problems or questions about picking up your order, please call Sarah Poirier at 568-0632. Thanks for your support!



CREDO - EVENING OF PRAYER

Credo Catholic Singles will continue their monthly gathering of prayer in the Community Room at our Parish Center on Tuesday, November 18 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 for more information about Credo Catholic Singles.

**HOLIDAY
FOOD BOXES**



We are most grateful for the donations that have already been made for this year's Thanksgiving food boxes.

We are still accepting donations of turkeys. If you would like to donate a turkey, please call Eleanor Domler at 569-7396 or Kay McNamara at 568-5650 by Wednesday, November 19.

We are most appreciative of your continued help and support.

**SUPPORT OUR
YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM...
BUY AN ENTERTAINMENT BOOK!**

Youth Ministry is selling Entertainment Books again this year. In the present economy, who couldn't use an extra coupon to save a dollar or even twenty?! When an entree is free, dinner out is more manageable! Need a gift for that hard to shop for person...why not something practical and fun like an Entertainment book?!

Books are on sale thru the middle of December. Buy them now in the Parish Office or by e-mailing us at youthministry@stchris-eh.org. Thanks in advance for your support!

BLOOD DRIVE



The 10th Annual Blood Drive in memory of Bryan Judd and Paul Potkaj will be held on **Friday, December 5, from 1:45 – 6:30 p.m.** in our Church Hall. This blood drive is being sponsored by the teens of our parish who are keeping a promise made ten years ago that Bryan and Paul will not be forgotten – the best way to remember their lives is to celebrate the gift of life by giving blood.

Walk-ins are always welcome, but appointments are encouraged. Please call the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to make an appointment. Thank you in advance for participating in this life-saving endeavor.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
St. Christopher Council Forming**

Congratulations to the following new members:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Michael Bisson | Rene Letourneau |
| Scott Gay | Kevin Long |
| Bruce Kinel | |

More members are needed before the council is official. Membership requires as little as 24 hours a year to participate. If you are not currently a member, please consider coming to the next information meeting. See the men at the exit doors after Mass.