

Oct. 28 & 29, 2023 The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Times and Intentions

Week of Oct 28 & 29

Saturday	6:30 pm	For the conversion of Alaina Rogers and Jeff Rogers
Sunday	10:30 am	For the repose of the soul of Cecilia Cross
Monday	6:30 pm	No Mass
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>Mass at St. Thomas</i>
Wednesday	8:00 am	For the repose of the soul of Penny Kistner Bernath (Mass for the Holy Day) (7 pm Mass at St. Thomas for the Holy Day)
Thursday	*****	
<i>Friday</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Mass at St. Thomas</i>

Week of Nov 4 & 5

Saturday	6:30 pm	For fallen away Catholics
Sunday	10:30 am	For the parishioners of St. Marys and St. Thomas

*Join us as we recite the Holy Rosary every Saturday evening at 6 pm
and Sunday morning at 10 am*

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† PRAYER CONCERNS †

*For all our sick and shut-ins as well as our troops. For all who have died, especially Penny Kistner Bernath,  
and all members of St. Mary's & St. Thomas. For Prayer Chain requests please call Cathy Kennedy.*

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† Eucharistic Adoration†

Wednesday mornings after 8:00 am Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday's after Mass/Saturday's 6-6:20 pm

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**Religious Education News:** Religious Education at St. Thomas begins with an opening in the church followed by classes in the parish hall.

Grades 5+6 have class this Sunday./No class for grades 3+4 this Sunday.

Beginning November 12, Faith Horton will be the catechist (catechism teacher) for grades 3+4.

Then grades 3+4 and 5+6 will meet weekly per the regular religious ed schedule.

**Book of Remembrance:** The Book of Remembrance is now out in the sanctuary. You are welcome to enter the names of your loved ones into this book who will be remembered at Masses during the month of November.

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SPONSORS WHO MAKE OUR BULLETIN POSSIBLE!

The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person

Did you know that the Holy Spirit is a person?

The foundation of the Christian faith is that there is only one God, but he exists as three Divine Persons. It is a profound mystery, a mystery we will never fully understand, but one that we *can know something* about because it was revealed by God.

The Bible speaks of the Father as God (Phil. 1:2), Jesus as God (Titus 2:13), and the Holy Spirit as God (Acts 5:3-4). The Bible also indicates that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct Persons, since the Father sent the Son into the world (John 3:16), He cannot be the same person as the Son. Likewise, after the Son returned to the Father (John 16:10), the Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit into the world (John 14:26; Acts 2:33). Therefore, the Holy Spirit must be distinct from the Father and the Son.

Sometimes the Personhood of the Father and Son is appreciated, but the Personhood of the Holy Spirit is neglected. Sometimes the Spirit is treated more like a “force” than a Person. But the Holy Spirit is not an it, but a He (see John 14:26; 16:7-15; Acts 8:16). The fact that the Holy Spirit is a Person, not an impersonal force (as in Star Wars’ “force”), is also shown by the fact that He speaks (Hebrews 3:7), reasons (Acts 15:28), thinks and understands (1 Corinthians 2:10-11), wills (1 Corinthians 12:11), feels (Ephesians 4:30), and gives personal fellowship (2 Corinthians 13:14).

But the three Persons are not each part of God but are each fully God and equally God. Within God’s one undivided being there are interpersonal relationships such that there are three Persons. The distinctions within the Godhead are not distinctions of His essence and neither are they something added on to His essence, but they are the unfolding of God’s one, undivided being into three interpersonal relationships such that there are three real Persons.

God is not one person who took three consecutive roles. That is the heresy of modalism. The Father did not become the Son and then the Holy Spirit. Instead, there have always been and always will be three distinct persons in the Godhead.

The Trinity is not a contradiction because God is not three in the same way that He is one. God is one in essence, three in Persons.

So, the foundational mystery of Christianity is that we worship the Triune God as revealed by God Himself in Holy Scripture, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Therefore, the Holy Spirit is indeed a person.

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***We offer a warm welcome to Father Karris who is representing the Food For The Poor organization.
He will be celebrating Masses for us this weekend.***

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**RCIA:** *Are you interested in exploring the Catholic faith or becoming a Catholic? Contact Laura Wells at St. Thomas Church:  
stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org or call 802-899-4770*

***Pray the Holy Rosary every day!***

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| <b>Offertory Receipts for 10/21 &amp; 22</b> |
| <b>FY24 Weekly Goal: \$1,061</b>             |
| <b>Last Week = \$1342.00</b>                 |
| <b>YTD Actual = 14521.46</b>                 |
| <b>YTD Budget = \$18037.00</b>               |
| <b>Over (Under) = \$(3,515.54)</b>           |