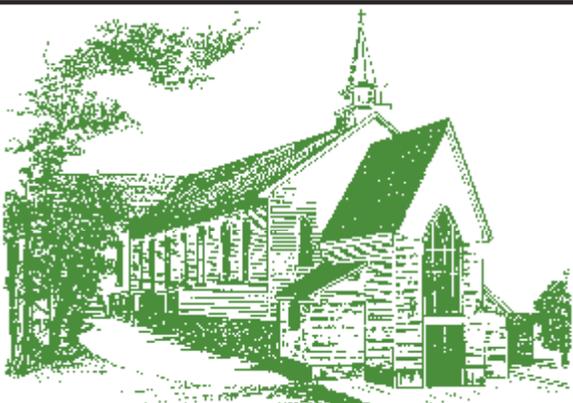


Saint Thomas Church

99 Bristol Street, Southington, CT 06489-4599

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another (John 13:35).”



June 6, 2021

**The Most Holy Body & Blood
of Christ**

Rectory Office

Phone: 860-628-4713 Fax: 860-628-7341

E-Mail: stthomassouthington@gmail.com

Web Sites: www.stthomassouthington.org
www.facebook.com/groups/104009621923

St. Thomas Convent

Address: 20 Eden Place Southington, CT

Phone: 860-621-1904

Office of Religious Education

Phone: 860-628-9679

E-mail: Southington.dre@gmail.com

Southington Catholic School

Address: 133 Bristol Street Southington, CT

Phone: 860-628-2485 Fax: 860-628-4942

Web Site: www.southingtoncatholicschool.org

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM / Sunday: 7:30AM & 10:00AM

Town's Weekday Mass Schedule

*Masses are at Immaculate Conception Church
130 Summer Street*

Monday—Friday: 7:30 AM and Noon

Saturday Morning: 7:30 AM

Our Parish Mission Statement

We, the Roman Catholic faithful of St. Thomas parish, nourished by God's Word and by the Sacraments, welcome and serve the Family of God. Through evangelization, education, and spiritual development, we demonstrate the true meaning of God's love by living in the image of Christ.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8AM-4PM

SATURDAY, June 5—St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

† 7:30 AM (IC) Lena Bailey

Requested by Wally & Bette Ann Bailey

† 4:00PM In Memory of John & Mary Kopcha, & Joan Olson

Requested by Emil & Kathy Kopcha

SUNDAY, June 6—The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

† 7:30AM Luisa Volpe

Requested by Joe Volpe

† 10:00AM Dr. John E. & Geraldine F. Cockayne

Requested by family

MONDAY, June 7—Weekday

† 7:30 AM(IC) Charles Impellizzeri—2nd Anniversary

Requested by Cheryl & Craig

† 12:00 PM (IC) Saveria & Pasquale Ragozzino

Requested by the Ragozzino Family

TUESDAY, June 8—Weekday

† 7:30 AM (IC) Pro-Populo (for the people)

† 12:00 PM (IC) Charlotte & Frank Haupt

Requested by daughter, Jeanne

WEDNESDAY, June 9—St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of the Church

† 7:30 AM (IC) Pro-Populo (for the people)

† 12:00 PM (IC) Pro-Populo (for the people)

THURSDAY, June 10—Weekday

† 7:30 AM (IC) Charles F. Comstock, Sr.

Requested by son, Charles F. Comstock, II

† 12:00 PM (IC) Pro-Populo (for the people)

FRIDAY, June 11—The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

† 7:30 AM (IC) In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus & the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Requested by Sr. Mary Macri

† 12:00 PM (IC) Pro-Populo(for the people)

SATURDAY, June 12—The Immaculate Heart of Mary

† 7:30 AM (IC) Reverend Walter F. Geraghty—Birthday Anniversary

Requested by The Micalizzi Family

† 4:00PM Pasqualina Fazzone

Requested by Vinny & Theresa Scirocco

SUNDAY, June 13—Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

† 7:30AM Luisa Volpe

Requested by husband Joseph

† 10:00AM Harry Kyle

Requested by wife Sara Kyle



Sanctuary Candle

Church: Elaine Simone





Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

I went home on my days off to see Mom and Dad. I had a few projects to get done. After a little nap, I spent Tuesday transplanting some shrubs and plants in the yard. I then put in the air conditioners in the bedrooms. I cooked some steaks and prepared dinner. After cleaning up, I went to rest for the evening. On Wednesday, I put the air conditioner in the back room downstairs. I spent a good portion of the day repairing the dryer vent which had not been working properly; it was blowing the hot, humid air into the hall. After that fix, I grilled ham-steaks and potatoes on the barbecue and made beet salad. I then changed my parents' bed before heading home to the rectory. Mom joked, "You'll be happy to go back to work for a rest!"

