



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

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Louis D. Cremonie

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/PASTORAL ASS'T

Charleen Miele - 860-561-5394

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

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

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION

Kristina Gillespie – 860-895-8692
 E-mail: stchrisym@gmail.com

PARISH & SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT

Dianne Rumsey

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

BAPTISMS / PRE-BAPTISM PROGRAM

By app't. w/Deacon Bill Gilles – 860-633-8997

MARRIAGES

Please contact Parish Priest at least six months in advance at 860-568-5240

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

Ron Cote – 860-461-2683

SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

www.saintchristophersschool.org

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Jean Nowik-Martocci – 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
bcrc29@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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Christopher Council #4
www.kofc-ehartford4.org

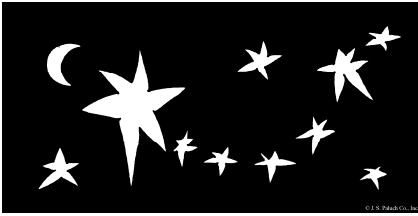
PRIESTHOOD-OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

860-761-7456 vocationshartford.org

CREDO CATHOLIC SINGLES

www.credocath.com

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN www.nccw.org



**Fifth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time
February 5, 2012**

“[The LORD] tells the number of the stars and calls them by name.”

– Psalm 147:4



PLEASE NOTE: If school is cancelled or delayed due to inclement weather, daily Mass will not be celebrated. Please check the morning televised news for cancellations and delays.

Saturday, February 4 – 4:30 p.m.
John St. Onge (*Barbara Casey*)

Sunday, February 5 – 8:00 a.m.
Gertrude McPherson (*Friend Irene Crowley*)

Sunday, February 5 – 10:30 a.m.
Maria Sousa (*Howard & Barb Wilmes*)

Monday, February 6 – 7:30 a.m.
Rev. Richard C. Bollea

Tuesday, February 7 – 7:30 a.m.
Paul E. Franklin (*Wife Claire*)

Wednesday, February 8 – 7:30 a.m.
Esther Hartl - 20th Anniversary
(*Granddaughter Bonnie*)

Thursday, February 9 – 7:30 a.m.
Rev. Francis P. McDonnell

Saturday, February 11 – 4:30 p.m.
John Macsuga & Richard Macsuga
(*Family*)

Sunday, February 12 – 8:00 a.m.
Arthur Erikson, Jr. (*The Kelly Family*)

Sunday, February 12 – 10:30 a.m.
Nicholas Duva - 2nd Anniversary (*Family*)

OUR TITHING PARISH

Weekly Collection (January 29): \$ 5,592
Same Sunday in 2011: \$ 5,116

Your generosity to our parish is appreciated. Many thanks for all you do to help our parish!

with Gratitude, Fr. Curran

THANK YOU!

The Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dale R. Hoyt, extends his deepest gratitude to all who contributed to this year’s Catholic High School Collection which totaled \$1,285. “Your gifts will help us place more secondary students on the path to success by providing them with an excellent education imbued with faith. Your support of the educational mission of the Church in the Archdiocese of Hartford is sincerely appreciated.”

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Note the response of Simon’s mother to her healing in today’s Gospel reading. She immediately returns to the service of those around her. Our response to God’s liberating work in our lives should be the same – we are not “freed” to live in the service of our own appetites; rather, God restores us to be who we were created to be, servants of God and other people.

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

Maria Moreira
For Her Full Recovery
(*Prima Eugenia*)

The candle in the chapel burns this week

For God’s Comfort & Healing Presence
For a Parishioner

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

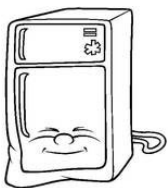


BLESSING OF THROATS

In honor of the Feast of St. Blaise which was February 3, the blessing of throats will be offered after all Masses this weekend. It is a special blessing in which the faithful invoke the saint's intercession, asking him to protect them from ailments of the throat and every other illness. Anyone interested in receiving this blessing will be asked to come forth at the end of Mass.

