



Parish Staff

Rev. Richard CalapanAdministrator
 Rev. Mr. Peter Brooks..... Deacon
 Theresa Gingras..... Secretary
 Laura Lynch Wells Rel. Ed. Coordinator
 Patrice Rogers - 399-6226Music Ministry

St. Thomas Cemeteries

Range Rd., Irish Settlement Rd., Pleasant Valley Rd.
 Nate Sullivan - Sexton 802-899-4732

Please call the parish office if you are a new parishioner and would like to register.

St. Thomas Church

6 Green Street
 PO Box 3
 Underhill Center, VT 05490

Office Hours:

M-TH 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Priest's Office Hours:

Tue. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Fri. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Phone: 899-4632

Fax: 899-5120

E-Mail: office@stthomasvt.com

Parish Website: www.stthomasvt.com

Religious Education: 899-4770

E-Mail: stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday 8:30 AM

Daily Masses

Tuesday 6:30 PM Friday 8:00 AM

This schedule is subject to change. Please consult the weekly bulletin for current schedule.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday, 8:30-9:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 5:30-6:15 PM Saturday 3:15-3:45 PM

Please consult weekly bulletin.

Baptisms

Please call the parish office to set up Baptism preparation and Baptism date.

Marriages

Call the Pastor nine (9) months in advance of the wedding for preparation meetings.

Sacrament of the Sick & Home Visits

Please call the office if you are unable to attend Mass due to illness.

Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"
 Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:5-6

WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY MASSES

December 9

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the souls of Armand and Theresa Nadeau requested by Gail Nadeau

6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

December 10 - **Second Sunday of Advent**

SUN 8:30 AM- Mass for the Parishioners of St. Thomas and St. Mary's Parishes

10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

MON NO Mass

TUES 6:30 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Florida Boisjoli requested by Andy and Diane Dufresne

WED 8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

THU No Mass

FRI 8:00 AM - Mass at St. Thomas

December 16

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Theresa Nadeau requested by Roland Besaw

6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

December 17 - **Second Sunday of Advent**

SUN 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the souls of Harry and Tess Ledwith requested by Sean and Mary Ann Ledwith

10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

<u>Ministry Schedule</u> <u>December 16 & 17</u>	<u>Extraordinary</u> <u>Ministers of</u> <u>Holy Communion</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
4:00 PM SATURDAY	C Ferreira	L Berard
8:30 AM SUNDAY	Deacon Peter	M Girouard

Second Collection-Retirement Fund For Religious

Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

eCatholic Giving Updates

To improve payment security and reduce the potential for credit card fraud, starting on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, eCatholic will enable standard zip code verification on transactions run through our payment processor (Card Connect). We do not expect this change to have an impact for the majority of those using eCatholic Payments, as all credit or debit cards that users have added to their account currently require an associated address (and zip code). On Thursday, November 30, 2023, the eCatholic team will send an email to all donors with a recurring transaction asking them to verify their zip code. If you need help verifying or updating your zip code, please call the office at 802-899-4632 or email office@stthomasvt.com.

Stewardship - November 18 & 19, 2023

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,459.31
Regular Collection:(incl. \$865.50 On-Line Giving)..\$ 3,238.50

We offer online giving at www.stthomasvt.com/donate or you can mail your contributions directly to the parish at PO Box 3, Underhill Center, VT 05490.



The Nine Choirs of Angels

There are different names given to groups of angels or nine "choirs" of angels in all. The names describe a characteristic of these mighty spirits, or an aspect of their mission in God's plan.

The **Seraphim** are the angels closest to God. They reflect God's love in creation. They are on fire with the love of God; the name means "burning ones." The seraphim are the angels crying out "Holy, holy, holy," as one of them purifies his mouth with a coal from the altar so that he might serve as the Lord's messenger (Isa. 6:2-8).

The **Cherubim** have knowledge of divine secrets and of the causes of things; their name means "all-knowing one." Their carved figures adorned the lid of the Ark of the Covenant. The cherubim are still considered protectors of the New Covenant and are often depicted on tabernacles and Eucharistic vessels.