As busy as I was at home, I enjoyed it. Not that I didn't get wildly frustrated with the drier hose, causing me to replace the whole thing, but I enjoyed the sense of accomplishment. To look at a garden that was a mess and now see it looking good was great. Above all, I'm always happy when I can make life better for my parents. After all they have done for me, I feel it's only right to help them now. Giving back brings me the greatest joy.

Back at the rectory, I got down to the routines of being a pastor. There was mail to open and emails to read. I checked voice messages and reviewed the bulletin. Beyond all those tasks, I prepared for Mass the next day. I went over the Scripture readings and read up on the saint of the day. I polished my chalice and paten, which were quite dirty. These chores were not only good to accomplish, but made me happy. They reminded me of how blessed I am to be a priest. For all God has given me, I get to give something back to the Lord. That is a joy!

I do all that I do because Christ loves me and calls me to share in his ministry as a priest. I do what I do to make sure the grace of the sacraments is available to all people. I do what I do to ensure the faith is nurtured in the souls of the faithful. There is something wonderful about laboring in the Lord's vineyard. There's a great sense of accomplishment knowing I did my part to build up the Church. For all the

faith means to me, I'm happy to offer what I can to keep it alive and active. I love sharing in the movement of the Spirit among God's people.

As we move through the months and years ahead with mergers and changes, join in the work. It is tough to see old things pass and some people get upset that routines are changing, but there is a beauty to knowing you can do something to make it better for your family, friends, and neighbors. In great ways and small ways, we can all do our part. We can pray for unity. We can assist with new ministries. We can strive to participate in the life of the Church in our local community. If you do it, you will find joy. Trust me!

Happily yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

✠ Ask Father ✠

Question: Father, why are some people canonized so quickly and others take longer?

Answer: In ancient times, declaring a saint was simply done by popular acclamation after a person had died. Most of the time, people were quite holy and deserving, but that was not always the case. Some mythological figures became saints and some people with questionable morals were acclaimed by others. By 1234, Pope Gregory IX established a formal process to declare saints. While it has been modified a bit, the process still stands today. First, the Church investigates the life of a person who has died and had been presented for consideration. A person who witnessed heroic virtue is seen to be in heaven, and is recognized as one who will help the faithful on earth, may be proclaimed a "Servant of God" by a bishop. This person's consideration for sainthood is then presented to the Holy See through the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. If their investigation finds a life of heroic virtue, they will call the person "Venerable". Once a person is venerable, faithful people may pray for his or her intercession. If a verifiable miracle occurs through such intercession, the person then is beatified and called "Blessed". The same process happens again after this until a second miracle is confirmed. At that point, the Blessed is canonized as a "Saint". The process could be within a decade or two, such as Pope John Paul II and Mother Theresa of Calcutta, or it could take hundreds of years, like St. Hildegard of Bingen – one of the first causes under this form. She died in 1179, was beatified in 1326, but was not canonized until 2012. The timelines depends on the investigation of a life, and how much or little controversy surrounds the deceased. Waiting for officially recognized miracle can also slow the proceedings greatly. For some, it's quick and for others it's slow, but it happens when it should. The process exists to ensure those we declare saints of God are truly worthy of reverence by the Church.

Readings for the week of June 6, 2021

Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13,15-18/Heb 9:11-15/
Mk 14:12-16,22-26

Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7/Ps 34:2-9/Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129-133,135/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5-9/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15-4:1,3-6/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 5:20-26

Friday: Hos 11:1,3-4,8c-9/Is 12:2-6/Eph 3:8-12,14-19/
Jn 19:31-37

Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-4,9-12/Lk 2:41-51

Next Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3,13-14-16/2 Cor 5:6-10/
Mk 4:26-34



Parish Information



Parish Staff

Priests

Rev. Joseph R. Cronin—Pastor
fr.cronin@aohct.org

Rev. John E. Cockayne—(*Senior Status*)

Deacons

Angelo J. Coppola—(*Senior Status*)
Vincent J. Raby—Pastoral Associate
dcn.raby@aohct.org