THE GOOD STEWARD

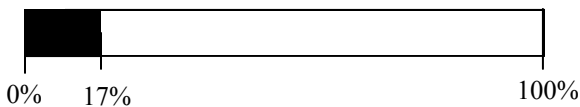
Like St. Paul in the second reading, the good steward can say, "I do all that I do for the sake of the Gospel in the hope of sharing in its blessings."



A HELPFUL ANGEL OR ANGELS NEEDED

The commercial grade refrigerator in our parish school's cafeteria is no longer working after nearly 30 years of service. The cost to replace this unit is \$2,500. Please consider helping our parish school meet the cost of the replacement. If you would like to help, please place your donation in an envelope marked refrigerator. Checks may be made payable to *St. Christopher School* or *St. Christopher Church*.

We extend our appreciation to those who have sent in a donation! Here's our progress:



FIRST RECONCILIATION

Last Saturday, January 28, a Reconciliation service was held in our church with the second grade students from our parish school and religious education program and their families. 24 young people received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. These same young people are also preparing to make their First Communion which will be celebrated here in our parish on Sunday, May 6. We ask that you please keep these young people and their families in your prayers.




PARISHIONER IN NEED BAKE SALE

This Weekend!



Parishioners in Need (PIN) Committee will host their Third Anniversary Bake Sale after all Masses this weekend, February 4 and 5. We celebrate three years of operation. Since our inception, we have assisted and continue to assist several members within our parish as well as having provided resources to others within the community. Your support helped us succeed.

Please stop by the hall after Mass to see what delicious items are available.



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

Jacob Elijah Antonio Jerome

ST CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CLUB MEETING

February 6 ~ 1:00 p.m. ~ Church Hall

Getting the winter blues? Come and be entertained by the always enjoyable Rocky Hill Serenaders. This, along with our yummy desserts and coffee will make you glad that you attended.

2012 dues of \$10 are now payable. Please make your payment at the membership table prior to the meeting. If you have any questions regarding the club, please feel free to contact Frank Perrone at 860-568-6229 or Nedra Gallo at 860-432-1793.



GIRL SCOUT FUNDRAISER

Girl Scout Troop 10327, comprised of girls from our parish, will be holding a Flapjack Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, February 18 at Applebees Restaurant, 191 Deming Street in Manchester. Pancakes, bacon and a beverage for only \$5.00. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend, Feb. 4 and 5 and next weekend, Feb. 11 and 12.

HEALING PRAYER FOUNDATIONS WORKSHOP

The Charismatic Renewal Office of the Archdiocese of Hartford is holding a Healing Prayer Foundations Workshop on Saturday, February 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield. Learn how to pray effectively for your loved ones. For more information, please call the Charismatic Renewal Office at 860-243-8234.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

Today we celebrate *World Day for Consecrated Life*. In 1997, Pope John Paul II called for consecrated life to be promoted throughout the universal Church. Those who choose to live a consecrated life do so for the sake of the gospel. Those who become followers of Jesus through the consecrated life bless the Church. We thank those men and women who answering the Lord's call take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

REV. VINCENT YOUNGBERG, O.P.

Rev. Vincent Youngberg, O.P. will be conducting a Lenten parish mission from Monday, March 5 through Thursday, March 8 at St. Margaret Mary Church, 80 Hayes Road in South Windsor. A very engaging speaker, he will help us all to prepare for Easter by preaching on four progressive topics, including *Self-Acceptance*, *Improving the Equipment*, *Reconciliation as a Healing Sacrament* and *Empowering with the Holy Spirit*. Fr. Youngberg will preach after he celebrates a 9:00 a.m. daily Mass and preach again (no Mass) in the evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry

Visit our website at www.stchris-eh.org and select Youth Ministry to get more information about events and programs.