The **Thrones** are beings raised up to form the seat of God's authority and mercy. A throne manifests the glory and authority of a king, his stability and power. These angels are especially concerned with divine judgments and ordinances. The thrones are never seen or experienced as "flying" but as "rolling" across the heavens.

The **Dominions** are concerned with the government of the universe. They coordinate the ministries of all the angels who deal with creation. The angels mediate God's power just as the saints intercede for us with Him.

The **Virtues** are a choir of angels that exercises power over the physical universe. They are the lords of causality and the principles of cosmic order in the material realm. They ensure the well-being of the world.

There are **Powers** who have remained faithful to God and powers who have fallen away and become part of the empire of Satan (Eph. 6:12). The Choir of Powers is thought to introduce man to the higher mysteries while repressing the attacks of the "hostile powers" of Hell against the deepest laws of physical creation.

Among the **7 Archangels** we find St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael. St. Michael is the prince of the heavenly host. St. Gabriel is the messenger of the Incarnation. And St. Raphael is the angel of healing and of medicine. Their number 7 is often associated with the 7 days of the week and the 7 sacraments.

The ninth choir of angels are **Guardian Angels** who are most involved with mankind. These angels may be the lowest, but they are most beloved because the Lord places them at our sides. They are the ministers of Christ's love and our protectors. They defend us against harm and temptation. They warn us of impending evil and inspire us to remain faithful to God in prayer.

PARISH EVENTS

Sunday	12/10	*2nd Collection - Retirement for Religious** 10-11:00 AM - Religious Ed - Food & fruit basket
Monday	12/11	9:00 AM - Bone Builders
Tuesday	12/12	12 Noon - Advent Bible Study 5:30 PM - Confessions 7:30 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	12/13	9:00 AM - Bone Builders
Thursday	12/14	9:30 AM - Social Concerns 6:30 PM - Food Shelf Setup at GSLC
Friday	12/15	9:00 AM - Bone Builders
Saturday	12/16	**2nd Collection - Fuel & Heat** 9:30 AM - Food Shelf distribution at GSLC 3:15 PM - Confessions
Sunday	12/17	9:30 AM - Religious Ed Christmas Party and Pageant practice



Religious Education 2023-2024

Religious Ed Classes resume this Sunday, 12/3 at 10:15 AM. We will gather in the church for a few brief announcements before starting classes. We are starting late to give families time to enjoy the KofC Breakfast after Mass. The proceeds of the breakfast will benefit the Christmas Food & Fruit Baskets.

Advent Scripture Study

Advent Scripture Study begins this Tuesday, 12/5 at 12 noon with a light lunch and fellowship before we dive into the study of Jesus' early life in our preparation for Christmas. We hope you will join us. Register by contacting Laura Wells at 802-899-4770 stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org

Christmas Food and Fruit Baskets



Parishioners from St. Thomas and St. Mary's, including the students in religious ed will be assembling the Christmas Food & Fruit Baskets after Mass at St. Thomas this Sunday, 12/10 after Mass during coffee hour. Bring something sweet to share and help with this fun and meaningful project for our neighbors in need. **We are still in need of staple foods to fill the food boxes.**

Advent Appeal - 2023

Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the 29th Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge, including several families in the Underhill/Jericho area. Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give online at www.vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.

A Note About Christmas Masses

December 24 falls on a Sunday this year. Note there are two obligations – for the 4th Sunday of Advent and for the Solemnity of Christmas. The obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent is fulfilled by an anticipatory Mass on Saturday, December 23, or on Sunday morning. The obligation for Christmas (a Holy Day of Obligation) is fulfilled by Mass in the late afternoon/evening of December 24, or on December 25.

