



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
Richard "Mac" McCarthy

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Roch Girard – 860-568-5879

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Michael Munley – 860-683-8594

OFFICE MANAGER

Bonnie Szalay – 860-568-5240

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Carol Waterman – 860-521-7411

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Maria Sousa – 860-895-8692
E-mail: religioused@stchris-eh.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sarah Poirier and Kevin Hadyka –
860-895-8692
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 – 860-568-4100

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Karen Santacross – 860-568-4975

SCHOOL SECRETARY

Audrey Cesana – 860-568-4100

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Corrinne Lomazzo – 860-214-3500

HOME / SCHOOL ASSOC. PRESIDENT

Bridget Messier-Cooke – 860-202-3692

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 860-568-5240

PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Toni Amberg – 860-568-9069
Jean Nowik – 860-568-8873

COORDINATOR OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Cathy Reynolds – 860-214-9287

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Barbara Casey – 860-568-4638

PRAYER LINE

and TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY

Bev Connors – 860-432-1530
bcrc3@hotmail.com

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Toni Amberg – 860-568-9069

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

Phil Gosselin – 860-568-5001

COORDINATOR OF FOOD BANK

Eleanor Domler – 860-569-7396



Easter Sunday: Resurrection of the Lord April 4, 2010

“To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

– Acts 10:43

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, April 4 – 8:00 a.m. Jose Figueiredo (Wife Maria)

Sunday, April 4 – 10:30 a.m. John & Margaret Grogan (Daughter)

Tuesday, April 6 – 7:30 a.m. Anne Bohan Lillis

Wednesday, April 7 – 7:30 a.m. Joseph D’Agata (Catherine Bernard)

Thursday, April 8 – 7:30 a.m. Paul E. Franklin (Wife Claire)

Saturday, April 10 – 4:30 p.m. Ann & Donald Sheldon (Family)

Sunday, April 11 – 8:00 a.m. Joseph Leonardo (Mom, Dad & Daughters)

Sunday, April 11 – 10:30 a.m. William Munley (Fr. Curran & The People of St. Christopher’s)

Please note: There will be no daily Mass on Monday, April 5.

OUR TITHING PARISH

Due to the deadline imposed by our publisher for this weekend’s bulletin, the collection for last weekend will be reported in next weekend’s bulletin.

The second collection at all Masses this weekend will benefit our parish. Thank you!



Christ the Lord is Risen!

O Lord Jesus Christ, who upon this day did conquer death and rise from the dead, and who is alive for ever more, help us never to forget your Risen Presence forever with us.

Help us to remember,

That you are with us in every time of perplexity to guide and to direct;

That you are with us in every time of sorrow to comfort and console;

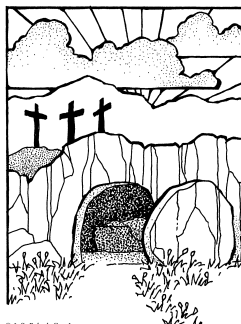
That you are with us in every time of temptation to strengthen and to inspire;

That you are with us in every time of loneliness to cheer and befriend;

That you are with us even in death to bring us to the glory of your side.

Make us to be certain that there is nothing in time or in eternity which can separate us from you, so that in your presence we may meet life with gallantry and death without fear. You turn our darkness into light, in your light we shall see light.

Christ the Lord is risen today! ALLELUIA!



On behalf of Deacon Bill, Deacon Ed and our parish staff, I wish you and your family a blessed Easter.

Yours in the Risen Christ,

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
Maurice Harden & Marianne Harden**
(Family)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

**For All Those Who Are and
Have Been on Our Prayer Tree**

For information on scheduling a weekly dedication, please call the Parish Office at 860-568-5240.

Please pray for:

Virginia Demers
(sister of Jeanne McCarthy)

Pauline Sochon
(mother of Lorraine Wolk)



GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Please note: Due to the Easter holiday, gift cards will not be available after Masses this weekend. Gift card sales will resume next weekend, April 10 and 11 after all Masses.



