



*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

## **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](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 Messier-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.w/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

Jean Nowik – 568-8873

## **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

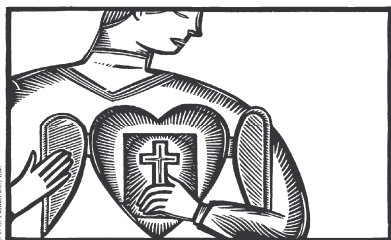
[bcrc3@hotmail.com](mailto:bcrc3@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

## **COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE**

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



**Fifth Sunday  
of  
Lent  
March 29, 2009**

“I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jeremiah 31:33)

*Mass for the  
Intentions for the  
Week*

Saturday, March 28 – 4:30 p.m.

**Ann Curran**

*(Her Friends in the Front Row)*

Sunday, March 29 – 8:00 a.m.

**Helen O. Cadorette**

*(Pamela Hatem)*

Sunday, March 29 – 10:30 a.m.

**Harriet Reynolds**

*(Sally & Al Labieniec)*

Monday, March 30 – 7:30 a.m.

**Rev. William J. Hilliard**

Tuesday, March 31 – 7:30 a.m.

**Patrick Foley**

*(Ann Traynor)*

Wednesday, April 1 – 7:30 a.m.

**Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Bergin**

*(Family)*

Thursday, April 2 – 7:30 a.m.

**Jean Mercier**

*(Sonia Ginther)*

Saturday, April 4 – 4:30 p.m.

**Phoebe Morreau** *(Family)*

Sunday, April 5 – 8:00 a.m.

**Mr. & Mrs. Delphis Belanger**

*(Jean-Luc & Laurette Belanger)*

Sunday, April 5 – 10:30 a.m.

**Ann & Donald Sheldon** *(Family)*

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (March 22): \$ 6,667  
Same Sunday in 2008: \$ 10,414\*

\* Easter Sunday 2008

Many thanks for your generous support of our parish! Together, we make St. Christopher's the vibrant and welcoming faith community Christ calls us to be.

With gratitude,

Fr. Curran



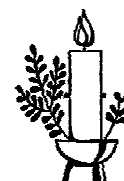
**SOUP AND STATIONS**

**Last Chance!!!**

Our last Soup and Stations for this Lenten season will be held this Wednesday, April 1. If you have not attended one of these evenings, we strongly encourage you to attend this last one. It is a sharing of simple soup and bread (with conversation and sharing with fellow parishioners) beginning at 5:30 p.m. in our church hall followed by Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the church. This Lenten event has again been proven to be most successful, and we hope you will be able to experience it. **Offerings of soup and bread would be most welcome.** No desserts please.

**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 for

**God's Healing Presence and Comfort  
for Those Who are Suffering**

*(Eugenia Nowik)*

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**Members of Our Parish Council**

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

### A QUIET PRAYER TIME FOR HOLY WEEK

Our Youth Ministry is building and sponsoring a Labyrinth in the church hall for Holy Week. A labyrinth is a "prayer maze" that has a long and ancient tradition. Walking the labyrinth allows us time to put aside the distractions and stresses of every day life and to spend some quiet time with God. Once again, another Lent has flown by, and despite our best intentions, I'm sure many of us (myself at the head of the line!!), have not taken the time we intended to focus on what Lent and the sacrifice that Jesus made really means. Hopefully our labyrinth will allow you an opportunity to "tune in" to the events of Holy Week and better prepare for the joy of Easter.

Our labyrinth will be available for use in the church hall beginning Saturday, April 4, following the Palm Sunday Vigil Mass, until the morning of Holy Saturday, April 11. You may use the labyrinth at anytime during that time while the church is open (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. most days).

We hope that you can find 20-30 minutes to spend some quiet time with God as you walk the labyrinth just as Jesus walked the streets of Jerusalem on his journey to Calvary.

~ Youth Ministry Team

(Sarah Poirier, Martha Gaudreau and Kevin Hadyka)

© J.S. Palach Co., Inc.



Some spring cleaning is underway here at St. Christopher's! We wish to thank Jeanne Sciarra and Anne Sullivan for their willingness to take care of the cleaning needs of our parish Chapel. We also

thank Barb Wilmes, Bev Connors, Sally Labieniec, Helen Little and Rita Schaefer who, in addition to caring for the weekly needs of our church, will be doing some spring cleaning in our sacristy. We are most grateful for these women who are fine examples of true stewards!

