



Returning the Lord's Goodness



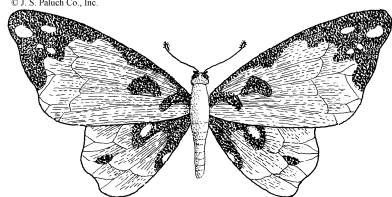
2010 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
Archdiocese of Hartford
KICK-OFF WEEKEND



“FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT, I WAS THIRSTY
AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO DRINK, I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU
INVITED ME IN, I NEEDED CLOTHES AND YOU CLOTHED ME, I WAS SICK AND
YOU LOOKED AFTER ME, I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO VISIT ME...”

—MATTHEW 25:35-36

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**Fourth Sunday
of Lent
March 14, 2010**

“Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.”

– 2 Corinthians 5:17

Mass  *for the
Intentions* *Week*

Saturday, March 13 – 4:30 p.m.

John Grogan

In Remembrance of His Birthday
(Daughter)

Sunday, March 14 – 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Ladislaus J. Kaminski

Sunday, March 14 – 10:30 a.m.

William Munley

(Friends at Pratt & Whitney)

Monday, March 15 – 7:30 a.m.

Frank & Inez Reichardt

(Family)

Tuesday, March 16 – 7:30 a.m.

John & Susan Bober

(Family)

Wednesday, March 17 – 7:30 a.m.

Matthew Saccone

(Family)

Thursday, March 18 – 7:30 a.m.

Joseph LaRosa

(The Tardiff Family)

Saturday, March 20 – 4:30 p.m.

Raymond O’Neill *(Elaine Kirko)*

Sunday, March 21 – 8:00 a.m.

John Tirinzone *(Mom & Jan)*

Sunday, March 21 – 10:30 a.m.

Mark Tardiff *(Family)*

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (March 7): \$ 6,934
Same Sunday in 2009: \$ 7,163

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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The story of the Prodigal Son helps us refocus on the meaning of Lent. This is a time to change our ways, to turn back to God our Father, and to appreciate and share the gifts we have received. As we begin the second half of our journey, we remember that we are called to be stewards of what God has given us, and we connect our prayers and fasting with our giving.



Please pray for:

Mary Hickman

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
Durward Willis - 5th Anniversary**
(Wife Angeline)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**In Thanksgiving and Appreciation for
Our Hospitality Committee**
(The People of St. Christopher’s)

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO ROCH GIRARD!

I am pleased to announce that Roch Girard, a long-time St. Christopher parishioner, received the St. Joseph Medal of Appreciation from Archbishop Mansell during a ceremony that was held at the

Cathedral of St. Joseph last Sunday, March 7. No medal can express adequately the church's appreciation for Roch's dedication on behalf of our parish. He has shown great stewardship and leadership through his service as Parish Council president and as chairman of our Building and Grounds Committee and our Safety and Health Committee. Personally, I thank Roch for his support and wise counsel in the pastoral ministry.

With a grateful heart, Fr. Curran

2010 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

This weekend marks the start of the 2010 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 in *Returning the Lord's Goodness*, out of love for one another and for God. Please respond to the Appeal as generously as possible.

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES EVENTS

Evening of Prayer

Credo Catholic Singles continues their monthly gathering of prayer in our Parish Center on Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. 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.



CHILDREN'S LITRUGY

Our monthly Children's Liturgy will be celebrated next Sunday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m. Hospitality will follow in the church hall and is being hosted this month by families with children in Grades 1 and/or 7. Everyone is invited!

HOMEFRONT DAY APPEAL

I realize we are a bit later than normal for gearing up for HomeFront Day 2010, but unfortunately there were some doubts as to whether the HomeFront Project would be continuing due largely to financial pressure, but I am happy to report that HomeFront will live on and St. Christopher Church will be participating!



We have much to be grateful for already; Norm Cote and Tony Sousa have agreed to be our House Captain and Assistant House Captain again this year! They did a tremendous job last year; we honestly could not have done the project without them. Now we need to assemble our Crew. We do not have our specific house assignment yet, but it will definitely be an East Hartford neighbor in need. We should have the house assignment in a couple weeks and will provide more details about the scope of the work at that time. In the meantime, if folks could begin to contact me if they would be willing to assist with this very worthy endeavor, that would be great. We are going to need both skilled and unskilled help, so please don't feel you cannot help if you are not a skilled craftsman...you can!! HomeFront Day has historically been the 1st Saturday in May, so I am confident that will be the case this year, but will confirm that in my next bulletin announcement.

Also, in the near future we will be conducting a second collection to assist with the required fee that helps make HomeFront possible. A donation of just a few dollars per person would be very helpful. Thank you for your past and future support of this project of neighbor helping neighbor.

We can make a difference, but it won't happen without you. Please say **YES!** For more information or to volunteer, please call Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001.

EASTER FOOD BASKETS

Our Food Bank is in need of the following items to help us to be able to pack and deliver the Easter baskets Thursday morning, April 1.

