



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

January 30 SAT	4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Irving Wejroch requested by Tom and Susann May 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
January 31 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Raymond Nadeau Sr. requested by Gail Nadeau and Family 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
MON	No Mass
TUES	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
WED	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary' for the repose of the soul of Francis Dolen requested by Steve and Eileen Haupt
THU	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary's for the repose of the soul of Jaroslav "Jerry" Bihun requested by Yuriy and Irene Bihun
FRI	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption
February 6 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
February 7 SUN	8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul of Patrick McCarthy requested by The Girouard Family 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption

Ministry Schedule February 6 & 7	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
4:00 PM SATURDAY	NONE	L Berard	NONE
8:30 AM SUNDAY	NONE	M LEDWITH	NONE

Second Collection

This weekend we take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America! Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to Church programs and ministries because of rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity makes it possible for our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Please be generous to the special collection! To learn more, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.



Fish Dinner Takeout—Friday, February 19

There will be a fish dinner takeout on the first Friday in lent, February 19. The menu for adults will include Lemon Dill glazed Haddock, wild rice, green beans, and coleslaw, roll for \$12. Children's meals will include fish sticks, tater tots, coleslaw, & green beans for \$8. Tickets will be on sale soon so watch the bulletin for more details!

Stewardship - January 16 & 17, 2021

Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ... (incl. \$395 On-Line Giving).....	\$ 4,203.00
Second Collection - Catholic Education:	\$ 95.00

Please give online at www.stthomasvt.com/donate 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, 'The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. That is why the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.'" (Mark 2:27-28)

I hit the sweet spot this past week when I finally got out my cross-country skis and hit the snow. The field behind the rectory at St. Mary's is perfect for beginners and individuals such as myself who have not been exercising for a while and are out of shape. The conditions even though a bit on the cold side were perfect. The snow was light and deep enough with no icy patches. I hit my stride for the first time since I don't know when and really felt great as I glided along. We often say we've hit the "sweet spot" in some activity or thing when we find the perfect combination of factors that make the experience or thing most pleasant. There's a perfect temperature in which tea is drunk, a perfect time when our mind is clear and focused to study, etc. However, humans have a tendency to fall into one ditch or the other. We are not always very good at finding that sweet spot when it comes to daily living. We can get up too late for work or overestimate the time it will take to prepare a meal and spend too much time on entertainment or non-essential activities not focusing on more important matters such as getting to the yard work or attacking a project that is hanging over us at our place of employment. In the Christian life we can put off attending to what is most important: our time with Christ. In the Gospel this past Monday Our Lord is admonishing His detractors, His critics. The Pharisees are accusing Jesus of breaking the law. He and His disciples are out picking grain on the Sabbath, the Jewish day of rest, that is, the seventh day or Saturday. The third commandment clearly states, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God..." (Exodus 20:9-10a) Christ came to magnify the law, to reveal the law's intent which is love of God and love of neighbor. This is the "sweet spot" of the law. The Jewish leaders had gone to the extreme with the law and put a strangle hold on the Jewish people, restricting them so that the law was used negatively and in a way to control or manipulate. Jesus sets them right by showing that the purpose of the law of God is to assist man in living a life in the sweet spot, that is, what is most beneficial to the flourishing of the human person. The Sabbath for Christians is Sunday because Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week. It is also the eighth day in succession that symbolizes total renewal and a new beginning. God's commandment to keep this day assists us in starting anew, refocusing our efforts in loving and serving God by affording Him our deep respect through worship at mass. In addition we rest from our busy activities. In both actions we hit the sweet spot of the Christian life: being renewed spiritually as well as physically. Many have found it difficult or uncomfortable to attend mass because of the pandemic. We have been given a dispensation from obligation, yet we must take advantage of this God-given sweet spot even if we are not attending. Sunday must still be held in high esteem, honoring God in other ways such as praying and studying the readings of the day, spending time with the family and serving others. We have not been given "a get out of jail free" card. To see Sunday from this perspective is to take the approach the Pharisees did by seeing the Sabbath as a burden to restrict us rather than a day to free us from the slavery of work and self-focus. As we approach the penitential season of Lent let us work toward hitting that sweet spot in the Christian life. Let us honor God first before all other activities on the day He calls us to communion with Him. For we practice now what we will enjoy forever in eternity: true unity with the Holy Trinity.

