



*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

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

## **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.saintchristophersschool.org](http://www.saintchristophersschool.org)

## **PARISH & SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT**

Dianne Rumsey

## **ROSARY and MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

Wednesday: 7:00 PM - Chapel

## **BAPTISMS / PRE-BAPTISM PROGRAM**

By app't. with Deacon Bill Gilles-633-8997

## **MARRIAGES**

Please contact Parish Priest at least six months in advance at 568-5240

## **PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**

(860) 286-7670 / [vocationshartford.org](http://vocationshartford.org)

## **BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

Toni Amberg – 568-9069

## **COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Cathy Reynolds – 214-9287

## **COORDINATOR OF HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**

Barbara Casey – 568-4638

## **COORDINATOR OF PRAYER TREE and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY**

Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388  
[bcrc2@hotmail.com](mailto:bcrc2@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

## **COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE**

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Fourth Sunday  
of  
Advent  
December 21, 2008**

*“The child to be born will be called holy,  
the Son of God..”*

– Luke 1:35

*Mass for the  
Intentions*  *for the  
Week*

Saturday, December 20 – 4:30 p.m.

**Patrick J. & Gertrude O. Spicci**

*(Daughters Patricia & Mary and Family)*

Sunday, December 21 - 8:00 a.m.

**Deceased Members of the Lavertu Family**

*(Lucien & Joan Lavertu)*

Sunday, December 21 - 10:30 a.m.

**Gene Tirinzonie**

*(Family)*

Monday, December 22 – 7:30 a.m.

**Marguerite Nadeau**

*(The Tardiff Family)*

Tuesday, December 23 – 7:30 a.m.

**Angelina & Thomas Viglione**

*(Granddaughter Jean Walker)*

Saturday, December 27 – 4:30 p.m.

**Dinis Leonardo**

*(Wife & Family)*

Sunday, December 28 - 8:00 a.m.

**Santo Pappalardo**

*(Family)*

Sunday, December 28 - 10:30 a.m.

**Ann Sheldon - 1st Anniversary  
and Donald Sheldon**

*(Family)*

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (December 14): \$ 8,273

Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 4,552\*

\* weekend snow storm

As we celebrate Christmas, I'm thankful for your stewardship of our parish!

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

with Love,

Fr. Curran



*My Dear Friends,*

*As we celebrate the birth of our savior, we are reminded of the great mystery that Christmas is, that in Jesus, God has made his home among us! Let us make room for him in our lives, in our homes, in our hearts.*

*On behalf of Deacon Bill and our wonderful parish staff, I would like to wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.*

*yours in Christ,*

*Fr. Curran*

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

At this week's Christmas Masses our second collection will be a Christmas offering that will benefit our parish.



In observance of the Christmas Holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. We will reopen on Monday, December 29 at 8:30 a.m.



**SCHEDULE FOR  
MASSES  
AND CONFESSIONS**

**Wednesday - December 24 - Christmas Vigils**

(The 7:30 a.m. daily Mass will not be celebrated.)

4:30 p.m. (A Carol Sing, led by the Children's Choir, begins at 4:00 p.m.)

10:00 p.m. (A Carol Sing, led by the Adult Choir, begins at 9:30 p.m.)

**Thursday - December 25 - Christmas Day Masses**

8:00 a.m. (A Carol Sing will begin at 7:45 a.m.)

10:30 a.m. (A Carol Sing will begin at 10:15 a.m.)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Tuesday, December 23: 11:30 a.m – 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Please note: The 7:30 a.m. daily Mass will not be offered on Friday, December 26.

**PAPAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

At Christmas we contemplate God made man, divine glory hidden beneath the poverty of a Child wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger; the Creator of the Universe reduced to the helplessness of an infant. Once we accept this paradox, we discover the Truth that sets us free and the Love that transforms our lives. On Bethlehem Night, the Redeemer becomes one of us, our companion along the precarious paths of history. Let us take the hand which he stretches out to us: it is a hand which seeks to take nothing from us, but only to give.

– Pope Benedict XVI  
(Urbi et Orbi Message, Christmas 2005)

**PLEASE!**

HomeFront is a one day project of neighbor helping neighbor. It will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009. 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. We need one more tradesperson to step forward to join our leadership team. *Please*, if you are a carpenter, a roofer, an electrician, a plumber, etc., and would like to *help us create this little miracle*, please give me a call. Thank you!

– Phil Gosselin, 568-5001

**ARE THERE ANY  
WHO ARE SICK AMONG YOU?**

If someone you know is hospitalized, recovering at home or homebound and would like a visit from a member of our pastoral team, please call Barbara Casey at 568-4638.

