



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

October 17 SAT	4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Michael Pollak requested by Bob and Martha Pollak 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
October 18 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Fumiko Russ requested by the Girouard Family 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 Ginny Perkins 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 Maynard Child requested by Donald and Teri Gingras
FRI	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
October 24 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
October 25 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Roger Keroack requested by Ed and Louise Mathews 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Ministry Schedule October 24 & 25	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	L Berard	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	M Girouard	NONE

HAM DINNER SUCCESS



A huge thank you to all who contributed to the success of this year's Ham Dinner take out event. After expenses, we made over \$1,900 toward our fundraising goal. We had such a great response from the community that we ran out of food and unfortunately had to turn some people away. We appreciate the crew who worked to prepare the ham dinner and all those who bought tickets and enjoyed the meal.

Weekend Mass Intentions

We have a few Saturday Masses available for intentions 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 October 2121 by stopping in or calling the parish office at 899-4632.

Stewardship October 10 & 11, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ... (incl. \$664 On-Line Giving).....\$ 4,125.00
Second Collection—Fuel & Heat:\$ 750.00
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.

Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

"Be subject to every human institution for the Lord's sake, whether it be to the king as supreme or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the approval of those who do good. For it is the will of God that by doing good you may silence the ignorance of foolish people. Be free, yet without using freedom as a pretext for evil, but as slaves of God." (1 Peter 2:13-16)

I was honored to study at the Seminary with Vietnamese students who were basically studying undercover from the Communist government of Vietnam. In Vietnam there is an ever-shifting wave of persecution. Sometimes it becomes more public, other times more undercover and behind the scenes. To be a Christian in a Communist country requires a strong commitment to Christ. Most of us here in the US can scarcely imagine what this must be like. One of my fellow students just prior to ordination was musing about how difficult his life would be when he returned to his native land. He knew it would be a continual battle to speak and live the truth of the Gospel while being respectful of the secular government. We are all called to be good citizens. St. Peter outlines some of these qualities for the Christian to exhibit in the secular world in which he or she lives. The tagline in St. Peter's exhortation to the early Christians is "...be free, yet without using freedom as a pretext for evil". We are in the whirlwind of the electoral process. Politics has never been and never will be I suppose, a tea party with candidates and pundits speaking poetry and niceties. I think many of us project our desire for such interactions, but politics has never been anything of the sort. We must come to admit that those who seek public office are not saints. This regards both Democrats and Republicans. Sin permeates all, it is not associated with any particular party; it just is. We are all struggling with our fallen nature because of sin. Sin and evil do not play party favorites. Sin happens, or should I say, is chosen by us all. Saying this we must now come to the crux of the matter: how does a Christian live a life that expresses our belief and worship of God? For the Christian must conduct his or her life always with an eye to the Blessed Trinity. We (thanks be to God) are not yet confronted with the difficult reality my Vietnamese confreres experience, yet we are still commanded by St. Peter to live in accordance with the laws of the land and respect those in authority-regardless of which party or political philosophy they espouse. So to be in accord with St. Peter's admonition the act of voting is an important part of good citizenship; now for the unpopular discussion. St. Peter tells us not to use freedom to do evil. For our discussion this is the right to vote. He also states that God's will is for us to do the good. The Church's longstanding principle is that it is immoral to commit evil to attain a good. Say I want a more scenic view of the land beyond my property but my neighbor's trees are in the way. I go and cut them down without his permission. No one would question whether that was a good act and worthy of doing, even though the tree cutter truly believed this was a great good. Yet if those same trees were on his property, a few "tree huggers" might be upset, but no one would question his right to do so since the good intended was a better view and the trees belonged to him. So in this case the cutting of trees is not sinful but the intention is very much so. Thus, intention and circumstance enters into the decision of whether or not tree cutting is a good thing. Yet, as the Church teaches, there are certain acts that are intrinsically evil by their very nature. Abortion, purposefully taking the life of another person in the womb is such an act. Determining the morality of this act is not dependent on the intention or circumstance because the objective is always to kill. Again, St. Peter says we are not to use our freedom as a cover or reason to do evil, never, even if the government permits us to do so. The Christian vote must be tied to issues of moral concern and the good as God sees reality, not how modern man views things. The personality of a candidate may have some bearing with respect to voting, but for the Catholic voter the social issues and the moral teaching of the Church must take precedent. Some will say that all the social issues are equal that is, abortion as well as feeding the poor and caring for the immigrant are all to be considered, that it can't be a one issue vote. Many will say that they are personally opposed to abortion and yet won't stand in the way for someone who decides to have an abortion. That's equivalent to saying, "I'm opposed to slavery but if someone wants to own slaves I won't stand in their way". As Christians we must be upstanding citizens that includes the right to vote. However, as Christians our true citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). When these two aspects of our being conflict we must always be on the side of heaven. The Vietnamese I know live this daily and we, as true believers, will most likely be pressed to exhibit this openly and publically some day, for now we do so in private, particularly as we vote. ~Fr. Micale

PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday	10/20	5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment 7:00 PM - Finance Council Meeting
Thursday	10/22	9:30 AM - Social Concerns
Saturday	10/24	*second collection—Priest Benefit Fund** 3:15 PM - Confessions by appointment



Religious Education News

Registration forms are available online for Grades K-6 and Confirmation 7 & 8 at www.stthomasvt.com. Classes have begun, so register now.

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

Virtual Theology on Tap

Young adults are invited to a discussion led by Fr. Jon Schnobrich on Pope St. John Paul II and the Gospel of Life, in honor of his feast day. Grab your favorite brew and join in! Register at vermontcatholic.org on the Events page.

Saint of the Day

St. John Paul II was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla on May 18, 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. His early life was marked with tragedy as his mother died when he was 9 years old and his brother Edmund died when he was 12 years old. As the Saint stated in his writings, his father did all that was possible to create what he would later refer to as his "first seminary" or the "domestic church" because the message of the Gospel was not for Sunday alone, but for everyday. Karol's days were filled with assisting at the Mass as an altar server, studying, and sports, such as swimming and skiing. To read more about St. John Paul II visit www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day

Prayer to St. Joseph

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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment." Does your marriage honor God? Bring your marriage to its fullest on the upcoming 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/>

We ask that you pray daily the Pope's prayer to the Virgin Mary for protection from this pandemic:

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

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.

October is Respect Life Month!

Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating throughout October. Learn how you can participate at respect-life.org/celebrate.

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 under "Spiritual Resources for Covid-19".

"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. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. ... Not only must human life not be taken, but it must be protected with loving concern."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"
respectlife.org/gospel-of-life-summary

Readings For the Week



October 19

EPH 2:1-10
 LK 12:13-21

October 20

EPH 1:12-22
 LK 12:35-38

October 21

EPH 3:2-12
 LK 12:39-48

October 22

EPH 3:14-21
 LK 12:49-53

October 23

EPH 4:1-6
 LK 12:54-59

October 24

EPH 4:7-16
 LK 13:1-9

October 25

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 EX 22:20-26
 PS 18:2-3,3-4,47,51
 1 THES 1:5C-10
 MT 22:34-40



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

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially Fumiko Russ 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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Council No. 7810

G.K.: Steve Haupt
D.G.K.: Pat McCarthy
Chancellor: Ed Matthews
Recorder: Andrew Rowe
Treasurer: Mark Girouard
Warden: Bob Kennedy
Advocate: Craig Benson
Chaplin: Fr. Christopher Micale
Meets 2nd Tuesday each month

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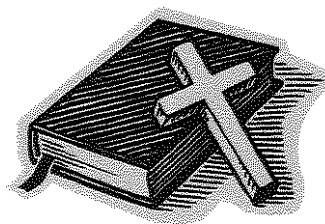
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For prayers answered
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes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

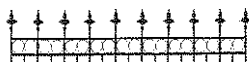
Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or interested in learning more about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church? RCIA is the process by which adults are received into the church and receive the sacraments.

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

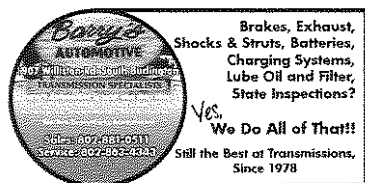


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Confirming



Their Faith



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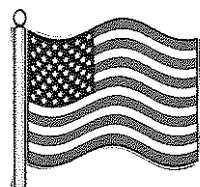
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