



*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



**Third Sunday  
of  
Easter  
April 26, 2009**

“You alone, O LORD,  
bring security to my dwelling.”

(Psalm 4:9)

*Mass Intentions*  *for the Week*

Saturday, April 25 – 4:30 p.m.

**Dale Corbin** (*Family*)

Sunday, April 26 – 8:00 a.m.

**Ronald Bollacker**

(*Ed, Bev, Eric and Nicole Miller*)

Sunday, April 26 – 10:30 a.m.

**Réal Grenier - 6th Anniversary**

(*Family*)

Monday, April 27 – 7:30 a.m.

**Marshal P. Souza**

(*Aunt Betsy*)

Tuesday, April 28 – 7:30 a.m.

**Patrick Foley**

(*Moira & John Traynor*)

Wednesday, April 29 – 7:30 a.m.

**Paul E. Franklin**

(*Wife Claire*)

Thursday, April 30 – 7:30 a.m.

**Margaret Boisvert**

(*Robert Boisvert, Jr.*)

Saturday, May 2 – 4:30 p.m.

**Henry Therrien** (*Family*)

Sunday, May 3 – 8:00 a.m.

**Vincent Baltas**

(*Lucien & Joan Lavertu*)

Sunday, May 3 – 10:30 a.m.

**Special Intention for the Children  
of Our First Communion Class**

## OUR TITHING PARISH

Our office manager was enjoying a much deserved vacation this past week, so a recap of the offerings from last weekend's Masses will be published in next weekend's bulletin.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

Fr. Curran

## Thank You

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Many thanks to our “Snowbirds” who have continued to support St. Christopher's throughout the winter months. Your continued support which is so essential to the ongoing needs of our parish is very much appreciated!

with Gratitude, Fr. Curran

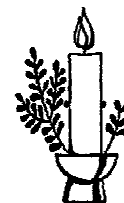
## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*"Look at my hands and feet; it is really I. Touch me, and see that a ghost does not have flesh and bones as I do."* (Luke 24:39)

Christ loved us in the flesh. Similarly our love for each other should **be** in the flesh. Our good intentions need to be translated into concrete actions.

## 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

**In Loving Memory of**

**Bob Connors**

**In Remembrance of His Birthday**

(*Wife Bev*)

The candle in the chapel burns this week for the

**Members of our Finance Council**

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



### FIRST COMMUNION

Children from St. Christopher's Religious Education program and St. Christopher School will receive First Holy Communion at the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy next Sunday, May 3 and at the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, May 17. Please keep these children and their parents and family members in your prayers.

### FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL

There is a First Communion rehearsal scheduled for this Wednesday, April 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church. This rehearsal is for the parents and children who will receive First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3.

### WE'RE IN THE HomeStretch for HomeFront!

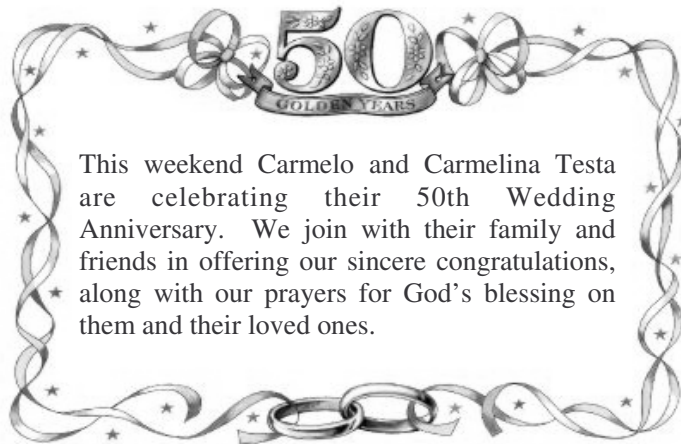
HomeFront is a one day project of neighbor helping neighbor that links St. Christopher Church with AmeriCares to create a little miracle for an East Hartford neighbor in need. It will take place next Saturday, May 2, 2009.

Prayer is an important part of the life of HomeFront, and we ask you to pray for our work and for the volunteers and homeowners whose lives are transformed.

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

### NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Our parish is actively seeking students in Grades 5 and above who are interested in becoming an Altar Server. If you would like to learn more about the Altar Server ministry, please contact Deacon Bill Gilles at 633-8997. A training session will be held in the near future. Please note: Even if you have already expressed an interest in becoming an Altar Server, please contact Deacon Bill so he's sure to have you on his list.



This weekend Carmelo and Carmelina Testa are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. We join with their family and friends in offering our sincere congratulations, along with our prayers for God's blessing on them and their loved ones.

### EVENING OF PRAYER

Tuesday ~ April 28 ~ 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.



Our Parish is growing! We welcome into our Christian community through the holy waters of baptism:

**Karina Augusta Peci**

### IN APPRECIATION

I would like to thank all those who helped make the Living Stations of the Cross possible. I was moved by the commitment shown by the actors, readers, and other volunteers that dedicated their gifts of time and talent. I would especially like to thank Phil Gosselin for all his hard work and Charleen Miele, Toni Mintel and Carol Waterman for directing the music. The beautiful voices of the choir truly helped us reflect on each station. In addition, I would like to say a special thank you to Father Curran for supporting this ministry.

