

#### Parish Staff

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

#### St. Thomas Cemeteries

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

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

#### 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

October 3

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the health and well being of

Larry Lecours requested by the Knights

Of Columbus

6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

October 4

SUN 8:05 AM - Rosary

8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Amber

Wells requested by Laura Lynch Wells

10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

MON NO Mass

TUES 6:30 PM - Mass for the health amd wellbeing of

Diane Dufresne requested by the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus

**WED** 6:30 PM – Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

THUR 8:00 AM - Mass for the repose of the soul of

Audra Staples Delgado requested by

Laura Lynch Wells

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

October 10

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of

Rosalina Segura requested by Ed and

**Louise Mathews** 

6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

October 11

SUN 8:05 AM - Rosary

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

Ministry Schedule October 10 & 11	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar</u> <u>Servers</u>
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	T Robinson	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	L Wells	NONE

#### **ANNUAL HARVEST HAM DINNER-TAKE OUT:**

Please join us for the Annual Harvest Ham Dinner on Sunday, October 11. This year we plan to serve take out meals only, in compliance with expectations expressed by the VT Department of Health. The menu will include

ham, baked potatoes, squash, carrots, coleslaw, rolls, and home made desserts. Pick Up time will be between 4:00 and 5:30. **Tickets will be one price, \$12.00 per meal**. Purchasing your tickets ahead of time will help us plan, but tickets will be available at the door. Tickets will be available after all Masses beginning this weekend, and can also be purchased at Wells Corner Market and Snowflake Chocolates. For more info or to place a ticket order, please call the rectory at 899-4632.

# September 26 & 27, 2020

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.

#### Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

"And He said to them, 'Amen, amen I say to you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (John 1:51)

"But to what angel has he ever said, 'Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies a stool for your feet? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?" (Hebrews 1:13-14)

Newly ordained priests are at a disadvantage these days. Gone are the days when a new priest waited up to 25 years to become the pastor of a parish. Years ago there was a more structured apprenticeship for the neophyte cleric in place. Putting in your time learning from the senior pastor was an important process for understanding the ins and outs of parish life and ministering to the people of God. The apprentice was a staple in the medieval world. Those engaged in learning a trade or skill had to serve a master of the art or craft for years before being raised to the level of expert in his trade. The apprentice was guided and taught how to perform his chosen trade. Starting at the lowest level the trainee carried tools or fetched whatever supplies or raw materials were needed. Later on in his training he would actually begin crafting something and eventually fully create on his own. The Christian's chosen trade is charity toward God and others. We are to grow in holiness and a loving relationship with God and by doing so express that love. Sin gets in the way of this endeavor because it turns one in on the self and becomes self -serving and protective. I fear the situation we face with Covid-19 may be exacerbating this tendency in humans. Yet just as those learning a trade are guided by a master or licensed tradesman, so the Christian is not alone in developing the virtue and sanctity necessary for us to enter heaven. Obviously Christ, the Good Shepherd and the Holy Spirit are always near us yet God has given mankind assistance in the same way tradesmen give assistance and guidance to their underlings. This week we celebrated two Feast days that seem to be under valued in the Church these days: The Archangels on September 29, and the Guardian Angels on October 2. Modern mankind seems to regard angels and the spirit world in general as largely a figment of the imagination of superstitious people. Yet God's word indicates the spiritual world both in its goodness (the angelic hosts, those who obey God) and its evil (demonic beings led by Satan). However, the angelic world has been given the challenging task of guiding the believer, not through physically instructing us but through thoughts and attitudes that direct us and keep us on the right path. Have you ever noticed that there are times when an idea or thought pops up just before you attempt to do something? Since angels, good or bad, can never force us to do their bidding or God's they must persuade us very much like an argument in a debate (hopefully more effective than some debates!). The cartoon image of the devil on one shoulder and angel on the other is not far from the truth. To underestimate the influence of either side in the spiritual battle is to our spiritual detriment. As we draw closer to God in the spiritual disciplines, consistent reception of the Sacraments, scripture study and prayer we will be more attuned to the spiritual guidance we receive by those personal servants we are given by God. "...for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 18:10b) What a God we serve who loves us beyond our understanding! He has left no stone unturned to assist us in our battle here on earth assigning us a spiritual guide now in hope of eternal life in the future. ~Fr. Micale

<u>Prayer to St. Joseph:</u> Pope Leo XIII composed a prayer to Saint Joseph in his 1889 encyclical, Quamquam pluries, and asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially during the month of October which is dedicated to the Rosary. The prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence. Copies of this prayer are available at the entrances to church. Please take note that the Rosary will be prayed each weekday at 6:00 PM and 30 minutes before both weekend Masses during the month of October here at Church. Feel free to join us if you can.

#### PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday 10/6 5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment

Thursday 10/8 9:30 AM - Social Concerns

Sunday

Saturday 10/10 3:15 PM - Confessions by appointment

10/11 Annual Ham Dinner Take-Out Pick up between 4:00—5:30 pm Tickets \$12 at the door or Purchase after Mass



#### **Religious Education News**

**Registration is open** for Religious Education. Online classes begin the week of October 4. Registrations can be found online at www.stthomasvt.com/35

Religious Education Goals Fall 2020 - The goal of the Religious Education Program at St. Thomas Parish is to pass on the Catholic faith in Jesus Christ. This program recognizes the parents as the primary educators of their children, especially in the catechesis of the Catholic faith. Parents will be expected to pass on the faith we have received by helping their children with the lessons as they are presented online by our catechists, regular Mass attendance as each family deems safe, and especially in this time of anxiety about Covid-19, to practice the faith through popular piety by such means as the TV Mass, praying the Rosary, and reading the Bible as a family.

Classes for Grades K-6 will be online, with some in-person activities - Parental participation is expected especially for younger students. When attending in-person activities, each child must be accompanied by a parent/guardian, or other caring adult designated by the parent/guardian, to ensure proper safety and social distancing as required at the time of the activity in compliance with expectations expressed by the VT Dept of Health and the Diocese of Burlington.

**Confirmation Grades 7-8** will be in person beginning October 11 with Fr. Chris in the parish hall. Masks are required. Registration forms and the calendar are online.

If you have any questions about the Religious Education Program at St. Thomas Parish contact Laura Lynch Wells at 802-899-4770, or email at rel.ed@stthomasvt.com

#### Volunteers needed for bottle redemption

Thank you to all the parishioners who so generously donate bottles to benefit the religious ed program at St. Thomas. We are in need of more volunteers to help bring bottles back for redemption and bring the money back. It can be brought to the Rectory Office or put in an envelope labeled "Bottle Money" in the collection basket at Mass. If you can please volunteer. If you have any questions please contact Laura Wells in the Rectory Office.

#### 2020 Open House

Thank you for your interest in Rice! Please join us on Saturday, October 10 for our annual Open House. This year, we will be hosting this event outside. Teachers and coaches will be on hand to answer questions about academic and extracurricular programming. A short presentation featuring current students, alumni and administrators will provide additional information about life at Rice. We encourage all to stay as we kick off our Homecoming Week with several athletic events. Please contact Stacy Bessette at bessette@rmhsvt.org for more information.

#### **World Wide Marriage Encounter**

"He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come." God invites your marriage to be filled with His graces. Accept His invitation by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience via Zoom for seven sessions every Monday and Thursday evenings starting on November 2 - 23 from 7-9:30 PM. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call John and Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit us at http://www.wwme.org/

## 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.

#### **Domestic Violence**

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To learn more about the Catholic response, visit the U.S. Bishop's website for their Pastoral Letter, "When I Call for Help." If you, a family member, or friend needs help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224 (TTY), www.thehotline.org.

#### **Weekend Mass Intentions**

Please note we have a couple of Saturday 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, and there is a suggested donation of \$10 per intention. You can schedule Mass inten-

#### **Diocesan Online Ministry Opportunities**:

Weekly and daily Devotional opportunities such as livestreamed Mass, are currently being offered by the Diocese. These can be found on the diocesan website www.vermontcatholic.org under "Spiritual Resources for Covid-19".

The Gospel of life is intrinsic to the whole Christian life and foundational to the decisions we make on a daily basis. For, "the Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a single and indivisible Gospel" (EV 2).

\*Excerpt from Evangelium vitae, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.

#### Readings For the Week



October 5 GAL 1:6-12 LK 10:25-37 October 6 GAL 1:13-24 LK 10:38-42

#### October 7

Memorial of our Lady of the Rosary GAL 2:1-2,7-14 LK 11:1-4

#### October 8

GAL 3:1-5 LK 11:5-13

#### October 9

GAL 3:7-14 LK 11:15-26

#### October 10

GAL 3:22-29 LK 11:27-28

#### October 11

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time IS 25:6-10A PS 23:1-3A,3B-4,5,6 PHIL 4:12-14,19-20 MT 22:1-14



If you would like to add or remove someone from this list, please call the office at 899-4632  ${\bf WE\ PRAY\ FOR}$ 

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, Diane Dufresne, Fumiko Russ and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

<u>DECEASED</u>: For all who have died, especially 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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#### St. Thomas Church Knights of Columbus Council No. 7810

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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.

In loving memory of Millicent Dixon



Benefactor of the St. Thomas Cemeteries



#### 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 godparent 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



# God

**America** 

# henette

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