~Fr. Chris

PARISH EVENTS

Saturday	1/30	**Second collection - The Church in Latin America ** 3:15 PM - Confessions
Tuesday	2/2	NO Confessions
Thursday	2/4	9:30 AM - Social Concerns Group
Saturday	2/6	3:15 PM - Confessions
Sunday	2/7	Have a blessed week!

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

From the Diocese of Burlington

vermontcatholic.org/tvmass

Live Stream: Daily (Monday-Thursday)

Eucharistic Adoration, 11:30AM - 12:00PM

Mass, 12:05PM

Sunday Mass, 10:00AM

Daily online rosary—email vparzyck@vermontcatholic.org

Marriage Day Mass

Married Catholic couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (e.g. 5, 10, 15, 20...55, 57) in 2021, may be recognized at the Diocese Anniversary Mass with Bishop Coyne, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Burlington, February 7, 2021, at the 10:00am Mass. Given the health restrictions this year, there will be a limit of 20 couples to be recognized in person at this Mass. Couples can bring up to 6 family members with them (a total of 8). Registrations will be accepted through January 28, 2021, by contacting Valerie Parzyck at vparzyck@vermontcatholic.org or by calling the parish office at 899-4632. If you cannot or do not want to attend the Mass but would like a certificate, please call the parish office.

Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church

From out St. Thomas family, the Diocese has received gifts totaling \$5,980, which is 8% of our goal. Thank you to everyone who has so generously donated to the campaign. If you have not yet contributed, please prayerfully consider how you can help. Every gift makes a difference. Your sacrifice will help us build a vibrant parish now and well into the future.

2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal

St. Thomas Parishioners have donated \$12,070 to the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal, which is 56% of our parish goal. Thank you for your continued support of the needs of our parish and diocese.



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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.
- 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.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

Week of January 31:

*In loving memory of
Raymond Nadeau Sr.*

Requested by Gail Nadeau and Family

Challenges to Grow Your Marriage

Weekly challenges for married couples to spend time together. Weekly challenges can be found by visiting: <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/ministries-programs/marriage-family/marriage-enrichment/>

Rental Needed

Parishioner Donna Kunkel is returning this summer for the period around June-October. Her primary residence for the last 43 years was in Jericho. She desires to rent in a quiet area on the main floor, a small house, condo, or mother in-law apartment furnished with the basics with a separate entrance; or to house sit in Jericho, Essex, Essex Jct., Underhill or a nearby area. She doesn't smoke, drink or have pets. References are available. If you, or friends, know of a rental, please contact Donna's email: Donnakunkel54@gmail.com

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

"Walk with each other. Do not be afraid to embrace God's gift of life. Whatever storms or trials we face, we are not alone. He is with us. 'Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age' (Matthew 28:20)."

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Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Reflection: *Be Not Afraid* (respectlife.org/be-not-afraid)

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, Jay Tisbert, Lawrence Lecours, Don Gingras, Deacon Gerry Scilla, Rosemary Breen, Robert Black, Barb Juell, Patricia Stone, Jim Meadows, Diane Dufresne, Amy Gratton, Joyce Fleury, Aline Lehouiller, Theresa Nadeau, Tim Clark, and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially Bernard Kellner, Pete Richard, Patrick McCarthy, and all deceased members of St. Thomas & St. Mary's Parishes.

**Readings
For the Week**



February 1

Heb 11:32-40

Mk 5:1-20

February 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4

24:7, 8, 9, 10

Heb 2:14-18

Lk 2:22-40

February 3

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15

Mk 6:1-6

February 4

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24

Mk 6:7-13

February 5

Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Heb 13:1-8

Mk 6:14-29

February 6

Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21

Mk 6:30-34

February 7

The Fifth

**Sunday of
Ordinary Time**

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Mk 1:29-39

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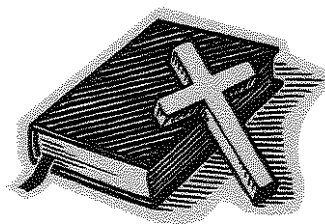
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For prayers answered
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes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



Benefactor of the
St. Thomas Cemeteries

Confirming



Their Faith



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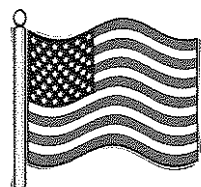
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