



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

November 14
SAT 4:00 PM - Mass in thanksgiving for the Haupt Family requested by the Girouard Family
 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

November 15
SUN 8:05 AM - Rosary
 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Fumiko Russ requested by the Knights of Columbus
 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 Angela Wilder requested by the Girouard Family

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

THUR 8:00 AM - Mass for our All Soul's Day Intentions

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

November 21
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

November 22
SUN 8:05 AM - Rosary
 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Ben Frederick requested by Mark & Marilyn Frederick
 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

"Fear not, be not troubled: did I not announce and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses! Is there a God or any Rock besides me?" (Isaiah 44:8)

I've never been good with chaos. When I get up in the morning I need to make my bed before I leave the bedroom. After a meal the dishes need to be done. No dishes in the sink over night. No piles of books or clutter in the house. This is not to tout my virtues, it expresses my inability to deal with a less than perfect environment; but I'm learning how to do so. The current state of affairs over the last few years has forced me to become more flexible on many levels. What do we do when things spin out of control? How do we function when it appears that the rug has been pulled out from under us? Covid-19, churches closed, violence and hatred against those who hold differing opinions and ideas, an upheaval caused by political ideologies, a presidential election process that has been questioned because of a country divided into two groups, confusion in the Church and its teachings, complete repudiation of the moral and natural law, and an uncertain future regarding the state of our nation. In Sacred Scripture God, through the prophets and apostles, uses imagery to help us know who He is and how we can relate to Him. Over and over again in Scripture God refers to Himself as a rock, a solid foundation upon which we can rely. Yet do we rely on Him standing on His solid footing? How do we do this? It starts with the virtue of justice. Justice has many levels but for this discussion justice is what we owe others, what is due them. We owe God everything. He has created us out of nothing. He has given us physical life. God the Father, through Christ, has given us eternal life if we follow His laws and grow in friendship with Him. "It is right and just" we state at Mass because we are present to honor Him. God doesn't need our praise, He is self-sufficient, yet right religion is the ultimate fulfillment of justice, that is honoring God in the sacrifice of Christ that is re-presented every Sunday in the sacred liturgy. This attitude must permeate all we do and say. As a nation, we are incessant in demanding our "right" to do this or that, to be this way or that way. Yet it is honoring God and the responsibility that accompanies it, living a life of holiness that puts on a firm footing. Many Christians believe that they can honor God anywhere and in any manner that suits them. No, it is through right religion and proper orderly worship (the liturgy) not an ad hoc approach that emphasizes what we want, according to our desires. This is the complete opposite of true justice toward God. Christ, through the Church's liturgy, has ordained what true worship is, what truly honors God. We see this depicted in the Book of Revelation with all the vivid imagery that pictures the worship of God in heaven. "...Day and night they do not stop exclaiming: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come.'...They throw down their crowns before the throne, exclaiming, 'Worthy are you, Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power for you created all thing; because of your will they came to be and were created.'" (Revelation 4:8b, 10b-11) As a nation the only way to move from chaos to order is through justice toward God, giving Him what is due in proper worship and applying His law of love to our neighbor. No ideology, re-set or re-emphasis on personal rights will achieve the objective of a stable, just nation. Only when we begin to honor God, showing justice toward Him by proper worship and living in accordance to the natural and moral law, will we ever hope to order a very chaotic culture and to secure life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to all our nation's citizenry. The ultimate foundation that brings stability in a nation and a people is God.

~Fr. Micale

Ministry Schedule November 21 & 22	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	Please Help	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	L Wells	NONE

Pork Dinner Success

Thank you to the parish and wider community for the awesome response to the Knights of Columbus sponsored Pork Loin Dinner last Sunday. All 200 tickets were sold out and many great comments have been received in the office. The charities supported by the Knights will receive substantial donations: Vermont Special Olympics - \$ 500; Veterans Place - \$ 1000; Seminarian Program - \$ 500. We plan to keep the momentum going and will hopefully be able to plan another take-out event in January...please stay tuned!



New Website!

In order to streamline resources, the Diocese of Burlington has required us to move to a new and improved website host. The web address is the same, StThomasVT.com, but it is more cost effective and similar to other church websites in the diocese. Please visit the new site and let us know what you think! We are also using a new database for parishioner information and will be updating this before the first of the year. Please watch your email for a link to update your family's information.