2010 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 2010 Archbishop's Appeal mailing, please feel free to pick up one of the extra Appeal packets located on the long tables at the main entrance to our church. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

DON'T BOTHER COOKING

Join Us at McDonald's Night

Please join us on Wednesday, April 7, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the McDonald's on Main Street in Glastonbury to benefit our parish school. The school receives between 10 and 20% of the proceeds depending on the turn-out. You don't even need to come inside, the drive thru business counts towards our total earnings for the evening. Call the school office for more information at 860-568-4100. Thank you for your support. Together we make a difference!



LIVING STATIONS THANK YOU

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who volunteered to make the Living Stations a wonderful and spiritual moment; especially Bonnie, for all of her help with bulletin announcements, photo-copying, etc.; Charleen and the choir for their moving music; Phil for all of his help with recruiting, stage crew, and anything that was asked of him; Maria for her help with the costumes; and countless volunteers who joined with us as readers, actors, spotlight and sound techs, and stage crew. We especially want to thank Father Curran for his constant support; and most of all, you the parishioners who gave up your precious time to spend Good Friday evening with us. We hope that you found this a prayerful and moving experience. THANK YOU!

– Joan Perrone, Coordinator

ST. CHRISTOPHER ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The next meeting of the Social Club will be on Monday, April 5, at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall. This month is GAME DAY! Bring your favorite game: cards, dominoes, Trivial Pursuit, checkers, or whatever you love to play. This is a great time to relax and socialize with your fellow members while you enjoy coffee and desserts.

Circle your calendars for May 3 when we will be having our Funtucky Derby. More details to follow.

We welcome new members at any time. Please consider joining us. Dues are only \$10 per year. For more information, please call Joan or Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.

SCHOOL MASS

A Mass will be celebrated with the school children on Tuesday, April 6, at 9:00 a.m. All parishioners and school families are invited to this liturgy!



PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

April 10 and 11

Next weekend our parish will take up the Peter's Pence Collection. This Collection allows the Holy Father to cast the light of Christ upon the world by providing emergency assistance to those who need it most around the globe. Please be generous in next weekend's Peter's Pence Collection.

A SOUP & STATIONS THANK YOU!!

On behalf of the Parish Council and members of the Hospitality Committee, we would like to thank everyone who participated in our *Soup & Stations* Lenten activity. The five sessions were very well attended. The weekly availability of soup and bread was outstanding!

We thank those who helped with setup and cleanup, those who brought their favorite soups and bread to share, and those who attended who came to share this experience with fellow members of our faith community.

We would also like to thank the children of our parish who did a fantastic job leading us in the Stations of the Cross, and their teachers and parents for helping to prepare them. We thank the members of our music ministry for adding to the prayerful atmosphere during the Stations of the Cross. We thank the management of Augie & Rays on Main Street in East Hartford for their generous donation of soup spoons and knives.

We thank those who so generously contributed to the collections we held at each session. One collection was for the Holy Land, two for preparation expenses (utensils, bowls, drink items, etc.) and two for our PIN Ministry - Parishioners in Need.

Everyone's generosity was extremely appreciated!

God Bless,
Roch J. Girard, President - Parish Council

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Are you ready for the voyage of a lifetime? The theme for this year's Vacation Bible Camp is "High Seas Expedition," where your child can learn cool bible songs, make bible point crafts, play team building games, and so much more. The camp will run from June 28 - July 2. Each day we will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 12:30 p.m. This year we have reduced the cost to only \$30.00 per child with discounts given to families with more than one child. We invite all children who will be entering grades K-12 this fall to join on our adventure. Grades K-5 will be crew members, grades 6-8 will be our assistant crew leaders, and grades 9-12 will serve as our crew leaders or as a station helpers.



High Seas Expedition will be leaving port before you know it so don't wait to register your child! Registration forms are available in the church hall as well as online at www.stchris-eh.org. K-5 registration is due by May 31 and grade 6-12 registration is due on May 16. For more information contact Kevin Hadyka, Camp Director at 895-8692. *Ready to set sail!*

HOMEFRONT - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need your help to make HomeFront 2010 a successful outreach to a neighbor in need! On Saturday, May 1, 2010, a crew from St. Christopher Church will be providing necessary home repairs for an East Hartford neighbor that is financially and physically unable to.



