



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

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| March 13 SAT | 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Patricia May requested by Tom and Susie May 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption |
| March 14 SUN | 8:05 AM - Rosary 8:30 AM- Mass for the repose of the soul Peter Richard 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 Joan Sheehy Pfeifer |
| WED | 6:30 PM - Mass at Mary of the Assumption |
| THU | 8:00 AM - Mass for the repose of the souls of Robert and Jacqueline McDermott requested by Laura Lynch Wells |
| FRI | 8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption |
| March 20 SAT | 4:00 PM - Mass for the repose of the soul of Connie Hanover requested by James Hanover 6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption |
| March 21 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 |

| <u>Ministry Schedule</u> <u>March 20 & 21</u> | <u>Extraordinary</u> <u>Ministers of</u> <u>Holy Communion</u> | <u>Lectors</u> | <u>Altar</u> <u>Servers</u> |
|--|--|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 4:00 PM SATURDAY | NONE | L Berard | NONE |
| 8:30 AM SUNDAY | NONE | M Girouard | NONE |

Capitol Improvement Collection

Next week we take up our quarterly Capitol Improvement collection for Vision 2020. Many projects are completed, as detailed in the recent financial letter to parishioners, and several are ongoing. Our beautiful stained glass windows are in process and due to be reinstalled this spring. The handicap access bathroom is in the early planning stages, and the new lights have been installed the nave and vestibule of the church. All this thanks to the generous donations and hard work from many of our parishioners and community members. Thank you for your continued donations.

Order of Blessing of a Home in Time of Pandemic

A blessing can be given by a priest or deacon in a Covid-safe way, from the front yard or front porch and does not involve entering the house. This is an opportunity for the Church to go out to the people in the community and their homes, accompanying them with the Lord's blessings during this time. Parishioners are invited to request this blessing by calling the parish office at 899-4632.

Stewardship - March 6 & 7, 2021

Weekly Budgeted Goal:\$ 2,618.62
Regular Collection: ...(incl. \$813 On-Line Giving).....\$ 2,883.00

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

"Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons." (I Samuel 16:b) "Then Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do no see might see...' (John 9:30a)

You may have noticed past Sunday that the readings used were not the ones that are indicated for the third Sunday in Lent, and neither will they be for the next two Sundays. For the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays the readings for Cycle A are proclaimed. They are special texts that relate to the entrance of those individuals seeking to be received into the Catholic Church. The first reading this Sunday from the Book of I Samuel speaks of God's prerogative in choosing those with whom He wants to have a special relationship. For the Catechumen or Candidate this is especially meaningful for God calls all to repentance "who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (I Timothy 2:4) The Gospel readings involve the conversion of three persons, who represent the Catechumen or Candidate for reception in the Body of Christ: the outsider, the non-Jewish person or those outside the Catholic Church, the man born blind who finally sees or has a conversion and now sees all things through a spiritual lens, and the raising of Lazarus symbolizing the hope of the resurrection not only after death but to the non-believer who comes to believe and upon reception of the sacraments lives a life renewed from spiritual death in Christ. In addition to these readings a part of the liturgy for Sunday Mass is the Rite Belonging to the Period of Purification and Enlightenment. They are "...meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, no.141) St. Mary's parish is blessed to have a candidate for full reception into the Catholic Church who has been studying over the past year. At the Easter Vigil at St. Thomas Church she will receive the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. So, while it may appear things are confused with the readings at Mass these next couple of weeks, know that for this year they all represent the beautiful journey of the Catechumen (those previously not baptized) and Candidate (those baptized validly outside the Catholic faith) who have come to believe that Jesus is the Christ and that the fullness of the truth resides in the Holy Roman Catholic Church.

~Fr. Chris

PARISH EVENTS

| | | |
|----------|------|--|
| Sunday | 3/14 | 4:30-6:00 PM - Corned Beef & Cabbage Take-Out Dinner |
| Tuesday | 3/16 | 5:30 PM - Confessions & Adoration 7:00 PM - Finance Council Zoom Meeting |
| Thursday | 3/18 | 9:30 AM - Social Concerns Group 6:30 PM - Food Shelf Setup at Good Shepherd |
| Friday | 3/19 | 6:30 PM - Vespers (St. Mary's) 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross (St. Mary's) |
| Saturday | 3/20 | *Second Collection - Capitol Improvement** 9:30 AM - Food Shelf distribution at GSLC 3:15 PM - Confessions |



Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) #2226

Make faith formation a lifelong effort.

