



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.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

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

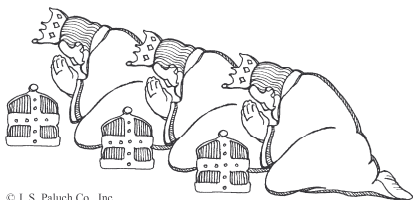
Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388
bcrc2@hotmail.com

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



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**The Epiphany
of
the Lord**

January 4, 2009

*“All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.”*

– Psalm 72:11

*Mass for the
Intentions*  *for the
Week*

Saturday, January 3 – 4:30 p.m.
Roger Yergeau (*Wife & Family*)

Sunday, January 4 – 8:00 a.m.
Claire Newhouse (*Doris Bristol*)

Sunday, January 4 – 10:30 a.m.
Nancy King Fiorey
(*The Fleming, McMahon, Picard
& Walsh Families*)

Monday, January 5 – 7:30 a.m.
Helen Mintel
(*Diane & Dave Oliveira*)

Tuesday, January 6 – 7:30 a.m.
Paul E. Franklin (*Wife Claire*)

Wednesday, January 7 – 7:30 a.m.
Margaret H.L. Lafleur
**In Memory of Her Birthday
and Gerard J. Lafleur**
(*Daughter Gloria Jean*)

Thursday, January 8 – 7:30 a.m.
Michael Barno (*Nieces & Nephews*)

Saturday, January 10 – 4:30 p.m.
Stan Traynor (*The Traynor Family*)

Sunday, January 11 – 8:00 a.m.
Richard Bourie (*Jackie & Donald Luizzi*)

Sunday, January 11 – 10:30 a.m.
Helen Mintel (*Barb & Howard Wilmes*)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Christmas Offerings: \$ 13,393*
Nativity of the Lord: \$ 3,443

* Includes one gift of \$2,500 from a family
who wishes to remain anonymous.

Weekly Collection (Dec. 21): \$ 5,029
Same Sunday in 2007: \$ 8,135

We are thankful for all who throughout the year
make meaningful, generous and sacrificial gifts to
help our parish to continue its mission of
proclaiming the good news of Christ Jesus.

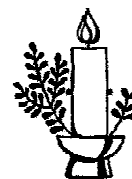
We are especially thankful for special
Christmas and end-of-the-year gifts which are
assisting us in our operating budget needs and in
addressing the many capital needs of our large
parish campus.

We note in a special way two gifts from
parishioners, one for \$2,000 that we recently
received and the other for \$2,500 as noted above.
I am moved and grateful for these parishioners and
for each one of you who share your time, talent
and treasure to make St. Christopher’s such a
loving and caring parish.

With Gratitude,
Fr. Curran

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
Rose Rogosky Pendley - 13th Anniversary
and William L. Pendley**
(*Niece Carolyn & Joe Kronen*)

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

All Immigrants
(National Migration Week ~ January 4-10, 2009)

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

THANK YOU FROM FR. CURRAN

My Dear Friends,

What a wonderful celebration of Christmas!

So many of you gave of your time and talents to make the birth of our Lord special for all of us. A special thank you to Carol Waterman, our Director of Music, our musicians and cantors, and the many members of our Children and Adult choirs for providing us with such beautiful music. Thank you also to those talented people who helped to prepare, clean and decorate our Church. We also thank our lectors, ministers of Communion, ushers and altar servers who serve our parish throughout the year with dedication and dignity.

It is evident to me that St. Christopher Parish is very special and that you rightfully take great pride in it. My special thanks to our great staff and to Deacon Bill for their collaboration in Christ's mission and ministry. May our patron, St. Christopher, continue to intercede for us before God.

Gratefully,
Fr. Curran

RETREAT IS ALMOST HERE!

The Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford contacted me to convey a message to the men of our parish: DO NOT let the cost of the retreat offering keep you from attending! PLEASE go regardless of the amount you can pay. The important thing is that you attend...you need only pay what you can. The retreat will be January 9 - 11, 2009. Reservation forms can be found on the Church bulletin boards. If you have any questions about the retreat, please call Phil Gosselin at 568-5001.

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION

The infant Jesus adored at Christmas was, like each of us, an unborn child who began and grew in His mother's womb. God-made man accepted each and every phase of our humanity to demonstrate the sacredness of human life at all stages.