**CHRISTMAS COOKIES**

We extend our appreciation to all the “angels” who made our cookie drive for the Friendship Center Soup Kitchen such a success. We thank all who provided the cookies and the following people who helped to package them. Thanks and God Bless!

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Agnes Arey            | Helen LeBlanc |
| Bev Connors           | Peg Shuckerow |
| Jill Hurley           | Ann Traynor   |
| Catherine Kunashevsky | Mary Traynor  |

– Helen Little

**AN APPEAL TO WIVES!**

I appeal to the wives of our parish to encourage your husbands to attend our parish's Men's Retreat being held January 9-11, 2009 at Holy Family Retreat House in West Hartford. There's a reason that there are many more retreats scheduled for men than for women; we need more help! Not only will you enjoy a football free weekend, you'll get a shiny new husband back in return! Reservation forms can be found on all the Church bulletin boards. For more information, you may contact me at 568-5001.

– Phil Gosselin



### SANCTUARY LAMPS

The lamps beside our tabernacles remind us of the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

The candle in the church burns this week

**In Loving Memory of  
Maurice Harden  
In Remembrance of His 8th Anniversary  
(Wife Mary & Family)**

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**In Loving Memory of  
Helen Mintel  
(Ernie & Toni Mintel and Family)**

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

### ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club will be meeting on Monday, January 5 at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Our guest will be Melody Curry, Mayor of East Hartford. Refreshments will be served. **Dues of \$10.00 per person will be collected at this meeting.** If you have any questions, please call Helen Little at 568-3080.

### CREDO PLANNING MEETING

Credo Catholic Singles will hold a planning meeting on Sunday, January 4 in St. Christopher's church hall following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Single persons of all ages are invited to become a member of Credo and to attend this planning meeting. For more information about Credo Catholic Singles, please visit [www.credocath.com](http://www.credocath.com) or you can call Rose Smedley at 860-229-4405.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's Gospel sounds like a fairy tale story which is too good to be true. But it is true. While it is about the birth of Jesus, it is also about the faith of a young woman, Mary, and Joseph's courage, respect and affection for Mary. When faith, courage, respect and affection live in a family, "God is with you!"

# RAFFLE

*to benefit*

*St. Christopher School*

In celebration of its 45th anniversary, our parish school is holding a raffle with the following prizes to be awarded:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$500 gift card redeemable at Exxon/Mobil

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$500 gift card redeemable at Stop & Shop

◆◆◆ Only \$10 per ticket ◆◆◆

The drawing will be held on January 27, 2009. If you would like to purchase a chance to win one of these great prizes, please complete the following form, make your check payable to *St. Christopher School HSA* and place the form and your payment in an envelope marked "raffle tickets." You may either mail your envelope to our school at 570 Brewer Street, or you may place it in the collection basket. If you have any questions or would like to request tickets to sell, please call George at 568-4126.

### St. Christopher School Raffle

(Please note: all information is required)

Name:

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Address:

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Town:

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State / Zip:

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Phone Number:

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*Thank you for your support!*



We thank all who made donations for Christmas flowers and decorations in memory of the following loved ones. They will be remembered in our Masses during the Christmas season.

