



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 28

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Doris Ormonde requested by Steve and Corinne Ferreira
6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

November 29

SUN 8:05 AM - Rosary
8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Norman and Charlotte Brush 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 and healing of the McCarthy Family requested by the Girouard Family

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

THUR 8:00 AM - Mass for the repose of the soul of JoAnn Konczal requested by Vern Konczal

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

December 5

SAT 4:00 PM - Mass for Our All Souls Day Intentions
6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

December 6

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

Message from Fr. Christopher Micale

"To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let not my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame." (Psalm 25:1-3)

I remember when I was around twelve or so my adventurous friend suckered me into walking through a cement culvert that was positioned under a major highway in the town in which I lived at the time. There was of course some flow of water that required us to straddle it stretching our legs so that our feet kept dry. As we travelled through the tunnel the darkness began to close in on us. Fear began to rise as we attempted to walk the full width of a four lane, divided freeway. I began to panic less than halfway into the culvert and began to lose hope that we would ever make it to the other side. Happily we persevered and reached the other side slowly seeing the proverbial "light at the end of the tunnel". Hope is one of the theological virtues. It is supernaturally given to us at baptism. As the Catechism states, "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1817) We live in a world that can easily make us feel hopeless. We can feel the darkness close in at times. Hopelessness can come about when we come to see we cannot change things or make them better. Our attempts at fixing the problem fail and we become despondent realizing we have no control over the outcome. We can also come to this conclusion spiritually. Maybe an old habit resurfaces or one that we've been attempting to overcome just never is conquered and we begin to think we will never progress spiritually. As we enter the Advent season we are reminded that Christ came to earth for just this purpose, to take on the job of saving us from ourselves and to produce fruit in us that will be everlasting. We can't do it alone; we need help! When we come to see this, and see our answer in Christ Jesus, the Messiah, Emmanuel - God with us - our hope rebounds. Then, as the Catechism states, "Buoyed up by hope, he is preserved from selfishness and led to the happiness that flows from charity." (CCC1818) That hope leads to movement away from egoism or an overemphasis on the self. Hope in us drives us to share God's gift with others by serving, healing and loving others. Our Lady illustrates this at the Visitation to St. Elizabeth. Overjoyed with the hope she received that her son would save humanity, she was moved to serve her relative and from it we received the beautiful Magnificat, Mary's great prayer of praise. As the days get shorter, the physical darkness closes in like a dark tunnel, and difficulties and tragic events happen, let us always remember that Christ, the light of the world, has given us the virtue of hope that conquers over despair. "But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained; perplexed, but not driven to despair..." (II Corinthians 4:7-8)

Fr. Chris

New Website!

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.

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 the office at 899-4632.

Stewardship

November 21 & 22, 2020

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ...(incl. \$455 On-Line Giving).....\$ 2,517.00

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	11/29	Have a blessed week
Tuesday	12/1	7:00 PM - Parish Council - Zoom 5:30 PM - Confessions by appointment
Thursday	12/3	9:30 AM - No Social Concerns meeting
Saturday	12/5	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.

Facebook - 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.

Make faith formation a lifelong effort.

Faith formation should not end at Confirmation.

Christmas stocking

 Please take a tag from the Christmas Stocking at the entrance of the church and purchase personal care items for the food shelf. This is an easy and inexpensive way to help our neighbors this time of year. This drive was very successful in past years and we hope to do well again this year! Please place the items in the basket by the giant stocking. Thank you for your generosity and Merry Christmas!

Coats for Kids

Gadue's Dry Cleaning has begun its annual "Coats for Kids" campaign. "Coats for Kids" has been supplying warm winter clothing to families throughout Chittenden and Franklin Counties for over 30 years. This year, need is greater than ever and our donations have been down. Drop off your gently used coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, scarves and winter boots at any Gadue's Dry Cleaning location (see www.gadues.com for locations). Gadue's will clean and recondition them, and items will be distributed through local agencies and schools to those children and families who need warm clothing to face the cold winter ahead. All sizes are needed, adult through infant, but articles should be limited to winter outerwear. For info contact Monika Busse (879-3144) or Penny Wagner (864-5532).

Advent Appeal

Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403. or give on online at www.vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.

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.

On-Line Giving Option

St. Thomas is pleased to offer parishioners the option of on-line giving through eCatholic Giving This option is for the convenience of parishioners, especially those who are unable to regularly attend weekend Mass at St. Thomas. There is a link on St. Thomas's new web site home page for those who are interested in participating (www.stthomasvt.com). If you are signed up under the old ParishSoft Online giving and would like to switch over to the new eCatholic Giving, please contact the parish office at 899-4632.

