Sept. 30 & Oct 1, 2023 The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Times and Intentions

Week of Sept 30 & Oct 1

Saturday 6:30 pm For the conversion of Alaina Rogers and Jeff Rogers

Sunday 10:30 am For the repose of the soul of Bonnie Lamb

Monday 6:30 pm No Mass

Tuesday 6:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas

Wednesday 8:00 am For the repose of the souls of Karl and Justin Barabe

Thursday ******

Friday 8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

Week of Oct. 7 & 8

Saturday 6:30 pm For fallen away Catholics

Sunday 10:30 am For the parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Thomas

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

† PRAYER CONCERNS †

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

†Eucharistic Adoration†

Mater Christi School Open House: Wednesday, Oct. 25 from 8:30 am to 11 am. We invite you to experience what makes Mater Christi School such a special place.

Religious Ed classes at St. Thomas resume this Sunday at 10:00 AM in the parish hall. We will present a family session this Sunday with parents called Family, Faith and Circle of Grace. Family Gatherings are designed to be a one-time (yearly) event and should take about 60 minutes. The faith-based, Circle of Grace is a safety and protection curriculum that meets the requirements of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth for education programs. Please plan to attend with your children beginning at 10:00 AM in the parish hall.

Respect Life Month begins October 1, 2023

Every October the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning to the natural end of life, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

The Gospel of Life is at the heart of Jesus' saving message to the world. Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. For this reason, direct attacks on human life, such as abortion and euthanasia, are always wrong. Yet sadly, we see new and ever-expanding threats to human life emerging. These new threats to life are often justified, protected, and even promoted by our laws and culture.

Governments and international institutions promote abortion and euthanasia as marks of progress and freedom. But society must respect, defend, and promote the dignity of every person, at every moment and in every condition of a person's life. Our lives are a gift from God and ultimately belong to him. He has sole authority over life and death. We are therefore called to reverence and love every human person, loving our neighbors as ourselves. It is our responsibility

to care for and protect human life, especially the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human being require us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society. In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ.

Through our collective and individual actions, we can build a culture of life and civilization of love in America. Let us begin with the help of God. Amen.

<u>Religious Education Teacher needed</u> for grades 3&4. Please contact Laura Wells if you can help at 802-899-4770 or stthomasrel.ed@vermontcatholic.org.

<u>2023 Annual Fall VT Catholic's Women's Retreat:</u> Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Keynote speaker is Sr. Paul Mary

Dreger, FSE. The theme of the retreat is The Eucharistic Life: Bread of Life & Bread for Others

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Offertory Receipts for 9/23 & 24 FY24 Weekly Goal: \$1,061

Last Week = \$ 925.80

YTD Actual = 10,872.66 YTD Budget = \$12,732.00

Over (Under) = \$(2,920.34)

Pray the Holy Rosary Every day!

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