

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.

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.

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 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
MON	NO Mass
TUES	6:30 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Carmelo Santini
WED	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
THUR	8:00 AM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Lawrence Santini
FRI	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
October 31 SAT	4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Charles Siekman requested by Dan and Elizabeth MacDonald 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
November 1 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Robert J. McDermott requested by Laura Wells 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Ministry Schedule Oct. 31 & Nov. 1	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	T May	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	B MacDonough	NONE

Pork Dinner Take-Out

The Knight's Council 7810 is cooking a Pork Loin take out dinner on Nov 8th with pick-up from 4:00 - 5:30 PM. The dinner will be \$12 and consist of Pork loin, mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing, gravy, apple sauce, and desert. The Knight's support different charities, and for this dinner, you will choose the charity for your dinner's proceeds. You will pick one of the three charities: Special Olympics, Veterans Place (home for homeless Veterans in Northfield, VT) or the Seminarian program (support for one of this year's Seminarians). Tickets can be reserved by calling the church office 802-899-4632, or buying them after the Masses on the weekends.



Daylight Savings



Daylight savings ends next Sunday, November 1. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night!

Stewardship October 17 & 18, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ... (incl. \$446 On-Line Giving)\$ 1,174.00
Second Collection—Worls Mission Sunday:\$ 106.00

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

"Daniel said: 'Blessed be the name of God from age to age, for wisdom and power are his. He changes times and season, deposes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with him. (Daniel 2:20-21)

It never ceases to amaze me every year the pattern is the same. During foliage season there is an order to the changing of the leaves. Certain trees change first then there are those in the middle of the season that turn a different hue, than there are those that lag behind. The colors come in a certain order. Usually the reds appear, than those in the orange spectrum, finally the gold and yellow leaves appear. There is an order to the universe amid constant change. Every year we endure winter. Spring blossoms forth to be followed by summer and then fall. This is not a random occurrence, as many believe. Everything has a purpose an origin, and that starts with the Creator God. Every human was an idea in the mind of God before he or she was formed in our mother's womb. We are not the result of the perfect interplay of all factors and elements happening just at the right time to create and sustain life. We all have a purpose because God is a god of order and reason. He does not create or demand from His creation anything that is irrational. His will, as all Christians must be desirous to follow, is rooted in reason, purpose and the flourishing of the human person. In other words God will not ask us to perform acts that will take away our human dignity, only those that will support it. So the overall purpose of creating mankind in the image and likeness of God is to bring humanity in close relationship with the Blessed Trinity. His purpose ultimately will stand no matter what people intend. God gives mankind free will to make decisions, the good the bad and the ugly, but He will never permit mankind's actions (and at times folly) to interrupt or short circuit His ultimate plan for the human race. The prophet Daniel realized this when he interpreted King Nebuchadnezzar's dream regarding the kingdoms that would rule over vast territories of the earth. God is in charge, period. With no political bias intended, nothing "trumps" God. As American citizens we must always participate according to the rights granted us. St. Paul used his Roman citizenship to appeal to Caesar. So, voting is an essential aspect of citizenship, but it is not the end all be all. God ultimately has the last say and this happens in one of two ways; His ordaining will and His permitting will. For example, God ordains that the laws of nature and morality be maintained. It is never right to contravene His moral law in particular with the intrinsically evil act of ending the life a child in the womb. Yet God, at times, permits certain governments and rulers to continue in power as He sees fit and as long as the ultimate goal of providing opportunity for salvation to all is not impeded. There are times when Our Creator permits the sinful actions to play out until He can intervene and get the "best bang for His buck". By this I mean that by permitting the natural consequences of breaking the laws of nature to play out, humans can learn how horrific sin is. Through experiencing the hurt and pain humanity can come to see how separating oneself from God is deadly and He can draw many back to Him. Many are concerned this election cycle. Many believe this is the most significant period of our nation's history for it may very well decide in which direction the country will proceed. Placing all the potential political fall out from the discussion aside, we must ask the question, where are we headed spiritually, with respect to our relationship with God? Do we still believe that all "are endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights?" Do we still believe that our rights come from God, not the government and that any nation that vaunts itself against God will not continue to exist? Just as summer turns into fall and fall into winter one country rises and another one falls, no matter how technologically sophisticated it is. God puts nations and rulers in place and then removes them. It behooves us as a nation to remember from whence come all the rich blessings we possess. For there has been no nation on earth that has reached its apex of power that has retained such prowess for more than a few hundred years. Our relationship with God, and the love we permit Him to build in us, is all we can take with us when we die. All the riches, power and technological wizardry we accumulate is but cow dung. We all will have to give account of our actions when we personally meet Our Lord after this life; how much more culpable is a nation that prides itself on power, prestige and materialism and has forgotten the source and origin of all that it has. Maybe as we mail in our ballots or venture out to the polling booth we might consider what is really at stake in this election. After all, it's not the ability to have the right to do anything I want, especially if it is contrary to the laws of God. Religious labels excluded, one is Catholic by his or her adherence to the Doctrines and teachings of the Church. It's about the protection of life in the womb, the upholding of marriage as God intended, the free public exercise of worshipping the Trinity that gave us these rights in the first place, and promoting any political candidate that assists humanity in turning back to the One who brings order to the universe and the human person, not the chaos in which our nation and world is descending.