### SUFFERING

*"Jesus did not come to do away with suffering or remove it. He came to fill it with his presence."*

– Paul Claudel

### ATTENTION....

#### PAINTERS, MASONS, ELECTRICIANS

If you are a mason, a professional painter, or an electrician (or you know someone who is), please give me a call at 568-5001. Our HomeFront House Captain and Assistant House Captain would like to speak with you for your expertise on some of the project tasks we will be undertaking when we help an East Hartford neighbor in need on Saturday, May 2, 2009. I look forward to speaking with you!

– Phil Gosselin

HomeFront Volunteer Coordinator

### EVENING OF PRAYER

*Tuesday ~ March 31 ~ 7:00 p.m.*

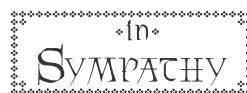
Credo Catholic Singles continues their monthly gathering of prayer in the Community Room at our Parish Center. This is an evening of prayer, reflection and conversation led by Credo member Andrea M. who has an MA in Spirituality and is a Spiritual Director trained through the Mercy Center. All are welcome. No RSVP necessary. Come and deepen your faith and experience of God in a safe, supporting group.

Please pray for:

**Vincent Baltas**

**Santo Boccaccio**

(brother of Fran Tebecio)



### ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal provides help to those in need! This year's Appeal goal is a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer each and every day of their lives. Please consider supporting this important effort. Every gift makes a difference.

If you did not receive the 2009 Archbishop's Annual Appeal mailing or have misplaced the pledge card that was mailed to you at home, please feel free to pick up one of the extra pledge cards and envelopes located on the tables at the main entrance to the church. Thank you!



### EASTER FLOWERS

Donations for Easter flowers made in memory of loved ones to decorate our altar and church in this beautiful season are now being accepted. For your convenience, a donation envelope has been included with your weekly envelopes for March. Please **print** the name(s) on your envelope and place it in the collection basket or have it to the rectory by **April 7**. You may also print the name(s) on a piece of paper and put it in an envelope marked "Flower Fund."

### 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. **Rehearsals are scheduled for Monday, April 6 and Wednesday, April 8 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. each evening.**



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.

### PLEASE JOIN US!

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.

On this day we hope to repair and paint the exterior of the home, repair the front and back cement steps and extend the hand railings for safety, replace the bathroom sink and toilet, replace a number of light fixtures and GFI's, replace the kitchen faucet and perform some outdoor cleanup, such as raking, pruning trees, etc.

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              |
| <b>TURKEYS</b>  |                   |

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.

### OPERATION RICE BOWL

We thank all those who have been participating in the Rice Bowl program during Lent. You may bring your Rice Bowls to church next weekend and put them in the special collection container that will be placed at the front of the church. Thank you!

### CANDY AND COFFEE SALE

**Next Weekend - April 4 & 5**

Our parish school will be selling Munson UCONN Candy Bars for \$2.00 and Dunkin Donuts ground coffee for \$8.00/lb. after all Masses next weekend, April 4 and 5. Please look for school volunteers in front of the church and in the church wing. Thank you for supporting our school!!

### ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club will be meeting on Monday, April 6, at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Our special guest will be Phil Gosselin. Corned Beef sandwiches and other refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call Helen Little at 568-3080.

**Reminder:** Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted for the town's Food Bank.

**HOLY WEEK**



***Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion ~ April 5***

Saturday Vigil Mass (April 4): 4:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Masses (April 5): 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

***Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday ~ April 6, 7 & 8***

Daily Mass – 7:30 a.m.  
 Confessions after morning Mass

***Holy Thursday Evening ~ April 9***

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00 p.m.  
 (Please note: according to ancient tradition,  
 there is no morning Mass Thursday or Friday.)

***Good Friday of the Lord's Passion ~ April 10***

Morning Prayer – 9:00 a.m.  
 Confessions – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – 3:00 p.m.  
 Living Stations of the Cross – 7:30 p.m.

***Holy Saturday Night: The Easter Vigil ~ April 11***

Confessions – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
 (No afternoon Confessions)

The Great Easter Vigil – 8:00 p.m.

(Please note: that in keeping with the  
 solemnity, this is an extended Vigil)  
 (No 4:30 p.m. Mass)

(Participation at the Mass of the Easter Vigil  
 fulfills the obligation for Mass on Easter.)

***Easter Sunday:  
 The Resurrection of the Lord ~ April 12***

Masses at  
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**LOVE AND DEATH**

Unhappy is death  
 without the love of the Savior;  
 Unhappy is love  
 without the death of the Savior.  
 —St. Francis de Sales

**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](http://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!!