The Christmas Weekend Mass schedule will be as follows:

Saturday, December 23 -

4:00 PM at St. Thomas and 6:30 PM at St. Marys

Sunday, December 24 -

10:00 AM & 4:00 PM at St. Thomas (pageant before)

7:00 PM at St. Marys

Monday, December 25 -

9:00 AM at St. Thomas and 11:00 AM at St. Marys

Make faith formation a lifelong effort .
Faith formation should not end at Confirmation

Christmas Stocking



Please take a tag from the Christmas Stocking at the entrance of the church and purchase personal care items for the food shelf distribution on December 16th. This is an easy and inexpensive way to help our neighbors this time of year. This drive was very successful in past years and we hope to do well again this year! Please place the items in the basket by the giant stocking. Thank you for your generosity and Merry Christmas!

Christmas Cards

The Social Concerns committee has Christmas cards on display and for sale in the vestibule of the church. All cards are by donation and the proceeds will be used in part to help fund the many cards sent to shut-ins and other parishioners that are sent out all year long.

December Word of Life

"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother." Learn how at respect-life.org/support-her.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting"

Readings For the Week

December 11

Is 35:1-10

Lk 5:17-26

December 12

Feast of Our Lady
of Guadalupe

ZEC 2:14-17

LK 1:26-38

December 13

Memorial of Saint Lucy,
Virgin and Martyr

Is 40:25-31

Mt 11:28-30

December 14

Memorial of Saint John of
the Cross, Priest and Doctor
of the Church

Is 41:13-20

Mt 11:11-15

December 15

Is 48:17-19

Mt 11:16-19

December 16

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

December 17

Third Sunday of
Advent

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11

Lk 1:46-48,49-50,53-54

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



If you would like to add or remove someone from this list, please call the office at 802-899-4632

WE PRAY FOR

SICK: For all our sick: Jen DiNardo, David Claghorn, Ed Keeler, Tonia Barbin, Abby Wintersteen, Jack Russ, Lawrence Lecours, Deacon Gerry Scilla, Patricia Stone, Amy Gratton, Diane Dufresne, Audra Goss, Alex Wintersteen, Dorothy Reny, Maureen Mayes, John Lehouiller, Joseph Tijan, Meghan Diana, Diann Bean, Jay Tisbert, Jerry Reny, Janine Fleri, Bob Keeler, Amy Burdine, Will Esmay, Joanna Weinstock, Yuri Bihun, Nate Sullivan, Andy Bibb, Tom Bartlett, Jerome LeClair, Deena DeMartino, Rick Wilhelm, Linda Schaeffler, Mary Martelle, Tim Reny, Steve Guay, Zilda Metcalf, Kit Wheatley, and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially all deceased members of St. Thomas & St. Mary's Parishes.

Repentant Reconciled Renewed



**St. Thomas Church
Knights of Columbus
Council No. 7810**

G.K.: Steve Haupt
D.G.K.:

Chancellor: Ed Matthews
Recorder: Andrew Rowe
Treasurer: Mark Girouard
Warden: Bob Kennedy
Advocate: Craig Benson
Meets 2nd Tuesday each month



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For our Volunteers

We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:3-5

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For prayers answered
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases, of things despaired of. Pray for me who am so miserable; make use, I implore you, of this particular privilege accorded to you, to bring visible and speedy help, where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need, that I may receive the consolations and succor of Heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and sufferings, particularly (here make your request), and that I may bless God with you and all the elect forever. I promise you, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, and I will never cease to honor you as my special and powerful patron and to do all in my power to encourage devotion to you. Amen.
To be prayed 8 consecutive days

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Do you have friends and family members who no longer practice our Catholic Faith?
Why not invite them to "come home".
Invite them to come to Holy Mass with you and never stop praying for them.



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RCIA = Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or interested in learning more about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church? RCIA is the process by which adults are received into the church and receive the sacraments.

Adult Confirmation

Are you an adult who has not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation or First Holy Communion? Did you know that to be a god-parent for baptism, you are required to have received the sacrament of Confirmation? Please contact Laura Lynch Wells 802-899-4770 or rel.ed@stthomasvt.com



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Bless
America**



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In loving memory of Millicent Dixon



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St. Thomas Cemeteries

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