



# 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](mailto:office@stthomasvt.com)  
Parish Website: [www.stthomasvt.com](http://www.stthomasvt.com)

Religious Education: 899-4770  
E-Mail: [rel.ed@stthomasvt.com](mailto: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

September 5 SAT	4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Martha Kane Tortolano requested by Dr. William Tortolano 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
September 6 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Pina Oddo requested by Marilyn Frederick 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 Francesco Micale
WED	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
THUR	8:00 AM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Andrew Brush requested by Laura Lynch Wells
FRI	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
September 12 SAT	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
September 13 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the souls of Aldolph and Harriett Wells requested by Laura Lynch Wells 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Ministry Schedule September 12 & 13	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	D Dufresne	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	M Girouard	NONE

### Second Collection

This weekend, we are taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Located in the heart of the nation's capital, Catholic University offers graduate and undergraduate courses in more than 180 academic programs. By giving to the National Collection, you will help support more than 6,000 students who are seeking a faith-filled education at an institution that supports cutting-edge research in multiple fields. Your donation will also enable the continuance of The Catholic Project. Jump started by philanthropic gifts, The Catholic Project is an initiative of the University that aims to help clergy and the lay faithful develop a deeper understanding of the lay vocation and principles for effective action in the wake of the recent Church crisis. Thank you for your generosity.

### Sunday Missals

We will be purchasing 2021 Sunday Missals for use during Mass. These missals are perfect for individual use and contain all Sunday readings for 2021. These missals will be for parishioners to take home and bring in for personal use during the weekend Masses. In order to estimate how many to order, please let us know if you would like one by calling the office at 899-4632 or emailing us at office@stthomasvt.com

### Stewardship August 26 & 27, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal: .....\$ 2,618.62  
Regular Collection: ... (incl. \$645 On-Line Giving).....\$ 2,310.00

Please give online at [www.stthomasvt.com/online-giving](http://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.

### Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

*"And they all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth...He said to them, Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself'...They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But he passed through the midst of them and went away."  
(Luke 4:22a, 23a, 29-30)*

We are on the cusp of another election. We see in politics how popularity and polls can change from week to week, month to month. A public figure whether in the world of politics or entertainment can be riding high in adulation one day and then down in derision another day. Public opinion is fickle. In many cases this inconstancy in people's loyalty is driven by a certain perception of the individual. In many cases an idealized view of an individual is constructed only to be shattered over time. Such was the case with the actress Ingrid Bergman whose most endearing character was Sister Mary Benedict in the film, *The Bells of St. Mary's*. She unfortunately had an extramarital affair and suffered a great loss to her popularity and her career, only to be reinstated as a beloved figure as the social climate of the country changed over time. As she stated about the whole scenario, "I went from saint to sinner to saint again". Jesus experienced the same rollercoaster ride of public popularity during His time on earth. However, unlike politicians or leaders looking at the latest polls He continued His ministry despite fluctuating opinions. Leaders, and in particular Christian leaders, must at times withstand the fury of public opinion or condemnation and standing for the truth push forward, as the famous British adage goes, "Keep calm and carry on." In Church circles we often think of Bishops, Priests and Deacons as those who should profess and be the stalwart protector of Gospel truth, and this is correct. We should be praying unceasingly for the leaders in the Church to be these faithful servants of the truth. However, as Christians we are all called to the truth, standing for the Gospel despite popularity or whether or not it is accepted. We are not pollsters, gauging the receptiveness or rejection of the Christian message. Christ was beloved by some and despised by others and it didn't affect who He was or His witness of God's Kingdom, and neither should it be for any Christian. The culture we encounter is anything but Christian. We understand this, however do we shrink away from standing as witness, especially if discussion leads to issues that the Church has jurisdiction over? There are distinctions of expertise. The Church is not a definitive expert on matters that science generally address, but if those matters impact the status of mankind spiritually, and affect the state of one's soul, then the Church must enter into the discussion. The question for us as Christians and for the Church Universal is: have we been effective in professing the Gospel message of Christ to the world around us? If not why has this occurred? May it be that we have become too concerned about public opinion and whether we as individuals, or the Church is accepted by society? Or do we no longer believe that the Church has the truth and that Christ's message is the only one that can save humanity? Mankind is fickle in its relationship with God and the truth. Over time humanity drifts from pillar to post. It is the Church's responsibility, its leaders and members to maintain the truth of Christian doctrine and practice over time despite the undulations of popular culture and beliefs. It behooves us all to make the extra effort to study the teaching of the Church and maintain a lifestyle in adherence to Christian truth and holiness. As we read, "...but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence..." (1 Peter 3:15) We must always beseech the Holy Spirit for wisdom and discernment so that when that opportunity arises we will be ready to profess the truth, not with anger, judgment or in self-righteousness attitude but in love and concern for the souls of others.

