



*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

## **ROSARY and MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

Wednesday: 7:00 PM - Chapel

## **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

## **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) 761-7456

[www.vocationshartford.org](http://www.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

[barbbern@earthlink.net](mailto:barbbern@earthlink.net)

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

Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388  
[brcr2@hotmail.com](mailto:brcr2@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

## **COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE**

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Third Sunday  
in  
Ordinary Time  
January 25, 2009**

“The kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

– Mark 1:15

*Mass*  *for the  
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, January 24 – 4:30 p.m.

**Paul & Theresa Boulay**  
(Lucien & Joan Lavertu)

Sunday, January 25 – 8:00 a.m.

**Helena Clarke**  
(Rich & Cathy Reynolds)

Sunday, January 25 – 10:30 a.m.

**Joseph Wolk - 30th Anniversary**  
(Wife & Children)

Monday, January 26 – 7:30 a.m.

**Laurentine Turgeon**  
(Jean-Luc & Laurette Belanger)

Tuesday, January 27 – 7:30 a.m.

**Jack Lynam**  
(Dave & Chickie Amberg)

Wednesday, January 28 – 7:30 a.m.

**Paul E. Franklin**  
(Wife Claire)

Thursday, January 29 – 7:30 a.m.

**Steven Tyberski**  
(St. Christopher's Prayer Shawl Ministry)

Saturday, January 31 – 4:30 p.m.

**William Wade** (Wife Bonnie)

Sunday, February 1 – 8:00 a.m.

**Durward Willis - 4th Anniversary** (Wife)

Sunday, February 1 – 10:30 a.m.

**Harriet Reynolds**  
(Barb & Howard Wilmes)

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (January 18): \$ 6,474

Same Sunday in 2008: \$ 6,774

Many thanks for all you do to support our parish and its many ministries!

with Gratitude,

Fr. Curran

**SNOWSTORM STEWARDSHIP**

We are thankful for all who have continued to support our parish through our recent inclement weather. Your mail-in and catch-up gifts have been helpful. I have been told spring is on the way!

– Fr. Curran

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

*"From now on... those who weep should live as though they were not weeping, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing; buyers should conduct themselves as though they owned nothing, and those who make use of the world as though they were not using it." (I Corinthians 7:29-31)*

We are called to possess lightly - to manage our affairs prudently without forgetting that we own nothing. It all belongs to God.

**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  
Nellie Fallon**

**In Remembrance of Her Birthday**  
(Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**In Memory of  
Mr. Ronald Rivas**

(Staff & Students of St. Christopher School)



**St. Christopher School  
Open House  
Tuesday, January 27**

(Snow Date: Wed. January 28)

St. Christopher School invites you to attend our Open House for prospective families of Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Eight students on Tuesday, January 27. There will be two sessions:

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. (while school is in session)

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (includes tour)

You can attend one or both sessions. Come and learn about our program of excellence and meet some of the staff, students, and parents. St. Christopher School provides a value-oriented education in a safe and comfortable environment. Learn more about our:

- Religious Education Program
- Full-day Kindergarten
- Strong Academic Program
- Caring faculty & staff
- Foreign Language & Algebra
- Instruction in Art & Music
- State of the Art Computer Classes for all grades
- Physical education & sports program
- Extra curricular activities
- After-School Program

Our graduates leave St. Christopher's prepared to excel in higher education. St. Christopher School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Applications are now available for enrollment for Fall 2009. We hope to see you there.

If you have any additional questions or are unable to attend this Open House but would like more information, please call the school office at 568-4100 or visit [www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org)

**GIFT CARD PROGRAM**

This is a reminder that volunteers from our parish school are available in our church hall every weekend, after every Mass for those who wish to purchase gift cards. To learn more about how you can help support our parish school, please visit our school's volunteers.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHER FAIR**

*Thursday ~ January 29*

*4:00 - 7:00 p.m.*

*Northwest Catholic High School  
29 Wampanoag Drive ~ West Hartford*

The Office of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Hartford is sponsoring a Teacher Career Fair for qualified candidates to teach in the Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools in Hartford, Litchfield and New Haven counties. Interested applicants should access application information online at [www.catholicsschoolshartford.org](http://www.catholicsschoolshartford.org). For more information, call Larry Duffany at 242-4362. (Snow date: Thursday, February 5, 4-7 p.m.)

**CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS WEEK**

Catholic Schools Week is celebrated nationally the last week in January, this year Jan. 25-31. The logo for the observance shows the words "Celebrate Service" and hands reaching out and surrounding a globe. The "t" in the word celebrate is formed as a cross.



As students begin the new semester in Catholic schools around the country, they are being invited to "Celebrate Service" by volunteering in the community or parish. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2009 is "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service." Millions of students are expected to participate in observance of this annual event, begun in 1974.

St. Christopher School, along with other Catholic schools across the country, will observe the week by organizing a variety of special programs and service projects for students, teachers and parents. Many schools, including St. Christopher's, will hold open houses so that community members can learn more about the value of Catholic education. We invite you to attend our parish school's open house to learn more about the Catholic school education that's available right here in our parish community.