– Sandy Bonfiglio

### **HOLY FAMILY RETREAT CENTER**

The Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford has announced the following events.

#### ***Married Couples Evening Retreat***

This evening retreat held on Wednesday, May 6, will offer practical exercises to help couples grow in acceptance of each other. We will examine thought patterns and behaviors that block our ability to be compassionate and accept our partner. The evening begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. followed by the conference at 7:00 p.m. \$60 per couple.

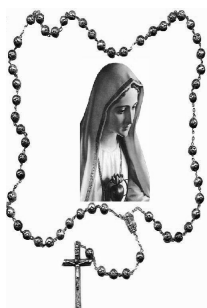
#### ***Mother's Day Mass & Brunch***

Celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 10, with a special Mass for Moms and families at 10:00 a.m. and then enjoy a delicious brunch prepared by our chef Joe Ethier. The buffet includes items from both an adult menu and a children's menu. \$45 per person for adults - \$12 for children over 4 - free for children under 4.

#### ***Women's Retreat***

A retreat is a great opportunity to be with other women and to rediscover the presence of God in your life. The women's retreat begins on Friday evening, June 5, with a buffet dinner from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. and ends on Sunday, June 7, around noon. Retreat offering is \$200.00.

For more information or to register for any of these events, please call the Holy Family Retreat office at 521-0440 or you can visit them at [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org).



### **LIVING ROSARY**

The League of the Sacred Heart will sponsor a "Living Rosary, Novena and Benediction" on Monday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 2577 Main Street, Glastonbury. A light reception will follow in the south wing. All are welcome.

### **GIFT CARD PROGRAM**

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 our school office at 568-4100 or e-mail Tracy at [tcmart@comcast.net](mailto:tcmart@comcast.net). We appreciate the support you have given this program.

### **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 HOUR**

A Holy Hour in observance of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be held on the Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday), May 3, at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield (467 Bloomfield Avenue). The Holy Hour, which is sponsored by the Serra Club of Hartford, is open to all.

### **ADULT SOCIAL CLUB**

The Adult Social Club will be meeting on Monday, May 4, at 1:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call Helen Little at 568-3080.

#### **Reminders:**

Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted for St. Christopher's Food Bank.

### TEEN MASS - NEXT SATURDAY

The Youth Ministry will be sponsoring its last Teen Mass of the school year next Saturday, May 2, 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.

Please note: All confirmation students are reminded to sign-in at the church hall when you enter for Mass that Saturday. Thank you! ~ Youth Ministry Team



### MOTHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCES

As Mother's Day approaches, you may have your mother (living or deceased) remembered in a special way during our Masses on Mother's Day weekend. For your convenience, an envelope has been included with your weekly envelopes for May. Please **print** the name(s) on your envelope, indicate whether living or deceased, and place it in the collection basket or have it to the parish office **by May 5**. You may also print the information on a piece of paper and put in in an envelope marked "Mother's Day Remembrance."

### CAN YOU HELP?

The American Cancer Society is in critical need of drivers. Can you help your neighbor get to his/her much needed treatments? Drive as much or as little as you like. Please, we need your help. Call 800-227-2345.

### ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

As of last week, a total of \$18,385 has been raised in our parish with gifts from 166 individuals and families. If you have already made your pledge to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, thank you. If you have yet to secure your commitment, your help and generosity is still very much needed. Extra Appeal packets are available on the long tables at the main entrance to the church.

### ST CHRISTOPHER CHURCH WILL SPONSOR PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO THE "THE YEAR OF SAINT PAUL"

Pope Benedict XVI has declared the year from June 28, 2008 to June 29, 2009 as "The Year of St Paul" in the hope that people would become more familiar with St. Paul and his letters and the influence he has had on the church.

In response to the Pope's request, St. Christopher Church will sponsor a three week program entitled "St. Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles" which will begin in our church hall on Monday, May 4, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. and continue on the following Mondays of May 11 and May 18.

St. Paul is one of the most enigmatic, influential and exciting figures to emerge from the First Century Church. While his influence on Christian theology is pervasive, few are aware of his struggles, his successes and failures or the meaning and interpretation of his letters. Bring your Bible, other materials will be supplied. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this informative and exciting series.

### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

Choosing a family cemetery lot is inevitable. Instead of leaving this decision to a loved one, friend or perhaps even a stranger, why not make this a family decision now?

For a limited time all Catholic families have the opportunity to purchase pre-need graves with upright monument rights or shrine graves with interest-free installment payments up to 4 years at St. Mary Cemetery in East Hartford, Holy Cross Cemetery in Glastonbury and St. James and St. Bridget Cemeteries in Manchester. Mausoleum entombment space is also available at St. Mary and Holy Cross Cemeteries.

This offer will conclude on May 15, 2009. Please call the office at St. James Cemetery at 646-3772 for more information or to schedule an appointment.