



*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

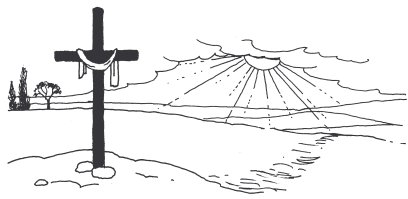
[bcrc3@hotmail.com](mailto:bcrc3@hotmail.com)

## **COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK**

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396

## **COORDINATOR OF PRO-LIFE**

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001



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**Palm Sunday  
of the  
Lord's Passion  
April 5, 2009**

"[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Philippians 2:8)

*Mass for the  
Intentions*  *for the  
Week*

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)

Monday, April 6 – 7:30 a.m.

**Rev. William J. Hilliard**

Tuesday, April 7 – 7:30 a.m.

**Manuel DeSousa Barros**  
(Angelo Barros)

Wednesday, April 8 – 7:30 a.m.

**Manuel Machado**  
(Wife & Daughter)

Sunday, April 12 – 8:00 a.m.

**Marilyn Egazarian**  
(Henry & Jean Nadeau)

Sunday, April 12 – 10:30 a.m.

**Laurentine Turgeon**  
(Paul & Anne Belanger and Family)



Please pray for:  
**Mildred Stanizzi**  
(mother of Sandy Pezzente)

**OUR TITHING PARISH**

Weekly Collection (March 29): \$ 6,804  
Same Sunday in 2008: \$ 7,215

My sincere thanks for all you do to make our parish a place where Christ is encountered and where His joy and life are shared with and for others!

With gratitude,  
Fr. Curran

**WELCOME, ALEXANDER!**

Archbishop Mansell has assigned seminarian Alexander Avendano to St. Christopher's for holy week. Please welcome Alexander to our parish family.

– Fr. Curran

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

*"Your attitude must be Christ's: though he was in the form of God he did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at." (1Philippians 2:5-6)*

The attitude of Adam was envy – wanting to be "like God." The attitude of Christ is humility – wanting to be of service to others. Service to others is the way of the steward.

**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

**Special Intention**  
(Lucien & Joan Lavertu)

The candle in the chapel burns this week for

**Members of St. Christopher's School Board**

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

## 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.

If you are unable to attend this Open House, feel free to call us at 568-4100 for an appointment to come and visit the school. You can also visit our website at [www.saintchristopherschool.org](http://www.saintchristopherschool.org).

## CANDY AND COFFEE SALE

This 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 this 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!!

## GIFT CARD PROGRAM

The support of this program by our parishioners has been wonderful, and we are most grateful to you!! **Please note: Gifts cards will not be available after any Mass next weekend due to the Easter holiday.** Gift cards will again be available for purchase every weekend after every Mass beginning April 18 and 19. 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!!

## ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club will be meeting this 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.

## 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). **Please note: Due to the monthly Adult Social Club meeting, the labyrinth will be unavailable for use on Monday, April 6 from 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)**

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)

## ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to the 107 parish families who have already pledged \$12,710 to the 2009 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. This is an opportunity for us to help the many charitable programs administered in the community that no single parish can operate on its own. If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. Every gift makes a difference. Appeal packets can be found on the long tables at the church's main entrance.

Pray for the Appeal's success and let us remember God's love for us and the grace of sharing that which we have with others. Thank you.

**THE  
PRESENTATION  
OF  
THE LORD'S PRAYER**



In the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer, the Church demonstrates to our Elect, Donna Chavez, how our Lord has taught his followers to pray. Please continue to pray for Donna and for our Candidates, Rebecca Cook, Fernanda Fernandez and Deb Hampton, as we look forward with them to their full initiation into the Catholic Church next weekend.

**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!

**PASSION**

The contrast between the processional reading in today's liturgy and the proclamation of the Passion is striking. We are given a glimpse of how profoundly the word of God is fulfilled in Jesus.

First he must be hailed as the Messiah, the One Who Is to Come. He must be acknowledged by all, though they do not know what they are saying. They think he is the promised king, a worldly king of the Jews who will free them from the Roman occupation. They do not yet understand, even the disciples, exactly where this triumphal procession is leading. In our lives, we too do not know where we are going. It is in faith that we can follow Christ wherever he may lead us, trusting that death is not the end, nor evil the victor. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**LEGACY**

Every character has an inward spring;  
let Christ be that spring.  
Every action has a keynote;  
let Christ be that note.  
(Henry Drummond)

**HOMEFRONT UPDATE!**

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.

**Plea for specific skills:** We are asking any parishioner that is a mason, a professional painter, or an electrician to please give me a call. Thank you!

**Good News!** A generous parish family that wishes to be anonymous has donated a new electric stove to our HomeFront recipient. We are going to surprise the homeowner with this great news on HomeFront Day; I'm sure she will be thrilled! God bless for your thoughtfulness.

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

– Phil Gosselin  
HomeFront Volunteer Coordinator

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect and encourage individuals and communities to support children and families. A hallmark of the Catholic Church is the protection of life and the dignity of the human person. Through scripture and Catholic teachings we are called to protect the life and dignity of all human persons no matter how young or old. Working to prevent child abuse is an important response of what we are called to do as a Church.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL  
PRESENTS...**

**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.

**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.

**LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

*God loves us so much  
that he sent his only  
Son to become one of us  
and to die for us  
so we could have eternal life.*



Come and experience how much God loves you on the evening of Good Friday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Christopher Church.

**ATTENTION: LIVING STATIONS VOLUNTEERS**

The rehearsal dates for Living Stations of the Cross will be Monday, Apr. 6, and Wednesday, Apr. 8, from 6:30–8:00 pm each evening. Please meet in the church. Thank you in advance to all those who have volunteered to participate in this faith-filled event. Please contact Phil Gosselin at 568-5001 or Sandy Bonfiglio at 659-3099 with any questions.

**THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL**

We would like to encourage those who have never experienced the Great Easter Vigil to come this Saturday, April 11 at 8:00 p.m. The lighting of the Easter fire, the singing of the exultant and the diverse and rich readings from the Sacred Scriptures are just a few of the highlights.

– Fr. Curran

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S  
2nd ANNUAL EASTER HUNT**

We will hold our 2nd Annual Easter Hunt following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday, April 12. We invite all our families to celebrate with us the Lord's Resurrection on Easter morning, and we invite all the children to participate in the Easter Hunt.

**DID YOU RECEIVE OUR MAILING?**



A parish mailing with information about our Holy Week Masses and services was sent out a couple of week's ago to all parish families on record. If you did not receive this mailing and believe you should have, or if any address information was incorrect, please call Bonnie at the parish office at 568-5240. We'd like our records to be as accurate and complete as possible.

We'd like to express our appreciation to Alma Dulude, Jeanne Sciarra, Vivian Tardiff and Fran Tebecio for their help in preparing this mailing.