Now we need to assemble our Crew. As of this writing our crew consists of 2 people ☺. Typically our past crews have had around 30 people. 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!!

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.

MAKING HARD CHOICES TO HELP OUR KIDS

by Father Michael F.X. Hinkley

Today, family life faces many serious challenges that can undermine the vocation of spouses and deflate a child's development into an attentive and thoughtful young adult. Over the last several years, I have been struck by the number of authors who have offered reflections and guidance for the formation of the family and what we can refer to as intentional parenting for child development.

Today's hectic pace often crams the week with hard choices as to what needs to take priority in the family's schedule. In this reflection, I would like to offer a model by which a family's formative experience can be strengthened when an adult intentionally parents his or her child by making seven choices that seek a particular end in the child's development. In fact, when a family actively makes these life choices, children tend, on average, to perform better in school, achieve more in their education, develop broader interests, better accept weaknesses in others and avoid addiction issues and teen pregnancy.

First, a parent needs to choose to have dinner as a family as many days as possible. Sitting down together has profound cultural and ethnic repercussions in children's development and perception of what the home means to them. Of course, there are days that are exceptions, but those must remain and feel like exceptions.

Second, the choice to belong to a parish and practice the faith regularly has long-term positive effects. Some research indicates that weekly attendance at church is among the strongest forces in child development, especially when both parents attend. In general, living out one's faith as a family directly correlates with a child's later sense of self-worth and ability to avoid drug abuse and teen pregnancy. It is invaluable for young people to learn with their parents that God loves them unconditionally in good times and in bad.

Third, a parent can make a big difference by choosing every night to review a child's homework. This daily time together not only will strengthen a child as a student, but afford the parent a daily time to be together free of other concerns. Here, children learn that they are a priority because you care about their work, achievements and struggles.

Fourth, a parent must demand that a child shares the truth of his or her day and relationships. This is a

very important aspect of the parent-child relationship. Without truth-telling, the parent-child relationship will not develop an authentic and lasting trust. As the child grows and later faces the harder decisions adolescence and young adulthood bring, this truth-based trust will be a bond in the family.

The value a family places on truth in the home is very much tied to parents' personal growth in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation. If parents practice personal acceptance and deepen their faith through the sacraments, they naturally grow and facilitate truth and trust in the home. Related to truth-based trust is prudence: parents' keeping adult conversations between themselves as spouses.

Fifth, every year, a family needs to schedule a vacation away from home that makes the child's recreation the priority. This doesn't mean you need to spend a lot of money renting a vacation property or staying at a resort. The vacation lets the child know that he or she is the priority in a special way. No cell phones, business contacts or Blackberries should go along for the ride – this is the family's time to invest in its relationships. What wonderful memories childhood vacations can make, no matter what the destination.

Sixth, in many cases, a child benefits when a parent actively helps him or her to establish a balanced schedule that allows for a team sport, personal hobby or artistic or musical talent. Time and again, research has shown the great value in a child's personal growth when he or she develops the varied skills associated with sports, hobbies and music. Developing these skills helps to foster a healthier sense of self-worth that translates into greater achievements in life.

Seventh, a parent needs to choose to require social skills and proper manners of their child, in the house, at school and in life. As difficult as this can be in today's fast-paced culture with little appreciation for social convention, a child who is required to be accountable for his or her speech and actions will develop a great respect for others and learn to take responsibility for himself or herself in any situation.

These seven parental choices to intentionally parent a child lead to a child's greater appreciation and development of self, family and community. In turn, these parental choices naturally lead to better life choices by the child. All parents need to remember that they can choose to invest in their child's development and assist him or her in avoiding the bad choices that every young person is faced with today.

Our children are the future, and they will get there better prepared with their parents' intentional choices.