Faith formation should not end at Confirmation.

Laetare Sunday:

Easter is getting very close. This Sunday is Laetare Sunday. Priests are given the option to wear rose-colored vestments at Mass in place of the purple vestments normally worn during Lent. Laetare Sunday is considered a day of relaxation from normal Lenten rigors; a day of hope with Easter at last within sight. We hope your Lent is a fruitful time to grow in faith together as a family.

Diocesan Men's Conference

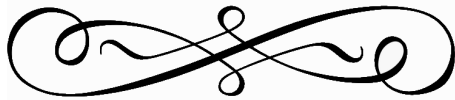
The Annual Catholic Men's Conference will be held Saturday, March 27th via Zoom. The keynote speaker is retired Air Force Captain Guy Gruters. Guy is a decorated Vietnam War veteran who spent 5 1/2 years as a POW in Vietnam and a lifelong Catholic. Other speakers include Bishop Coyne and Monsignor John McDermott. Visit www.vermontcatholic.org/men to register or for more information.

Meat Pie and Pea Soup Dinner

A Homemade French-Canadian Meat Pie and Pea Soup Sale will be offered on Saturday March 20th by the K of C Rosary Council 4684 of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish of Richmond. Advanced orders are required: 9 inch meat pies for \$15 each and 1 quart of pea soup for \$5 each. Items will be available for pick-up at OLHR Parish Hall in Richmond from 5 - 6:30 PM on the 20th. Quantities are limited, so order early. Please call Paul at 802 -316-8791 to place an order or order online <https://tinyurl.com/KnightsFrenchCanadian>. Orders will be accepted up to March 14th if items are still available.

COVID-19 vaccines:

To be clear, receiving the vaccine is morally licit. The Vatican and the USCCB encourage the faithful to advocate for the use of vaccines with no connection to abortion. Moral guidance on vaccines, and more can be found here by visiting the USCCB website at: <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/biomedical-research>



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.

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

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.

Now Hiring

The diocese is hiring Totus Tuus Summer Missionaries! College students...looking for an amazing, challenging summer job? Spread the Gospel, travel Vermont, and teach children about the Catholic faith! For more information visit www.vermontcatholic.org or contact Michael Hagan at mhagan@vermontcatholic.org.

Vermont Catholic Book Club

A bus ride from hell to heaven...intrigued? Join us on this adventure as we read C.S. Lewis' classic novel, The Great Divorce. As we approach and celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday, I invite you to reflect on the "Four Last Things": death, judgement, heaven, and hell. We will meet three times - each virtual session will feature a presentation and time for discussion. All are welcome - bring a friend! The first meeting will be Tuesday evening, March 30th at 7:30pm. Folks can register on the diocesan calendar at vermontcatholic.org

"We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life" (The Gospel of Life 28).

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, , Barb Juell, Patricia Stone, Diane Dufresne, Amy Gratton, Aline Lehouiller, Theresa Nadeau, Tim Clark, Lisa Abair and all those preparing for or recovering from surgery.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially all deceased members of St. Thomas & St. Mary's Parishes.

Readings For the Week



March 15

Is 65:17-21
Jn 4:43-54

March 16

Ez 47:1-9, 12
Jn 5:1-16

March 17

Is 49:8-15
Jn 5:17-30

March 18

Ex 32:7-14
Jn 5:31-47

March 19

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

March 20

Jer 11:18-20
Jn 7:40-53

March 21 Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Ez 37:12-14
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45



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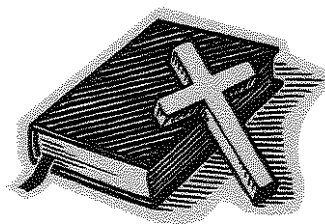
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For prayers answered
Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered the beloved Master into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes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

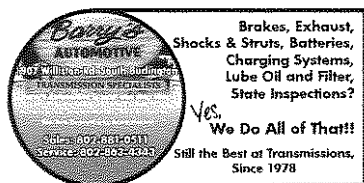
Invite them to come to Holy Mass with you and
never stop praying for them.

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



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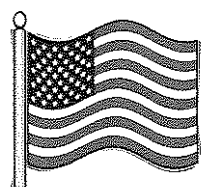
Confirming
Their Faith



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