Stewardship November 7 & 8, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
 Regular Collection: ... (incl. \$625 On-Line Giving)\$ 2,517.00
 Second Collection—Church Maintenance:\$ 660.00
 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

Sunday	11/15	Have a blessed week
Tuesday	11/17	5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment 7:00 PM - Finance Council Meeting
Thursday	11/19	9:30 AM - Social Concerns
Saturday	11/21	3:15 PM - Confessions by appointment



Religious Education News

Have you been to our St Thomas Facebook page? Check out Laura Wells' video series on the Signs and Symbols in the church. One new video is added each week.

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

Christ Our Hope Campaign

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* This week we celebrate reaching \$1,959,047 in gifts and pledges for the Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign. Thank you to our donors for their support. It's because of their sacrifice that the campaign is at 20% of its goal. With \$1,500 raised at St. Thomas Parish we are at 1% of our Celebration Goal of \$134,000. Please note that next weekend — Nov. 21-22 — we will host a Virtual Weekend of Giving. This will offer us the opportunity to recognize the success we've realized in just a few weeks. But it will also be a time to encourage those who've yet to make a gift to join others in their faith community in support of St. Thomas Parish and the Diocese. As part of the celebration, Bishop Coyne will match the first 10 gifts of \$1,000 or more received online during the weekend with a \$1,000 gift. Each \$1,000 gift will go to the donor's parish. Each parish may receive one (1) matching gift. We encourage you to spend time in prayer this week to discern on how you may make a difference with your support for the Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign.



Sign Up For The Christmas Mass of Your Choice

In order to comply with the State of Vermont and Catholic Diocese of Burlington guidelines surrounding COVID protocol, we are asking parishioners to let us know which Christmas Mass you and your family plan to attend. Here at St. Thomas there will be a 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve and a 9:00 AM Mass on Christmas Day. Seating will be limited and we will utilize the parish hall, with closed circuit TV, for any overflow. There is a simple sign up process to indicate your family name and number of people who will attend. This sign up can be found at: <https://reopen.church/r/Tq55FoyY> If you do not feel comfortable going on line to select a Mass, please call Teri at the parish office at 899-4632.

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.

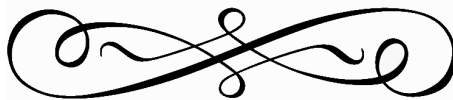
- Hymnal and other reading material has been cleared from the pews.
- Printed material is available to use during Mass but must be taken home to be disposed of
- Bulletins will be available after Mass.
- Please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit from the church.
- At this time there 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.

Support EJU Food Shelf

As a reminder, for the month of November, Essex Jericho Underhill Food Shelf will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford store located at 21A Essex Way, Essex Junction.

Theology On Fire

Young adults are invited to gather for Theology on Fire, a series of conversations on theological topics. We'll begin with Mass at the UVM Catholic Center at 6pm. Following, join us at the Maille Dairy Farm, just 15 minutes away on Dorset Street. Bring a lawn chair and warm clothes! Speaker & topic for November 12th TBD.



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".

"We can't imagine loving a child whom we conceived more than we love Andrew. It is amazing how he fits our personalities so well... Adopting Andrew has made us more aware of God's power and of his love for us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our lives."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "An Adoption Love Story" (respectlife.org/adoption-love-story)

Readings For the Week



November 16

RV 1:1-4; 2:1-5
LK 18:35-43

November 17

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
RV 3:1-6, 14-22
LK 19:1-10

November 18

RV 4:1-11
LK 19:11-28

November 19

RV 5:1-10
LK 19:41-44

November 20

RV 10:8-11
LK 19:45-48

November 21

Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
RV 11:4-12
LK 20:27-40

November 22

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
EZ 34:11-12, 15-17
PS 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
1 COR 15:20-26, 28
MT 25:31-46



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, Joyce Fleury 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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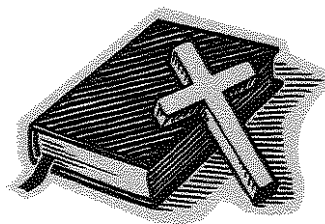
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Do you have friends and family members who
no longer practice our Catholic Faith?

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

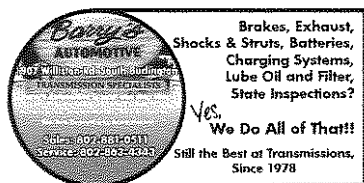


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St. Thomas Cemeteries

Confirming



Their Faith



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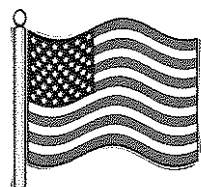
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