

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

February 17
SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for a special intention for Becca Drown and family
 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

February 18
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 Phillip Pelkey requested by Tom & Susie May

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

THU NO Mass

FRI 8:00 AM - Mass at St. Thomas

February 24
SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Ronald Soutiere requested by his family
 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

February 25
SUN 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Katherine and Kiland Clark requested by Laura Wells
 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

<u>Ministry Schedule</u> <u>February 24 & 25</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	Please Help!	A Leasure

Second Collection Black and Indian Mission

We invite you to support the Black and Indian Mission Collection and "build our mission to the missions" in Native American, Alaska Native and African American Catholic communities across the US. Since 1884, the national Black and Indian Mission Collection has provided grants to dioceses across the country that enliven parish life and catechesis programs, empower ministries, support teachers and encourage vocations to the priesthood. Please generously support the Black and Indian Mission Collection and help build a future of hope in these communities.

Second Collection Mix-up

Because of a mix-up in the envelopes we were issued, the **Church Maintenance Collection** will be held next weekend as our very important second collection. As we continue to update the parish hall, these funds are used for regular maintenance and repairs on existing facilities. Thank you for your continued generosity to this fund for St. Thomas Parish maintenance.

Stewardship - February 10/11, 2024

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,459.31
 Regular Collection:(incl. \$328 On-Line Giving).....\$ 2,014.00

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.
 Thank you for your generosity to St. Thomas Parish!



God's Rainbow (First Reading: Gen 9:8-15)

There is something divine about a rainbow after a rainstorm. The rainbow is a symbol of God's forgiveness. In the Biblical story, after the Flood, Noah worships God with sacrifices, and God re-established his covenant with humanity through Noah and his family. God blesses Noah and commands him to "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen 9:1). Humanity gets a second chance. After having fallen into rebellion, God offers us a new opportunity. As part of that new creation, he establishes a new covenant with Noah and promises that he will never again destroy the world by flood.

As a sign of his new covenant with Noah and all his descendants, which encompasses all humanity, the Lord granted Noah a beautiful rainbow. The rainbow serves as a reminder, that God will remember his promise not to send another devastating Flood. The rainbow in biblical symbolism is part of God's weaponry.

When God establishes peace with Noah by putting his rainbow in the sky, we get a sense of cessation of hostility. When God hangs up his bow in the sky (Gen 9:13), he is putting away the "weapon" he used to rain down the thunderstorm waters of the Flood. The "fiery shafts" are not flaming arrows, but lightning bolts shot from the sky.

God offers the rainbow to Noah as a sign of his oath. It is a reminder of God's faithfulness to his promises, a sign of hope, a wonder-inducing sight of awe. The rainbow is meant to inspire us, to push us past the humdrum of everyday life to remember how amazing it is that God created us in the first place, that he allows us to inhabit his creation, that he preserves us from day to day, and even offers us his friendship. The rainbow should prompt our hearts to praise the God who gave it to us, as Sirach encourages us: Look upon the rainbow, and praise him who made it, exceedingly beautiful in its brightness.

It encircles the heaven with its glorious arc; the hands of the Most High have stretched it out. (Sir 43:11-12)
 Jesus is the fulfillment of the eternal rainbow covenant. The flood and Noah's ark even prefigure salvation by Baptism (1Pet 3:20-21). In Jesus all sin is forgiven through repentance. The love of Jesus for us is born out of forgiveness.

Confessions are available at St. Thomas on Tuesdays at 6:30, Saturdays at 3:15, and after Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent.

PARISH EVENTS

Sunday	2/18	10:00 AM - Religious Ed
Monday	2/19	9:00 AM - Bone Builders
Tuesday	2/20	12-2 PM - Lenten Bible Study - Jesus the Passover Lamb 5:30 PM - Confessions 6:30 PM - Adult Confirmation Study 7:00 PM - Finance Council Meeting
Wednesday	2/21	9:00 AM - Bone Builders
Thursday	2/22	9:30 AM - Social Concerns
Friday	2/23	9:45 AM - Bone Builders 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross @ St. Thomas
Saturday	2/24	*second collection - Church Maintenance 3:15 PM - Confessions
Sunday	2/25	NO Religious Ed

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

Adult Education

Plan to join us for a Lenten Bible Study that will cover the Last Supper, Jesus' Arrest, Peter's Denial, Jesus' Examination by Pilate, and His Crucifixion. We hope this overview will help us more fully understand our faith as we prepare for the Lord's Passion and Resurrection. We will gather at St. Thomas in Underhill Center at 12 noon: 2/20, 2/27, 3/5, & 3/12. We will use the NAB Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. If you do not have either, they will be provided during class. Contact the St. Thomas Parish Office to let us know if you plan to attend 802-899-4632.

Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation begins February 20. Adult Catholics who have been baptized, received First Communion and are practicing their Catholic faith but have not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to participate in a formation program for the sacrament. Interested persons contact Laura Wells at St. Thomas Parish in Underhill Center by now. Call 802-899-4732 or email stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org or text 802-777-8062.

"Beautiful Eucharist"

Reflections on the Eucharist for the parish called, "Beautiful Eucharist," is available at the entrances to the church, to prepare us during Lent for Jesus' institution of the Eucharist during Holy Week. Pick up a copy and let the collection of life-changing reflections increase your love for Jesus in the Eucharist.

Stations of the Cross

Praying the Stations of the Cross is a traditional way of praying during Lent. We pray this familiar prayer to be with Jesus Christ, who walked this journey carrying the cross, the instrument of his death, out of love and commitment to us. Stations are prayed weekly at St. Thomas and St. Marys (alternating weekly) at 7PM, followed by confessions. Please join us this Friday at St. Thomas Parish.

St. Thomas Calcutta Night 2024



Spring into fun! Join us at the Mansfield Barn at 3 Irish Farm Road in Jericho, on Saturday, April 13 for our annual Calcutta fundraiser. Look for flyers at the main entrance of the church. Ticket now on sale! For more information, email stthomasvtcalcutta@gmail.com



SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you would like to dedicate the tabernacle vigil candle in memory of a loved one or for a special intention, please call the parish office at 802-899-4632. The suggested donation is \$10 for a one-week period.

The Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Coyne on Monday, March 25, at 11:00am. The Oil of Chrism is consecrated, the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the priests within the Diocese of Burlington recommit themselves to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. All are invited to join in celebrating this special Mass. Parish representatives may pick up holy oils for their parish after the Mass. A reception will follow in the parish hall. Carpooling is highly encouraged. PLEASE NOTE: The Chrism Mass is celebrated on Monday this year.

Pro-Life Lobby Day

Chittenden County Right to Life will be attending Pro-Life Lobby Day as a group on Wednesday, February 21. All are welcome. We will caravan/car pool to the State House where we will quietly and effectively advocate for LIFE! Please meet in St. John Vianney's parking lot, 160 Hinesburg Road in South Burlington, at 7:30am in order to arrive in Montpelier by 8:30am. Leaders will guide us, both to get there and while at the Capitol. Your participation will advance the cause for LIFE in Vermont. For more information about this event, visit www.vrlc.net or contact us locally at chitrighttolife@gmail.com.

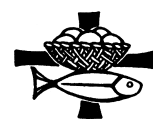
February Word of Life

"We often assume parenthood happens easily after 'I do,' but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility"
respectlife.org/navigating-infertility

Readings For the Week



February 19

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18

Mt 25:31-46

February 20

Is 55:10-11

Mt 6:7-15

February 21

Jon 3:1-10

Lk 11:29-32

February 22

Feast of the Chair of Saint

Peter, Apostle

1 Pt 5:1-4

Mt 16:13-19

February 23

Ez 18:21-28

Mt 5:20-26

February 24

Dt 26:16-19

Mt 5:43-48

February 25

**Second Sunday
Of Lent**

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13,
15-18

Ps 116:10, 15-19

Rom 8:31b-34

Mk 9:2-10

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, Audra Goss, Alex Wintersteen, Dorothy Reny, Maureen Mayes, John Lehouiller, Joseph Tijan, Meghan Diana, Diann Bean, Jay Tisbert, Jerry Reny, Janine Fleri, Bob Keeler, Will Esmay, Joanna Weinstock, Yuri Bihun, Nate Sullivan, Tom Bartlett, Jerome LeClair, Deena DeMartino, Rick Wilhelm, Linda Schaeffler, Mary Martelle, Tim Reny, Steve Guay, Zilda Metcalf, Michael Carter, Bob Stone, Wally Stone, Howard McRae, Loretta Eastwood, Vern Konczal, and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially Marion McDermid, Kit Wheatley and 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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at 899-4632 for details.