**SPECIAL NOTICE...**

**to anyone who bought  
Peanut Butter Cookie Dough from the  
St. Chris Pie Fundraiser in November!!**

We are sure you are aware of the recent nationwide recall of food products containing peanut butter. Out of an abundance of caution, Country Maid Inc., makers of Classic Breaks Cookie Dough, is voluntarily recalling its 2 pound packages of Classic Breaks Peanut Butter Cookie Dough because the peanut butter used to make the cookie dough was supplied by Peanut Corporation of America and may be contaminated with Salmonella.

The product comes in a 2 pound rectangular-shaped package with a white wrapper. Classic Breaks Peanut Butter Cookie Dough products with the following lot numbers marked on the side are included in the recall:

- 26208
- 26308
- 29808
- 33808
- 36508

**No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with the cookie dough. No other Classic Breaks flavors are included in the recall.**

Consumers who have purchased the recalled products should either destroy the product or contact Country Maid for a refund at 1-888-460-6904. Details can also be found at [www.classic-breaks.com](http://www.classic-breaks.com).

We apologize for any inconvenience.  
MCM Fundraising Company

**CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES EVENT**

*Evening of Prayer*

*Tuesday ~ January 27 ~ 7:00 p.m.*

Credo Catholic Singles continues their monthly gathering of prayer in the Community Room at our Parish Center. 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.

**10th ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC AWARENESS DAY**

*Monday ~ February 9, 2009*

*9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

*State Capitol ~ Hartford*

This is the day to learn and understand the Catholic viewpoint on important issues facing our State, learn about the legislative process and plan to meet with your State legislators. Attend one or more of the following workshops:

- Immigration
- Life Issues
- Health Care Reform
- Parochial School Challenges

Want to meet your legislator? Plan ahead and make an appointment!

- Senate Democrats: 1-800-842-1420
- Senate Republicans: 1-800-842-1421
- House Democrats: 1-800-842-1902
- House Republicans: 1-800-842-1423

For more information, contact the Connecticut Catholic Conference at 860-524-7882 or visit their website at: [www.ctcatholic.org](http://www.ctcatholic.org).

**CATHOLIC BOOK STORE**

The Catholic Book Store will be visiting our parish the weekend of February 21 and 22 with their large inventory of products. This is a great opportunity to purchase books or others items for Lent and Easter. New this year...the Catholic Book Store is offering a 20% off coupon. Watch for it to be published in future bulletins. Please plan to stop by our church hall before or after all Masses that weekend.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH  
BULLETINS ARE ON THE WEB!!**

This is just a reminder that our weekly bulletins can be viewed on our website. In the event the weekend takes you out of town or a snow storm keeps you in, you can still be informed of what's happening in the St. Christopher Parish and School Community. Please visit us at:

[www.stchris-eh.org](http://www.stchris-eh.org)



Please pray for:

**Joao "John" Braga**  
(Uncle of Tony Sousa)

**Rev. Kenneth J. Frisbie**

**Ronald Rivas**

### THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Christmas is less than a month behind us, but today we are encountering readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus calls out "Repent!" before he calls his new followers. Even though it is easy to misunderstand these Sundays called "Ordinary Time" as being commonplace, they are anything but that. "Come after me," Jesus says, but if we truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we will first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully in order to live out whatever vocation Christ has called us to. Today's Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested and imprisoned. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

### 2009 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS *are still available!!!*

Our Youth Ministry office has several Entertainment Books still available. Most offers in these books are good through the end of October, so there is still plenty of time to save at many area restaurants and retailers! In the present economy, who couldn't use an extra coupon to save a dollar or even twenty?! All profits benefit our Youth Ministry program. Purchase one today - for yourself or as a gift. Please come to the Parish Office during normal business hours or call the office at 568-5240.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

We congratulate 37 children who celebrated their First Reconciliation on Saturday, January 24, here at St. Christopher's. We also thank their parents and families for their dedication in raising their children in the practice of the faith. Special thanks as well go to Maria Sousa, Coordinator of Religious Education, Kathleen Madej, Principal of our Parish School, and Catechists Lori Brunette and Diane Johnston.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Patty Wright, a parishioner and a senior at Mercy High School, who was inducted into Mercy's McAuley Chapter of the National Honor Society on December 15, 2008. Way to go, Patty!

### WHAT IS FOCA?

FOCA is the "Freedom of Choice Act." FOCA would eliminate regulations that protect women from unsafe clinics and unscrupulous abortionists; force American taxpayers to fund abortions; force every state to allow partial-birth abortions; run roughshod over the conscience rights of physicians, nurses and hospitals that oppose abortion on religious, moral or ethical grounds; and strip parents of their right and responsibility to be involved in their minor daughter's abortion decision.

Simply put, if FOCA becomes law, it will put at risk all the widely-supported laws that for 35 years have promoted women's health, ensured informed consent, protected minors, ensured parental involvement, safe-guarded rights of conscience, and respected the desire of most citizens not to support abortion with their tax dollars.

Within the next few weeks, we will be conducting an anti-FOCA Post Card Campaign. Please continue to pray for an end to abortion and please participate in this campaign by simply signing one of these Post Cards. All the signed Post Cards will be shipped to our U.S. Representative and our two Senators.

Thank you.

Phil Gosselin  
Parish Pro-Life Representative