



St. Thomas Church

6 Green Street
PO Box 3
Underhill Center, VT 05490

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

Pastor Office Hours:
Tue. 2:00 PM-5:00 PM, Thur. 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: rel.ed@stthomasvt.com

Parish Staff

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

St. Thomas Cemeteries

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

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

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday 8:30 AM

Daily Masses

Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Thursday, 8:00 AM

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Please consult weekly bulletin.

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

August 15 SAT	The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 AM - Mass for the Assumption at St. Marys 4:00 PM - Mass for the Parishioners of St. Thomas and St. Mary's Parishes 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
August 16 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the souls of Marcel and Greg Lehouiller requested by Joan, Scott, Kimberly, and Travis 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 Ann Wejroch requested by Tom and Susie May
WED	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
THUR	8:00 AM - Mass in Thanksgiving for a healthy delivery
FRI	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
August 22 SAT	4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Armand Bonneau requested by Paul and Lucy Bathalon 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
August 23 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Lorenzo Santisi 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

*"...and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
(Matthew 10:38-39)*

I find during the summer months it more difficult to get motivated. Maybe as the weather finally improves and I'm able to get outside more I drift into "chill" mode. This summer however is different. The looming issues we face between the corona virus as well as the summer of violence no doubt have drained us physically, mentally and emotionally. Summertime can bring a laxity in the spiritual life also. This year we have to be on guard especially since our normal routine of Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading may have been disrupted. What may have normally been a time of weakened focus, spiritual focus has been amplified by the ongoing crises we are enduring. It's a sacrifice to make time for spiritual things, prayer, scripture study, and Mass attendance. When we are out of routine we end up reacting to events rather than directing them, especially in the spiritual life. This past Wednesday was the memorial of St. Jane Frances De Chantal. She was the founder of the Visitation Order of sisters. Under the guidance of Saint Francis de Sales she became a great proponent of works of charity, especially for the poor and sick. In one of her spiritual talks with her sisters she relayed the subject of martyrdom, but a martyrdom of love. When asked to explain this martyrdom of love she replied, "Yield yourself fully to God, and you will find out! Divine love takes its sword to the hidden recesses of our inmost soul and divides us from ourselves." She continues, "I am speaking, of course, of great souled individuals who keep nothing back for themselves, but instead are faithful in love." What the Saint speaks of here is the death of our own person, not physical death but a death to our selfishness, our narcissism, and our unwillingness to serve God in all we do. During these times of dishevelment and upheaval it is even more important not to let the sleepiness of summer or the distractions of the day keep us from our dedication to Christ and His Church and for those in our local community. Jesus tells us that if we permit our focus to be turned outwardly, following the will of God rather than pleasing the self, there will be great reward for us in the life to come, which is the goal and purpose of the Christian. We must die to self so we can live in Christ. We must crucify our desires and self-determination now so our soul and body can be resurrected later when this life ends. "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." (John 12:24) This Saturday, the 15th is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At death her body saw no decay. She is the exemplar, our model for what we will become: body and soul in perfect harmony free to serve God and others in perfect self-sacrifice to God and others. She is always focused on the spiritual health of humanity, never being distracted. Her intercession is powerful and illustrates to us the importance of putting God first in all we do so He can use us to bring the Gospel, the good news of salvation to all we meet.

~Fr. Micale

Ministry Schedule August 22 & 23

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Lectors

Altar Servers

4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	L Berard	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	M Frederick	NONE

The Prayer Chain

If you have a need for prayers for any reason, a group of parishioners have agreed to pray for your intention/s. You may give as much or as little information as you wish. Please contact Sandy Gosselin at 899-2060 or e-mail her at StThomasPrayers@aol.com.

On-Line Giving Option

St. Thomas is pleased to offer parishioners the option of on-line giving through ParishSoft. This option is for the convenience of parishioners, especially those who are unable to regularly attend weekend Mass at St. Thomas. There is a link on St. Thomas's web site home page for those who are interested in participating (www.stthomasvt.com). For more information on on-line giving, please call the office at 899-4362

Stewardship August 8 & 9, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ...(incl. \$737 On-Line Giving).....\$ 2,499.00

Second Collection - Church Maintenance:\$ 825.00

Please give online at www.stthomasvt.com/online-giving or mail your contributions directly to the parish at PO Box 3, Underhill, VT 05490. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday	8/18	5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment
Thursday	8/20	9:30 AM - Social Concerns
Saturday	8/22	3:15 PM - Confessions by appointment
Sunday	8/23	Have a blessed week!



Religious Education News

First Communion has been rescheduled to Saturday, September 26 at 10:00 am. The change is to allow larger attendance by family members of the First Communicants while being mindful of social distancing. This First Communion Mass is for those children who would have received their First Communion last spring.

Registration for Religious Education will begin in early September. We are still planning for the new academic year. Religious Education will be greatly modified and will not begin until October. More information will be coming soon.

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

Dismas House Online Auction

The Dismas house had to cancel their Community Celebration fundraising event in April and have decided to launch an Online Auction! Please support Burlington Dismas House by browsing and bidding on their great auction items. The Auction opens for bidding at 9:00am and closes Friday, August 28 at 6:00pm. Access the auction at dismasofvt.org/auctions/. Spread the word to help make this auction a success!

WWME Goes Virtual

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual marriage experience called Restore – Rekindle – Renew. This Enrichment Experience will meet via Zoom for seven sessions on Monday evenings September 14 to October 26 from 7-9:30 PM. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call John & Diane Forcier at 802-657-3083 or visit them at <https://wwwmevtw.org/>.

