



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

OFFICE MANAGER

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

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 Messier-Cooke – 202-3692

SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

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

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

COORDINATOR OF PRAYER TREE and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY

Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388

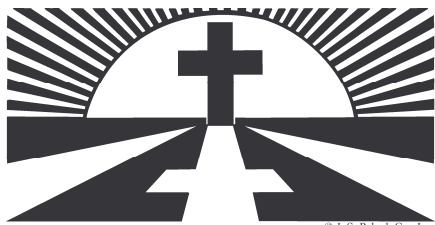
bcrc3@hotmail.com

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



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Third Sunday
of
Lent
March 15, 2009

“I, the LORD, am your God . . .
You shall not have other gods besides me.”
– Exodus 20:2a, 3

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week

Saturday, March 14 – 4:30 p.m.
My Deceased Brothers & Sisters
(Angelo Barros)

Sunday, March 15 – 8:00 a.m.
Delphis Belanger
(Jean-Luc & Laurette Belanger)

Sunday, March 15 – 10:30 a.m.
Mark Tardiff (Family)

Monday, March 16 – 7:30 a.m.
Ann Sheldon - In Memory of Her Birthday
(Jeanne Sciarra)

Tuesday, March 17 – 7:30 a.m.
Rev. Joseph P. Donahue

Wednesday, March 18 – 7:30 a.m.
Paul E. Franklin
(Wife Claire)

Thursday, March 19 – 7:30 a.m.
Rev. Raymond F. Paul

Saturday, March 21 – 4:30 p.m.
Dinis Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, March 22 – 8:00 a.m.
Gerry Martin - 7th Anniversary
(Wife Jan & Family)

Sunday, March 22 – 10:30 a.m.
Helen Mintel
(Sally & Al Labieniec)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (March 8): \$ 7,163
Same Sunday in 2008: \$ 5,633

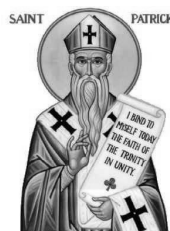
My personal thanks for your generous support which is so essential for our parish!

with Gratitude,
Fr. Curran

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"He told those who were selling doves: 'Get them out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!" (John 2:16)

Do my expenditures of time, talent, and treasure reflect **my** true priorities? Do I have a marketplace mentality – centered on me? Or do I have a stewardship mentality – centered on others?



"If I have any worth, it is to live my life for God so as to teach these peoples; even though some of them still look down on me." – St. Patrick

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
Ann Sheldon**
(Small Christian Community)

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

Our Lectors

For information on scheduling a weekly dedication, please call the Parish Office at 568-5240.

PIN NEWS

Thank you for your contributions and commitments towards the Bennett family and towards our general PIN fund. Since the time we began, we have provided assistance to Margaret and her family and have also directed Cesar, a non-parishioner, with local and state resources to assist him and his family. We are aware of other parishioners in need and will be providing some details on ways we can help.

Remember, even a little can go a long way.....even a few can accomplish much. Jesus had only 12 apostles to continue his work.....we can see by the contributions made by our parishioners, how that small number has grown! Thank you all and please continue to support PIN. Watch for parishioner notices in the coming weeks.

– The PIN Committee

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

This weekend marks the start of the 2009 Archbishop's Annual Appeal in our parish. You will receive a letter from Archbishop Mansell seeking your support. Together we can impact the lives of thousands. Our work as a Church in social services, healthcare and pastoral services is exciting, challenging and fulfilling. It is work we must do together as *People of Hope Giving in Faith*, out of love for one another and for God. Each gift makes a difference, and we hope you will support the Archbishop's Annual Appeal as generously as you can. Thank you and may Our Lord bless you always.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

Listen to Jesus in today's gospel: "Stop making my Father's house a market place." Has your home been reduced to an extension of the shopping mall, a chaotic feeding station or Laundromat?? If you are not busy and productive do you feel you are wasting time? This week, waste time just being together.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Christopher Council #4

Council #4 was originally created in 1884 by Father Patrick McGivney and the brother of venerable Father Michael J. McGivney,. It went dormant in 1919. Congratulations to the 34 St. Christopher Charter Members who have re-instituted the council.

If you are not currently a member, please consider joining. For more information, call Bob Falkevitz, Temporary Grand Knight at 568-5452.

HOMEFRONT - HELPING AN EAST HARTFORD NEIGHBOR IN NEED!

↪ Plea for Specific Skills ↩

Our House Captain and Assistant House Captain have asked me to send out a **plea for a mason and a professional painter**. They would like to speak with you for your expertise on some of our project tasks, and if possible, to help perform these project tasks. Thank You!

HomeFront is a one day project of neighbor helping neighbor that links St. Christopher Church with AmeriCares to create a little miracle for an East Hartford neighbor in need. It will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

We have assessed the scope of work that we hope to achieve in this one day repair blitz; we hope to repair and paint the exterior of her home, repair her front and back cement steps and extend the hand railings for safety, replace her bathroom sink and toilet, replace a number of light fixtures, replace her kitchen faucet and perform some outdoor cleanup, such as raking, pruning trees and maybe plant some flowers if we can get some donated.