Follow St. Christopher's Youth Ministry on Facebook and Twitter! Contact Kristi Gillespie for more information about any programs/activities being offered! stchrisym@gmail.com

BIRTHRIGHT of Greater Hartford, Inc.

We'd like to share with you the following letter we received recently.

Dear Father Curran,

We thank you and your congregation of faith for nurturing your members towards volunteering for Birthright.

We have been privileged to have the following members of your parish as weekly volunteers at our Birthright office:

*Steve Cadwallader - Board of Directors
Philip Gosselin - Corresponding Secretary
Marion Sullivan - Clerical Volunteer*

Our volunteers are dedicated to offering women the alternative to abortion - LIFE. If you know of anyone else in your parish who might like to volunteer, please encourage them to give us a call. We have a great need for more friendship counseling volunteers to be able to help more mothers and save more babies.

*For the born and preborn,
For the love of mother and child,*

*Mary R. McNamara, President
(and volunteer since 1983)*

Birthright needs someone like you! There are many volunteer opportunities available. To learn more, please call their office at 860-290-8800.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Our Homebound Ministry is ready to serve the needs of our homebound parishioners. If someone you know is recovering at home after surgery or is unable to attend Mass either short-term or long-term and would like a member of our Homebound Ministry to bring Communion to them, please call Barbara Casey at 860-568-4638.

WE REMEMBER

We remember in prayer the following persons of the military who bravely fought and gallantly died the week of January 23 - 29 while serving our country. We also remember all those who are caught in the crossfires of war. May they rest in peace.

1st Lieutenant Johnson, David A. - 24
Captain Pairsh, Joshua C. - 29

CATHOLIC BOOK STORE



The Catholic Book Store will be arriving on the weekend of 2/11 & 2/12. There will be spiritual books (on every topic), religious gifts for all occasions, crucifixes, Rosaries, medals, CD's and DVD's, children's books and seasonal items.
Don't miss this opportunity!!

Bring this ad to the Bookmobile and receive a 20% discount on any item of your choice.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH RETREAT DAY

The Sisters of St. Joseph will be hosting retreat days for women who are considering Religious life.

- February 25, 2012
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 pm.
Single women ages 29-40
- March 24, 2012
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Single women ages 19-28

To register call or e-mail Sr. Susan: 860-987-7053 or suecsj@juno.com.

Save the Date!

Our parish school will hold its Annual Auction on Saturday, March 31 at 6:00 p.m. in the Rentschler Field Ballroom to benefit the students of our school. Food, Open Bar, Fun, Music and Friends for only \$35 per person. Those who were able to attend last year's event would agree that a wonderful time was had by all. Tickets are already available and can be purchased in one of the following two ways:

- Visit www.stchris.schoolauction.net/auction2012
- Call Bridget at 860-202-3692

THE GIFT OF GRACE

"The gift of grace increases as the struggles increase."

– St. Rose of Lima

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Our parish is actively seeking students in **Grades 4 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 at 860-633-8997 or the parish office at 860-568-5240 or send an e-mail message to stchris-eh@sbcglobal.net. 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 to be sure he has you on his list.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. will award two scholarships of \$1,000 each to Catholic students who are high school seniors and who plan to attend a four-year college in the fall of 2012. The applicant must reside in Hartford County. Students are chosen on the basis of financial need, scholarship, character, leadership, and achievement. Information can be obtained at the following website: www.Catholicgraduatesct.org. **Deadline for submittal of scholarship applications is March 15, 2012.**



GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Gift cards will be available after all Masses this weekend. Please keep in mind that these cards can be purchased for your every day use as you shop for groceries, treat yourself to a restaurant meal, do home improvements, etc. If you are unfamiliar with this program and how it benefits our parish school, please take a moment to stop by to see one of our school volunteers. You may also contact Kathy Simeone at ksimeone95@comcast.net or at 860-569-8451 with any questions.

FOOD BANK REPORT

For January 2012

Requests: 31

Adults: 58 Children: 23

Thank you for your continued support of our food bank so we can continue to help those in need!