Feast of Our Lady of La Salette

Make a pilgrimage to the New Hampshire shrine of Our Lady of La Salette on the 174th anniversary of the Virgin Mary's apparition in La Salette, Sunday, September 20, 2020. Cost per person is \$149 which includes transportation on Premier Motor Coach, visit to the shrine, special feast day Mass and celebration, dinner. For more information contact bill@greenmntntoursvt.com or call 82-527-0496.

Yard Sale News

Thank you to all who rallied around to donate items, set up tents, arrange the donations, and clean up after the sale. We had over 250 guests who cheerfully followed our social distancing guidelines to find the treasures they couldn't live without! Our strong community effort produced a very successful one day sale with gross receipts of \$4,000! Catholic Financial Life has offered us a matching \$1,000 so that will bring the grand total to \$5,000!

Did you know?:

Once a common element in Catholic Churches, votive candles were a way for Catholics to offer prayers for their intentions and to give witness to the power and effectiveness of their prayers by 'prolonging' their prayer through the practice of offering a prayer and lighting a candle. The idea went that the candle represented the prayer. As the candle burned, your prayer continued to be offered to God. You are encouraged to light a candle to accompany your prayers for your intentions. The large candles burn for 6 days and the small candles for 6 hours. Wooden tapers and a box filled with sand is provided. Please be very careful lighting candles and extinguishing of the tapers in the sand provided.

Advance Directive:

The Diocese of Burlington has revised its Vermont Catholic Advance Directive and encourages all people, regardless of age, to consider this legal document which protects and ensures your medical care and end of life decisions will be in concert with the Catholic Faith. Documents are available at the church entrance or may be obtained by calling the Marriage, Family and Respect Life office at 658-6111 or by visiting www.vermontcatholic.org

Food Shelf News

Looking for a way to support the local community in this uncertain time? Essex Jericho Underhill Food Shelf has been selected by the local Hannaford store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Fight Hunger Bag Program for August! You can give back to EJU Food Shelf by picking up a \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford located in Essex in August. The food shelf will receive a \$1 donation for every bag sold this month.

When you return to Mass, you will see things have changed a bit.

- Hymnal and other reading material has been cleared from the pews.
- Printed material is available to use during Mass but must be taken home to be disposed of
- Bulletins will be available after Mass.
- Please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit from the church.
- At this time there will be no coffee hour so please do not congregate in large groups in or outside of the church.
- The sacristy, balcony, and "cry room" will be closed until further notice.
- Please wear your mask during your approach to communion. When it is your turn, please pull your mask down below your chin, receive in your hand, consume the host, and then replace mask before returning to your pew.

"Abortion affects countless marriages more than many people recognize. But there is no doubt that God will bring great healing to those who trust in his infinite mercy. If a past abortion can be acknowledged and addressed, a married couple can make great strides in experiencing even more fully God's design that 'the two shall become one' (Mt 19:5)."

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"Healing within Marriage from an Abortion" (NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.)*

Readings For the Week



August 17

Feast of Saint Lawrence,
Deacon and Martyr
EZ 24:15-23
MT 16-16-22

August 18

EZ 18:1-10
MT 19:23-30

August 19

EZ 34:1-11
HEB 4:12

August 20

EZ 36:23-28
MT 22:1-14

August 21

Memorial of St. Pius X,
Pope
EZ 37:1-14
MT 22:34-40

August 22

Memorial of the
Queenship of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
EZ 43:1-7AB
MT 23:1-12

August 23

Twenty-first Sunday in
Ordinary Time
IS 22:19-23
PS 138:1-2,2-3,6,8
ROM 11:33-36
MT 16:13-20



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

WE PRAY FOR

SICK: For all our sick: Yvonne Cross, Riley McLaughlin, Lynn McLaughlin, Joyce Brush, Jen DiNardo, David Claghorn, Ed Keeler, Sr. Elaine Lattanzi, Fred Kreps, Robert LeGrand, Kathryn Clark, Joann Bibb, Tonia Barbin, Kyle Brooks, Mary Parisi, Abby Wintersteen, Jack Russ, Mary Lynch, Jay Tisbert, Lawrence Lecours, Don Gingras, Deacon Gerry Scilla, Rosemary Breen, Robert Black, Peter Richards, Barb Juell, Patricia Stone, Jim Meadows, and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

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

Natural Family Planning

"NFP opened up a whole world of awareness about my body. I love that it's based on science and I love even more that it coincides with my faith. It is true whole health".

Sharon Trani MSN; APRN
Nurse Practitioner - NFP teacher
802-326-2015
strani@vermontcatholic.org



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D.G.K.: Pat McCarthy
Chancellor: Ed Matthews
Recorder: Andrew Rowe
Treasurer: Mark Girouard
Warden: Bob Kennedy
Advocate: Craig Benson
Chaplin: Fr. Christopher Micale
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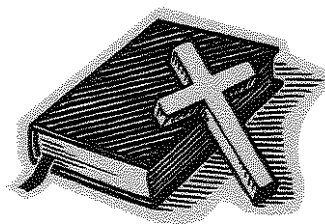
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For prayers answered
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes 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.

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



In loving memory of
Millicent Dixon

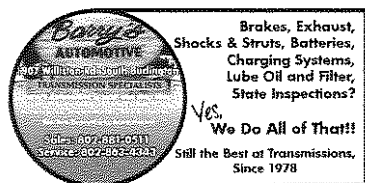


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Confirming



Their Faith



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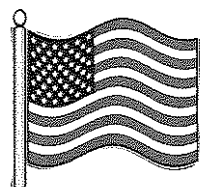
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