For more information or to volunteer, please call me at 568-5001.



– Phil Gosselin
HomeFront
Volunteer Coordinator



EASTER FOOD BASKETS

With daily requests and the upcoming delivery of Easter food baskets, our food bank is in need of many items. We are in need of:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Cereal | Canned Vegetables |
| Soups | Gravy |
| Tuna Fish | Canned Fruit |
| Spaghetti Sauce | Instant Potatoes |
| Frosting | HAMS |
| TURKEYS | |

Donations of non-perishable foods may be left in the area of our church below our statue of Mary. To donate a ham or turkey, please call Dick and Eleanor Domler at 569-7396 for pick up. The Easter food baskets will be delivered on Thursday, April 9.

LIVING STATIONS

Our Living Stations will be presented on Good Friday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. We have been blessed with some wonderful people who have helped make this an inspirational event in the past. We're inviting you to become a part of the Living Stations of the Cross. What a great way to share your time and talents this Lent. If you would like to participate in this spirit-filled dramatization, please contact either Phil Gosselin at 568-5001 or Sandy Bonfiglio at 659-3099.



Let us use this Lenten season as an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with God through our prayers, to simplify our lives through our fasting, to learn more about what we have in common

with our brothers and sisters who live far away, and to give what we can to assist those in need.

The Season of Lent

“Soup and Stations”...a sharing of simple soup and bread (with conversation and sharing with fellow parishioners) at 5:30 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:30 p.m.. This will take place on the following Wednesday evenings during the season: March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1. Children from our parish school and religious education program will lead us once again in the Stations.



So...dig out your favorite soup recipes and mark your calendars to keep Wednesday evenings free. "Be church" with us and get to know the people in your church family. **Volunteers will be needed to prepare soup and/or bread for each Wednesday.** If you are interested in helping out, please call the parish office at 568-5240 and indicate on which date you are willing to help and whether you will be providing soup or bread. Soup and bread are all we will need. No desserts please.

Way of the Cross booklets will be available at the church entrances during the Lenten season for our parishioners who wish to reflect on the Stations of the Cross in our church at a time more convenient to them. We do ask that these booklets remain in the church. Thank you.

Penance Service...Monday, March 30 at 7:00p.m. This is a great opportunity for you and your family to prepare for Easter by receiving Christ's healing power in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Daily Mass...will be celebrated Monday through Friday at 7:30 a.m. This is a great way to draw closer to our Eucharistic Lord. Come, join us!

Living Stations...will be presented on Good Friday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. (Please see the article to the left to find out how you can be involved in this year's Living Stations.)

ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday ~ April 5 ~ 11:30 a.m.

St. Christopher School invites you to attend our Open House for prospective families of Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Eight students on Sunday, April 5. It is a special session taking place after our 10:30 a.m. Mass. There will be donuts, coffee and juice for everyone.

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
- World 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

On average, St. Chris students test more than one year above grade level on the IOWA standardized test. Graduates leave 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 Fall Enrollment. We hope to see you there!

If you have any additional questions, please call us at 568-4100. If you are unable to attend, feel free to call us for an appointment to come and visit the school. You can also visit our website at www.saintchristopherschool.org.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM

The support of this program by our parishioners has been wonderful, and we are most grateful to you!! Gift cards are available for purchase every weekend after every Mass. Cards are available for your use for hundreds of major retailers and restaurants, and they make perfect gifts. Please see our school volunteers after Mass for more information or call Tracy at 568-0464. Thank you!!

CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE

A Can and Bottle Drive to support our parish school will be held this Sat., March 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please bring your pre-rinsed cans and bottles to the front of our school. Thank you for your support!



ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL PRESENTS...

At The Hop!!

10th Annual Auction Fundraiser

Featuring WTIC's Ray Dunaway as Guest Auctioneer

Saturday ~ March 28 ~ 5:30 p.m.

St. Christopher School Gym

\$25 per person or \$45 per couple
(must be 21 and older)

Admission includes delicious food, an open bar and a guaranteed good time!! To make your reservation, please call Bridget Cooke at 202-3692.



Joey & Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Saturday ~ May 9 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Marco Polo Restaurant - East Hartford

\$50 per person

Includes full dinner and the hilarious show!

To make reservations or to get more information, please contact Cynnamon Hebert at 568-7501.

DISCOVER MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

Girls in the 6th and 7th grades and their parents are invited to *Discover Mercy*: an opportunity to explore the Mercy experience. The event will take place on Sat., April 4, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. at Mercy High School, 1740 Randolph Road in Middletown. Activities, Food and Fun for the girls!! Separate activities for parents will also be available. **Girls must register for this event by March 20.** For more information or to register your child, please call the Mercy High office at (860) 346-6659 or visit www.mercyhigh.com.