



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

DEACONS

Deacon William Gilles (RCIA Director)
Deacon Edward Giard

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 Cesana – 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.w/Deacon Bill Gilles 633-8997

MARRIAGES

Please contact Parish Priest at least
six months in advance at 568-5240

PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

761-7456 www.vocationshartford.org

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Toni Amberg – 568-9069

Jean Nowik – 568-8873

COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Cathy Reynolds – 214-9287

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Barbara Casey – 568-4638

PRAYER TREE

and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY

Bev Connors – 432-1530 or 966-1388

brcr3@hotmail.com

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Toni Amberg—568-9069

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Phil Gosselin – 568-5001

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 569-7396



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**Twentieth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
August 16, 2009**

*“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and
drink his blood, you do not have life within you.”*

— John 6:53



Saturday, August 15 – 4:30 p.m.

Dinis Leonardo
(Wife & Family)

Sunday, August 16 – 8:00 a.m.

Roger Paradis *(Family)*

Sunday, August 16 – 10:30 a.m.

Rosemary Whalen
(Mr. & Mrs. Robert Parisi)

Monday, August 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Kathleen Donovan *(Pat, Angie & Leah)*

Tuesday, August 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Nancy & Dominic Viglione
(Niece Jean Walker)

Wednesday, August 19 – 7:30 a.m.

Louise Olinatz - 7th Anniversary
(Children & Grandchildren)

Thursday, August 20 – 7:30 a.m.

Rev. Leo J. Daily

Saturday, August 22 – 4:30 p.m.

**Salvatore Carrabino - 15th Anniversary
and Antoinette Carrabino**

Sunday, August 23 – 8:00 a.m.

Joseph Veronese *(Betty & Fran Zizzamia)*

Sunday, August 23 – 10:30 a.m.

Jerome “Jerry” Millstein
(Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry)

UNITED WAY DONATIONS

Another Way to Help Our Parish Community!
Many of you participate in the United Way campaign at your workplace. When you are asked to make a pledge to the United Way through employee contributions, please consider making a contribution to our church and/or school through the Donor Choice program. Please use the appropriate designation code(s) when completing your paperwork.

Designation Codes

St. Christopher Church: #AG10062

St. Christopher School: #AG0953

For more information, please contact our parish office at 568-5240.

(Please clip and save for easy reference.)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (August 9): \$ 6,201

Same Sunday in 2008: \$ 6,240

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

With gratitude, Fr. Curran

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
Lois Taylor**
(Bev Connors)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**In Loving Memory of
Marcel Girard**
(St. Christopher’s Prayer Tree/Line)

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



BUILDING & GROUNDS UPDATE

You may have noticed that some painting has been done around here, especially the wood surrounding the church windows and the front doors, as well the doors at the rear of the church. This work is being done as part of our ongoing need to maintain and beautify our church building and to be good stewards with the resources God has given us.

We wish to thank a long-time parishioner for his donation towards the cost of the paint and another long-time parishioner for her donation of the new shutters which encase the window near the eastside entrance of the church.

If you are interested in supporting our efforts of making continued improvements to our buildings and grounds, please consider making a donation for this purpose to St. Christopher Church. Your donation may be placed in the collection basket in a separate envelope marked "Building & Grounds" Thank you!

"NEW DAY" PROGRAM

A Journey from Grief to Healing

Grieving the loss of a loved one is one of the most emotional and traumatic events we experience in life. By finding healthy ways to manage and face our grief, over time, we can accept the loss and continue to live.

"New Day" is a 9-week program for those who have lost a loved one in death. It is a time to come together to pray, to understand the grieving process and to experience the support of a caring community.



The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings starting September 8 and will take place in the Parish Center from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. For more information and/or to register, please contact Toni Amberg, our Bereavement Coordinator, at 568-9069.



St. Christopher Church Hall

Wednesday, August 19

BLOOD DRIVE

1:30 – 7:00 p.m.

All eligible donors who present to donate at this blood drive **will receive a coupon for a free carton of ice cream** redeemable at any participating Friendly's restaurant. This offer is made possible through the *Sweet Summer* promotion sponsored by the American Red Cross and Friendly's Ice Cream.

Won't you please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE to make your appointment today? **Walk-ins are welcome!**



St. Christopher Church will be participating in the *40 Days for Life Campaign* again this year. Last year we had tremendous support! During this 40 day campaign, parishes will be engaging in Eucharistic Adoration, as well as, prayerful vigil at the abortion clinic in Hartford. This year we will be partnering with Helpers of God's Precious Infants to inspire folks to be Prayer Warriors for this wonderful campaign to support life at all stages. On Saturday, September 26, 2009, we are seeking at least two people to pray for life in our church for each one hour time slot beginning at 6:00 p.m. and concluding at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 27, 2009. We will complete the campaign with 12 more hours of prayerful vigil next to the abortion clinic in Hartford beginning on Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 6:00 a.m. and concluding at 6:00 p.m. Once again, we are seeking at least 2 people for each one hour time slot. Please help us bring our prayers for life to God in this special way. Thank you! For more information or to reserve a time slot please call Phil Gosselin at 568-5001 or by e-mail at ingoose@comcast.net.