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|-----------------|------------------|
| Cereal | Jello / Puddings |
| Peanut Butter | Cake Mix |
| Jelly | Frosting |
| Spaghetti Sauce | Potato Buds |
| Baked Beans | Gravy |
| Tuna Fish | Cookies |
| Mayonnaise | HAM |

Non-perishable food items may be left in the area of our church below our statue of Mary. To donate a ham, please contact Dick and Eleanor Domler at 860-569-7396. Thank you in advance for your support.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

St. Dunstan Church - Glastonbury

Religious Education Manager

This position will entail the day-to-day operation and administrative oversight of the religious education office in close relationship and support of the two Religious Education Coordinators. It will require the skills of a very computer literate, highly organized, detail oriented, flexible, people nurturing, proactive, team playing and practicing Roman Catholic. This is a ten-month position requiring a five hour work day totaling 25 hours per week.

Religious Education Coordinator: Pre-K - Grade 8

This position requires a person of faith, who is a practicing Roman Catholic, desiring to participate in the mission and ministry of education and faith formation for parish children. The qualified person will have excellent organizational, interpersonal and public speaking skills, be conversant with Church Teaching and policies of Archdiocese and parish, creative spirit, and a general ease and joy with children. This is a salaried position with 20 flexible hours per week for ten months of the year. It requires evening and weekend hours.

For further information, a detailed job description and application, please contact Mrs. Jane Thomas at 860-633-3317. Per policy of the Archdiocese of Hartford, both positions require a criminal background check prior to hiring and Virtus training. Interviews will begin as soon as possible.

The Season of Lent



LIVING STATIONS

Please note time change!

Mark your calendars to attend the Living Stations to be held on Good Friday, April 2, at **7:30 p.m.** Touching scenes, meaningful music..this is such a beautiful way to round out your Lenten devotions. **If you would like to participate in this moving event,** please contact Phil Gosselin at 860-568-5001 or Joan Perrone at 860-568-6229.



“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: February 24, March 3, 10, 17 and 24. 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.** Soup and bread are all we will need. No desserts please.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Volunteers from our parish school resume selling gift cards every weekend, after every Mass beginning this weekend. If you are unfamiliar with this program and want to learn more about how easy it is to help our parish school, please see one of our volunteers after Mass next weekend. You may also contact our school office at 568-4100 or Tracy Martinez at tcmart@comcast.net with any questions. Your support of our parish school is greatly appreciated!

ST. CHRISOTPHER SCHOOL'S ANNUAL AUCTION

Party at the Mardi...Gras!

Saturday ~ March 27



Our parish school is hosting a wonderful adult-only event that is packed with loads of fun. Admission is only \$25 per person or \$45 per couple (**youngsters over age 65 only \$15 per person!**) and includes delicious food and open bar (beer, soda and wine). A silent auction begins at 5:30 p.m. in the school with a live auction to follow. Come party with Gina J from 96.5 TIC! Gina J is the host of the *At Work Mix* on weekdays, 10am - 3pm. Tickets can be purchased by calling the school office at 860-568-4100 or Bridget Messier-Cooke at 860-202-3692.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

In a landmark pastoral letter issued by the Catholic bishops of Mexico and the United States, *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, the bishops acknowledge that the current immigration system is badly in need of reform and that a comprehensive approach to fixing it is required. The bishops offer a comprehensive set of recommendations for changing U.S. laws and policies to reflect the principles contained in Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching and to bring about a more humane and just immigration system in the United States. The bishops' call for reform includes the following elements:

- Global anti-poverty efforts
- Expanded opportunities to reunify families
- Temporary worker program
- Broad-based legalization
- Restoration of due process

For more information go to: www.usccb.org/jfi/
There are forms in the back of the church to voice your opinion to our Senators and Representatives. You can fill them out and mail them in or just put them in the collection box and we will mail them for you.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

East Hartford Boy Scout Troop 61 is holding an All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 20, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes Street in East Hartford. \$6 adults; \$4 ages 12 and under. Maximum is \$20 per family. Please call Debbie Green at 860-568-4199 if you would like to purchase tickets in advance.



MAKE-UP ENTRANCE EXAM

East Catholic High School will give a make-up entrance exam Tuesday, March 16 at 8:00 a.m. to all eighth graders who were unable to take a previous entrance exam. The exam will be given at the school. Pre-registration is recommended but not required. A fee of \$25, which covers the cost of processing the exam, is required. ECHS continues to accept transfer students from other high schools. Questions? Contact the Admissions Office at 860- 649-5336 x238 or x456.

HIS LAST DAYS PASSION PLAY

St. Ann's of Avon Youth Ministry will be presenting a musical Passion Play "His Last Days" at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, 140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford on Sunday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. Begin this holiest of weeks by attending this moving musical production that relives the story of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection, while taking in the beautiful surroundings of this glorious cathedral, whose acoustics have made it the center for music in the city of Hartford. Proceeds will benefit Sean Forrest Haitian Mission "Movin' With The Spirit," and The Haitian Health Foundation, whose organizations are working to save the lives of orphans in Haiti. Suggested donation \$10. For more information, call Joan Gould 860-673-9858 x226, or Joan Perrone 860-568-6229.

CHRIST...

"Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me."

– St. Patrick