TEEN MASS - NEXT SATURDAY

The Youth Ministry will be sponsoring its second Teen Mass of the school year next Saturday, Jan. 10, 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 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

GOD'S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**BLOOD SUPPLIES
ARE
CRITICALLY LOW**



You can help by participating in the following upcoming blood drive:

*10th Annual Memorial Blood Drive in Honor of
Officer Brian A. Aselton*

Friday, January 9, 2009 ~ 1:15 – 6:30 p.m.
Joseph O. Goodwin Elementary School
In the Gym
1235 Forbes Street, East Hartford

Walk-ins are always welcome, but appointments are encouraged. Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

FOOD BANK

On Thursday, December 18, the food boxes for Christmas were packed with the help of the following people:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Melissa Bush | Corrine Freeman |
| Rose Chitwood | Phil Gravel |
| Dick & Eleanor Domler | Steve & Sue Kleva |
| Nancy Fox | Charlotte Turner |

On Sunday, December 21, with the help of the following people, we completed the boxes by adding the perishable items – bread, carrots, eggs, margarine, milk, onions, pears and turkeys.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Dick & Eleanor Domler | Mac McCarthy |
| Corrine Freeman | Velma Peila |
| Scott Gay | Denise Rioux |
| Mary Lawson | Howard Wilmes |
| Helen Little | |

With the help of the following people we delivered food boxes to 72 families comprised of 107 adults and 133 children. We supplied enough food for approximately 2,880 meals. The drivers for delivery were:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sam Boccaccio | Marge Leonard |
| Dick & Hazel Brimley | Lucien & Joan Lavertu |
| Corrine Freeman | Helen Little |
| Scott Gay | Harold Martin & Ken |
| Lee Griffen & Family | Mac McCarthy |
| Eddie Lackard | Barbara McNamara |
| Michelle Lawrence | Jill McNamara |
| John & Mary Lawson | The Pellett Family |
| Ray LeBrun | George Pinto |

Our thanks to all who helped by supplying food, monetary donations, and packing and/or delivering.

– God Bless You All!!!

THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star
Grow every year more bright
And send its glorious beams afar
To fill the world with light.

– William Cullen Bryant

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:

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

2nd 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:

Address:

Town:

State / Zip:

Phone Number:

Thank you for your support!

ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

◆◆◆ New Members are Encouraged to Join!! ◆◆◆

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.

Reminders:

- In an effort to ease the congestion in the parking lot at the time that school parents are picking up their children, Social Club members, who do not require use of the handicap spaces, are asked to park in the area at the back of the church. Thank you.
- Donations of non-perishable food items to benefit the town's Food Bank will be collected at this meeting.

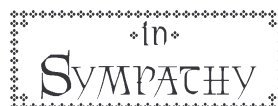
GREAT NEWS!

We have our leadership team in place for the HomeFront project that will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2009! Michael Bisson, Tony Sousa and Norm Cote have stepped forward to be our skilled leadership team. I am thrilled to have this critical piece of the HomeFront puzzle in place. Our leadership team will be attending a HomeFront meeting in February 2009 where we will receive our house assignment for a neighbor in need here in East Hartford. Once we know the scope of repairs that we will be taking on, I will be looking for parishioners to join our crew. Please keep a look out for future bulletin announcements. Thank you to Michael, Tony and Norm for helping St. Christopher's to produce this little miracle!

For more information or to volunteer, please call Volunteer Coordinator, Phil Gosselin at 568-5001.

2009 CALENDARS

We are grateful to the Callahan, Newkirk & Whitney Funeral Home for supplying us with calendars for the year 2009. They can be found on the tables at the entrances to the church.



Please pray for:

Ann Curran
Anthony Zizzamia

HEARTS AND HANDS

On Sunday, December 14, Cathy Aboumrad, Bev Connors, Ellie Domler, Mary Lawson, Debbie McNamara and Denise Rioux separated the gifts that were under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary of St. Christopher Church.

Catholic Worker House had already received their items. Sarah Poirier kindly helped separate them and delivered them on Tuesday, December 9.

Cathy Aboumrad delivered the items to the Barnard Group on Sunday, December 14.

On Monday, December 15, Mac McCarthy and I delivered the items to the Synergy High School moms and babies, and Karen and Kevin Long delivered the items to Birthright. Another delivery was made to Synergy on December 22.

We thank all of you who took a heart or hand from our tree and purchased the requested gift. Your caring and help are much appreciated by the recipients. Thank you also to those who helped separate and deliver the gifts. God Bless You All!!

– Kay McNamara

THANK YOU FROM FR. CURRAN

Many thanks for all who brought holiday cheer to the rectory during this Christmas season. A special thanks for all the cards, gifts, Masses and baked goods given on my behalf. I am truly touched and grateful for your goodness.

– Fr. Curran

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Christopher Council Forming

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus support the spiritual welfare of armed services personnel and their families around the globe through a \$900,000 fund for the Archdiocese for Military Services? You can be a part of this important support. Membership requires as little as 24 hours a year to participate. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining this month. For more information, call Bob Falkevitz, DD at 568-5452.