Shalom,

Phil Gosselin



**FAITH & FAMILY DAY
at New Britain Stadium**

The New Britain Rock Cats are hosting a Faith and Family Day next Sunday, August 23 at 1:35 p.m. (Gates open at 12:05 p.m.) The day will include a lunch box giveaway for children and a post-game Christian rock concert by “ETx.” All individuals in attendance will get to hang out on the field to enjoy the concert! All kids will get to run the bases after the game too! For more information about this event, please visit www.rockcats.com or call 860-224-8383.

**HELP SUPPORT OUR
CUB SCOUT PACK 161**

August 30 ~ 10:30 a.m. Mass



Since 1910, Scouting has helped mold the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes and, through nearly a century of experience, understands that helping youth puts us on a path toward a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society.

Following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on August 30, anyone interested in learning more about the St. Christopher Church Cub Scout Pack 161 can join us in the church hall to get more information and to have some snacks with us! Boys must be in first grade or 7 years old to join the Cub Scouts program.

Each year the Boy Scouts of America sell a variety of popcorn to help support the children’s activities throughout the year. 70% of our popcorn sales go back to our Pack 161!! There will be popcorn for immediate pick up or orders can be placed for delivery. And finally, for those folks who aren’t fond of eating popcorn, popcorn can be purchased for the armed forces. Your purchase will be shipped directly to the brave men and women of the US military. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, August 30!!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION

Would you like your children to perform at an academic achievement level years beyond their grade? Then consider a Catholic school where excellence abounds and each child is encouraged to reach his or her full potential. To start your child on the road to an exceptional future, explore our parish school today by visiting their website at www.saintchristopherschool.org or by contacting our school office at 568-4100 to schedule an appointment. (Summer hours for the school are Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon).

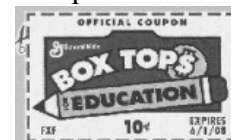
**EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT
OUR PARISH SCHOOL**

Gift Card Program

Gift cards are still available during the summer months! Simply call Kathy Simeone by Sunday evening to order your cards. Kathy’s phone number is attached to the order form that is available on the long tables at the main entrance to the church. Thank you for continuing to support our parish school during these summer months!

Box Tops for Education

Our school can earn up to \$20,000 per year from the Box Tops you clip! Please look for products with the official coupon, clip and place in the weekly offering basket. Please Note: The official coupon is the only part of the packaging that is accepted. Thank you!!



**FAMILY PERSPECTIVE
by Bud Ozar**

Jesus reminds us today: life comes from flesh and blood. Parents often feel ‘drained’ because their children’s needs continually demand personal sacrifice. This is the vocation of parenting: to give our flesh and blood so our children may live.



Religious Education

Registrations Now Being Accepted

Now is the time to register your child(ren) for the religious education school year which begins on Sunday, September 20. If you have a child entering Grades K - 8 who is not yet registered for this coming school year, please contact Maria Sousa, our Coordinator of Religious Education, by phone at 895-8692 or by e-mail at religioused@stchris-org. Returning families are asked to complete a new registration form each year.

OPERATION KID-TO-KID

This year our Vacation Bible Camp children participated in *Operation Kid-to-Kid* by teaming up with East Hartford Social Services Department to provide new school supplies to children in need right here in our own community. With your help our VBC children were able to donate some backpacks and several bags of supplies to the Social Services department. These donations will help many children start the new school year off on the right foot. Your generosity in supporting the efforts of the VBC children is greatly appreciated! Thank you!!

Volunteers Needed

ALTAR MINISTRY

Our Altar Ministry is seeking new members to help prepare our church and sanctuary for the liturgies celebrated here at St. Christopher's.

If you are available on Fridays for 1-2 hours and would be interested in volunteering time to this special ministry, please call Bonnie at the parish office at 568-5240. Thanks!

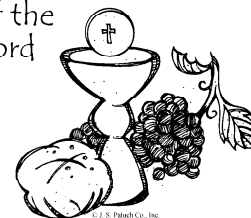
THIS EUCHARISTIC FEAST

Some things about human nature don't change, even over the course of centuries. When we celebrate a holiday, we have a meal; when we celebrate a significant event,

we have a feast. In today's first reading, Lady Wisdom is setting a feast, a sign of celebrating the covenant that Israel has with God. Israel's central remembrance of its saving Exodus covenant is the Passover meal. So it is natural—and not coincidental—that the Christian celebration of the new covenant sealed by the blood of Christ on the cross happens at a meal, our Eucharist, offered first by Jesus in the context of Passover remembrance. It is easy for us, sometimes, to forget the very long and rich religious and human origins of our eucharistic feasting on the bread and cup that are the Body and Blood of Jesus. Today, and for the next few Sundays that we hear the "Bread of Life" discourse from John, let us bring to mind the loving covenant that God makes with us, and be filled with great joy at this marvelous feast that we have come to attend!

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Taste and see the goodness of the Lord



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

Matthew Ngwere Mwangi



ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

Due to Labor Day, the next gathering of the Adult Social Club will be Monday, August 31 at 1:00 p.m. Please plan to join us as we take a look back at the '50's. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Little at 568-3080.

A SUMMER THOUGHT

Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.