Clifford Amirault	Lorraine & Raymond DeMaio	The Landry Family	Jose & Marie Ribeiro
Al & Nellie Anderson	Sandra Leonard DeVivo	Ernest Lavertu	The Riley Family
Stanley Bartholomay	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Dion	Eva LaKouses	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Rinaldi
The Barone Family	Anna Donahue	Lillian Leonard	Beatrice & Albert Rioux
John J. Barry, Sr.	The Donofrio Family	John Leonard	Paul C. Roadman
Dominick Battaglio	The Dorak Family	Geno Libera	Mr. & Mrs. Henry Robert
Leo & Flora Belanger	Mary & Carl Dupre	The Lombard Family	Albert Romano
Edward Bialka	Joey Duva	Sare & Lucy Lucca	Patricia Roy
Russell & Leona Bilodeau	Ebony	Julia & John Luizzi	Hector & Adeline Saucier
Pat Blanco	Helen Ellis	Richard J. Luko	Stanley & Helen Saviske
Santo, Maria & Thomas Boccaccio	Michael W. Evans, Sr.	Joe Luzzi	Patricia Scamuzzi
The Borowiec Family	Jerry Fargo	Lionel Lynch	The Schaefer Family
The Botticello Family	Michael Fastiggi	Richard S. Lysik	Dottie Schofield
Mary Boulay	Mr. & Mrs. Ben Fauteux	William Mallon	The Schultz Family
Jane Bowen	Kristen Faudree	The Manship Family	Louis Sciarra, Jr.
Mary Bradley	Noel & Alice Fernandes	Mr. & Mrs. James Martino	Lucille Serruto
Felix & Marjorie Brazalovich	James J. Ferriter	The Marquis Family	Patrick & Bridie Shea
Mr. & Mrs. William Bradley	Patricia M. Ferriter	Antoine Martel	Sister Rosemary Budnavich
Wayne Bristol	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ficai	Tracy Ann Martin	Sisters of Jesus Christ Crucified
The Brueggestrat Family	The Fiengo Family	Bill McCarthy	Edward Sochon
Jozef Burzawa	Donald Fleming	Rev. William McGrath	Eleanor Spears
Stefan Burzawa	Donald J. Forte	The McGrath Family	Ray Stanizzi
The Burnat Family	The Fronczek Family	The McMahon Family	Angelo & Jeanie Stanizzi
The Burnham Family	Elynor Joy Furbush	Eleanor McMahon	Frank Stanizzi
Katherine Byrnes	The Gagliardi Family	Mary, James and John McPhert	Elois & Ralph Stanizzi
Herman Cadorette	Helen Gallo	Llewellyn McPherson	David Stevens
Thomas P. Camarco	Salvatore Gallo, Jr.	Patricia McVey	David Stern
George & Bernice Canavan	Anthony Gallo	Theresa McWilliams	Bill Stone
Thomas Cantone III	Carmelo & Margaret Gallo	Karen Mederos	Jeremiah & Catherine Sullivan
The Carrabino Family	George L. Gardner	Dennis Michalski	James & Margaret Sullivan
Vinze Carrubba	The Germaine Family	Ray & Mary Miller	Anna & Steve Swaiko
Salvatore & Joseph Carron	Alcide & Marc Girard	Sarah & John Milne	Mark Tardiff
Salvatore & Concetta Cassarino	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Goguen	Mary Minkauskas	The Tarza Family
Bernard Casey	Carmen Gonzalez	Mom, Dad, Richard & Jimmy	John A. Telesmanick
Richard J. Casey	Greg Grivois	Jeffrey Morin	Gene Tirinzonie
Placido & Lucy Cavallaro	Florence Grondin	Rev. Henry J. Murphy	Rose & Sal Toce
The Charron's Family	Theodora Grzesiak	John R. Nixon	Stan Traynor
Joseph & Felicia Chesery	Edmond Guerin	Stella Novak	The Tremblay's Family
Mary Churilo	Maurice L. Harden	The Nowik Family	Frank Vallone
Catherine Claffey	Christopher & Anna Hickson	John & Louise Olinatz	William & Albina Vasko
Anne Coffey	Mrs. Helen Hinchliffe	The Oliveira Family	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Veronese
William R. Coiteux	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hinchliff, Sr.	The O'Meara Family	Pauline Vezina
Judith F. Collins	Lad & Rick Hlavaty	Our Mothers	Sue Stark Vincek
Paul W. Comer	Alden Hobart	Our Families	Ralph & Rose Viola
Robert Connors	Mabel Hogan	Our Departed Loved Ones	Lois Waite
Lillian & Paul Cordilico	George & Billy Hogan	Krystina Overczuk	Duane White
Ida Mae Corrado	Lena Hornyak	Witold Parys	Howard J. Wilmes
Frank A. Corrado	John Hornyak	Mary Parlante	Durward Willis
The Coroso Family	Mr. & Mrs. John Hunlow	Edward A. Pecor	Don, Gail & Annie Willson
Louie & Leona Cormier	Camila Intino	Angelo J. Picone	Joseph Wolk
G. Robert Coyle	Penny Johnson	Kathryn Pleva	Frances Wonsewicz
Maria Craee	Edwin G. Jones	Al & Ann Pleafka, Sr.	The Yacovino Family
Paul Crowley	Edwin J. Jones	Paul Potkaj	The Yorio Family
Harold & Katharine Crouse	Richard A. Juergens	Llewellyn & Marion Priest	Joseph Zack
Carolann Cusmano	Jan Kaminski	Zofia & Stanislaw Pyszny	Roman & Sophie Zadurski
The Cyr Family	The Keegan Family	Paul J. Rabitaille	John & Josephine Zalewski
Patrick Cyr	The Knap Family	Robert Rawlinitis	Michael Zdrok
Dennis Daigle	Ruth, Neil, Leslie & Charles Knotts	Helen Reardon	Joseph, Frances & Carrie Zocco
Helen D'Alessandro	The Kochanowicz Family	Margaret Redfern	Carmen Zocco
Henry & Eleanor Dawson	Louis Lachapelle	Lori Reimers	Steven Zocco
Deceased Loved Ones	Mary & Fred LaFontaine	Relatives & Friends	Veronica & Edward Zwalinski