~Fr. Micale



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

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".

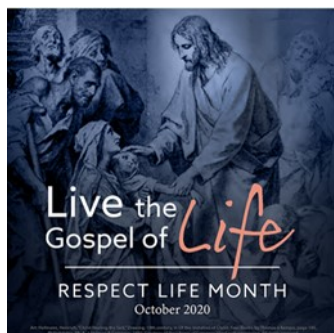
Advance Directive:

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 may be obtained by visiting www.vermontcatholic.org or by calling the Marriage, Family and Respect Life office at 658-6111.

Food Shelf Update



The Essex-Jericho-Underhill Food Shelf is humbled by the fantastic outpouring of commitment and support over the last 8 months of the pandemic. They have served 383 families comprising of 1105 individuals from March through October. Please accept their thanks for all who supported their mission. With the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, please consider donating stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, and other holiday items. Thank you!



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.

Bottle Donations

Thanks for Bottle Donations to Religious Education Thank you to all parishioners supporting the Religious Education Program through the donation of redeemable bottles and cans in the collection bin at the rectory. Thanks to our Confirmation students and their families who return them and get the money to the church. Redeemable bottles and cans must be clean for health reasons, (a young person is handling them and counting them).

October is Respect Life Month

The mission of the Vermont Right to Life Committee is to achieve universal recognition of the sanctity of human life from conception through natural death. In pursuit of that mission, VRLC through peaceful, legal means seeks changes in public opinion, public policy, the law, and individual behavior that respect the right to life and reject abortion, euthanasia, and other actions that deny the right to 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. 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 26

EPH 4:32-5:8
 LK 13:10-17

October 27

EPH 5:21-33
 LK 13:18-21

October 28

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles
 EPH 2:19-22
 PS 19:2-3, 4-5
 LK 6:12-16

October 29

EPH 6:10-20
 LK 13:31-35

October 30

PHIL 1:1-11
 LK 14:1-6

October 31

PHIL 1L18B-26
 LK 14:1,7-11

November 1

Solemnity of All Saints

RV 7:2-4, 9-14
 PS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6
 1 JN 3:1-3
 MT 5:1-12A



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, Amy Gratton, and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially Angela Wilder 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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St. Thomas Church
Knights of Columbus
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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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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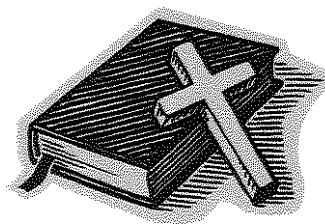
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Do you have friends and family members who
no longer practice our Catholic Faith?

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

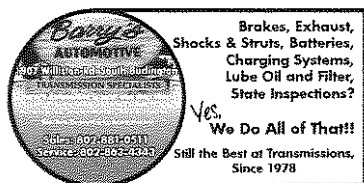


Benefactor of the
St. Thomas Cemeteries

Confirming



Their Faith



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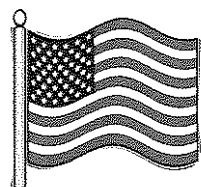
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