~Fr. Micale

### PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday	9/8	5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment 7:30 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting
Thursday	9/10	9:30 AM - Social Concerns
Saturday	9/12	3:15 PM - Confessions by appointment
Sunday	9/13	<b>Have a blessed week!</b>



## Religious Education News

**Religious Education** will begin the first week of October. The plan is a family model with weekly hybrid program with online classes and meeting monthly for group activities. The online classes will be most effective if parents assist their child(ren) with their lessons. Each child will need to have an adult accompany them during activities. Weather permitting activities will be outdoors. More information will be coming soon. Registration forms are now available on the parish website: [stthomasvt.com](http://stthomasvt.com)

**First Communion and Confirmation** that would have been celebrated in May will be celebrated at the end of September. Please keep our young people and their families in your prayers.

### #youngsaints

Keeping with the Diocese of Burlington's Year with the Saints, this summer we'll look at 11 young saints who intercede for us and give us an example to follow. We'll hear about their lives, pray to and with them, and be challenged each week by applying their spirituality to our lives. Follow us on Instagram to join in prayer! <https://www.instagram.com/dioburlingtonyouth/>

### Parent Café

Virtual discussion series by the Diocese for Catholic Parents includes prayer, presentation, and time for honest discussion. The topics include: What Prayer Life (Sept. 15); Life is a Balancing Act (Sept. 29); Your Habits-The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly (Oct. 13). All sessions are from 7:30pm-8:15pm, parents can attend all or just one. Register at [www.vermontcatholic.org/events/parentcafe](http://www.vermontcatholic.org/events/parentcafe)

### New families:

Are you new to St. Thomas? Or just haven't gotten around to registering? We would love to welcome you to the St. Thomas family. Please call the office at 899-4632 or visit us online at [stthomasvt.com](http://stthomasvt.com) under the 'Newcomers' tab to get a registration form. Welcome to St. Thomas!

**Diocesan Online Ministry Opportunities:** Weekly and daily Devotional opportunities such as live-streamed Mass, are currently being offered by the Diocese. These can be found on the diocesan website [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org) under "Spiritual Resources for Covid-19".

### 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.



## 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 899-4632. The suggested donation is \$10 for a one week period.

### 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 info contact [bill@greenmntntoursvt.com](mailto:bill@greenmntntoursvt.com) or 527-0496.

### Weekend Mass Intentions

Please note we have several Saturday Masses available for intentions here at St. Thomas for the remainder of 2020. We also have various availability for our weekday Masses: Tuesdays at 6:30 P.M. and Thursdays at 8:00 A.M. Some Holy Days may be available. Masses may be scheduled one year in advance from the calendar date you arrange the Mass. You can schedule Mass intentions through August 2021 by stopping in or calling the parish office at 899-4632. If you need a particular weekend, you could also try St. Mary's parish in Cambridge by calling Cathy Kennedy at 644-5073.

### Bottle collection:

The grey plastic bin by the rectory porch is for collection of redeemable bottles and cans for our Confirmation program. Thank you for supporting our Confirmation students as they prepare to receive the special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit which completes the grace of Baptism.

### Tables available for borrowing

As many of you know, St. Thomas Parish has available tables that may be "let out" to parishioners and others in the community for private functions. Although this service is free to parishioners, we do ask a donation from non-parishioners. Also parishioners and non-parishioners alike, we ask that you please call the parish office to reserve tables since these are "let out" on a first-come, first-served basis. This applies only to tables stored in the garage. The tables in the Parish Hall are not available for borrowing. Thank you.



"The Church has consistently taught that every human life is precious and worthy of protection."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
"Another Look at Abortion"

## Readings

### For the Week



#### September 7

1 COR 5:1-8  
LK 6:6-11

#### September 8

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
MI 5:1-4A  
MT 1:1-16, 18-23

#### September 9

Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest  
1 COR 7:25-31  
LK 6:20-26

#### September 10

1 COR 8:1B-7, 11-13  
LK 6:27-38

#### September 11

1 COR 9:16-19, 22B-27  
LK 6:39-42

#### September 12

1 COR 10:14-22  
LK 6:43-49

#### September 13

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
SIR 27:30-28:7  
PS 103:1-2,3-4,9-10,11-12  
ROM 14:7-9  
MT 18:21-35



## 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  
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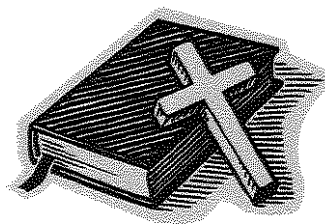
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For prayers answered  
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes 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



Benefactor of the  
St. Thomas Cemeteries

Confirming



Their Faith



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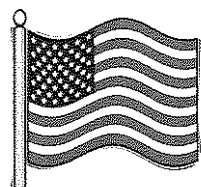
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