Missals and Offertory Envelopes

Beginning next weekend, the 2021 Missals and offertory envelopes will be available in the lobby of the church. Everything will have a label for who they belong to. We have ordered a few extras so if you forgot to order one, there may be additional copies available—please call the parish office at 899-4632.

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".

"Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"

Readings For the Week



November 30

Feast of St. Andrew,
Apostle

ROM 10:9-18

MT 4:18-22

December 1

IS 11:1-10

LK 10:21-24

December 2

IS 25:6-10A

MT 15:29-37

December 3

Memorial of Saint Francis
Xavier, Priest

IS 26:1-6

MT 7:21, 24-27

December 4

IS 29:17-24

MT 9:27-31

December 5

IS 30:19-21, 23-26

MT 9:35-10:1, 5A, 6-8

December 6

**Second Sunday
of Advent**

IS 40:1-5, 9-11

PS 85:9-10-11-12,
13-14

2 PT 3:8-14

MK 1:1-8



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 Patrick McCarthy, Nancy Walko, George Lawler 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



PHIL POTVIN 27 MOOSE RUN
899-3305 UNDERHILL



CORNERSTONE CONSTRUCTION, INC.
P.O. Box 178 Underhill Ctr, VT 05490



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
BUILDING & REMODELING
Bill MacDonough

Phone: 802-343-9605
CornerstoneConstructionVT.com



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

Free Estimates

Fully Insured

WILL ESMAY PAINTING
Painting · Drywall · General Carpentry

WillEsmay@comcast.net
11 Covey Road, Underhill, VT 05489

(802) 858-9171
(802) 363-9671

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



REED'S QUALITY HEATING

(802) 899-4362

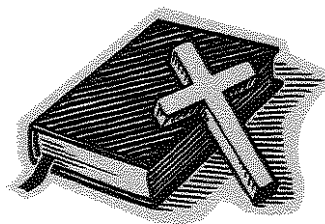
Personalized Efficient Service



John Reed
Licensed Service Technicians
PO Box 97
Jericho, VT 05465

• Oil furnace & boiler specialist
Install, service and clean
• Oil Tank Installations
• Plumbing repairs and water heaters

www.reedandbenoitqualityheating.com



Elegant Wood Floors



Robbe "Kibby" Pierce
owner

802-522-3710

WWW.ElegantWoodFloors.com

61 Lazy Brook Lane Jeffersonville, Vermont 05464

DESIGN • INSTALLATION • SANDING • FINISHING

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

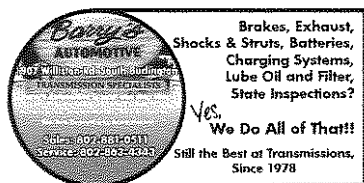


Benefactor of the
St. Thomas Cemeteries

Confirming



Their Faith



Brakes, Exhaust,
Shocks & Struts, Batteries,
Charging Systems,
Lube Oil and Filter,
State Inspections?

Yes,
We Do All of That!!

Still the Best at Transmissions,
Since 1978



Chenette
REAL ESTATE

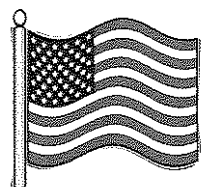
Dave Chenette Realtor/Broker
Business 802-264-1991 • Fax 802-318-4662

e-mail: Dave@DaveChenette.com
website: www.DaveChenette.com



Heating Oil • Propane • Service

P.O. Box 253 • Richmond, VT 05477
tel 800-427-9276 • fax 802-434-3518 • info@pattersonfuels.com



God
Bless
America

GIFFORD FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE

Privately Owned

Eric J. Hanley • Roger St. Hilaire, Jr.
Serving All Denominations

(802) 434-2231 Fax (802) 434-7348
22 DEPOT ST., RICHMOND, VT 05477



Would you like to
place an ad in our bulletin?

Call the parish office
at 899-4632 for details.

Pierre Donzé Inc.

Plaster
Trowel Coatings
Construction Services



P.O. Box 264 Phone/Fax: 802-644-5425
Cambridge, VT 05444 Email: donzedonze@yahoo.com

**First Step
PRINT SHOP**

LIKE us on facebook

Orders@FirstStepPrintShop.com
Phone: 899-2708 Fax: 899-2021
22 Park St. • Underhill, VT 05489



Lamoureux & Dickinson

14 Morse Drive
Essex, VT 05452
878-4450 LDengineering.com

Land surveys Septic Design Subdivisions
Site Plans Wetland Delineation Permitting



Bob & Martha Pollak
Owners
802.899.3373

PO Box 303
81 VT Route 15
Jericho, VT 05465

www.snowflakechocolate.com