Music Ministry

Emil Kopcha—Director
Kathy Kopcha—Assistant

Office Manager

Heidi Malley

Business Manager

Marc Ingriselli

Trustees

Susan Howard & Paul Miano

Plant Manager

Casey Potthoff

Custodial Staff

Bonnie Guimond—*Part Time*
Ron Lemire—*Part Time*
Marty Lopatosky
Harry Masterbone

Director of Faith Formation

Patrick Reid

Director of Youth Ministry

Christopher Kelley

Southington Catholic School

Principal

Eileen Sampiere

Office Manager

Loretta Putala

Advancement Director

Mary Alexander

Custodian

Rick Barrett

Devotions / Groups

Italian Rosary Group

CURRENTLY ON HOLD

Lap Blanket Ministry

Parishioners make blankets for patients in local health care facilities. Anyone who crochets is invited to join us in the church basement. *One Wednesday Evening a month 7:00-8:15PM. Canceled until further notice.*

Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild meets the first Monday of each month, and hosts hospitality the first Sunday of each month. **Canceled until further notice.**

Bible Study Group

We have finished our Bible study for this year. We will begin a new study in September. At that time, we will examine the Gospel of Luke. We hope to welcome new friends this fall!

Cemetery

If you or your family are looking to purchase a plot or niche in the columbarium, give us a call in the rectory office. We'll have our Plant Manager, Casey Potthoff, meet with you and explain the options for graves and markers. Please, call the rectory to schedule a meeting.

Sponsor Certificates

They're available in the sacristy and the rectory. You must be an active parishioner, registered with us at least 6 months. The use of the envelopes helps verify your status. You must also have completed your Sacraments of Initiation and be in a valid marriage. If you have questions, call us.

Sacraments

Baptism

Parents, contact the rectory to schedule a baptism. There's a preparation meeting for parents having their first child baptized.

RCIA—Adult Sacraments

Anyone interested in becoming Catholic, give us a call!

Reconciliation

Confessions are Saturdays 3:00 PM until 3:30 PM in the reconciliation room in the church (you must wear a mask when coming),

Marriage

We need a minimum of six months for preparation. Couples should contact Father Joe to set up a meeting.

Sacrament of the Sick

Should you, or someone you know, need an anointing, please call Father Joe at the rectory to schedule a visit.

Homebound / Hospital

Please, contact the rectory if you or a family member is homebound or in the hospital. We can arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to bring you the Blessed Sacrament at home.

New Parishioners

Welcome! We're delighted to have you join. Introduce yourself to Father or the Deacons after Mass. Parish registration forms are available in the sacristy and the rectory office. Take one for the family, and a separate form for each member. Once completed, mail them to us or drop them in the collection basket.



Collections for May 30th

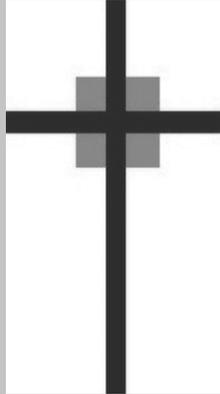
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We're enrolling now for the 2021-2022 academic year.

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Does your employer participate in a "matching" donor program? Several large corporations in our region will match your donation to a verified non-profit, such as a Catholic school. Is your company one that will reward their employees for volunteer hours to a non-profit? You might be surprised! Please call the Advancement Office (860-628-2485 ext 114) at Southington Catholic School for more information on how you can partner in supporting Catholic education in our town. **OUR STUDENTS THANK YOU!**



† Southington Faith Formation †

Is God Calling You to Be a Catechist?

The word *catechist* derives from a Greek word meaning "to echo." Catechists, in the Parishes of Southington, echo the **Word of God** to the children and youth. Catechists are faithful believers that comprise various ages, skills, and talents. They are not expected to be seasoned teachers or brilliant theologians. They are ordinary people, *just like you*, who generously volunteer their time to share our Catholic faith, values, and traditions with our youngest generation. Catechists are positive role models who help children grow in faith, spirituality and their relationship with God. Their gift of time and talents has tremendous value... because through their words, actions, and expression of faith given towards their students, the message of Jesus Christ continues to spread throughout the world.

Do you:

- Love God and want to know Him better?
- Love children and enjoy working with them?
- Want to share God's love with others?
- Want to be good role model for children?
- Want to share your faith more and help others grow in their own faith?
- Want to help children develop a relationship with God through Jesus Christ?

Feel Jesus' call to serve and carry out the mission he gave all of us?

The parishes of Southington are offering the first unified faith formation program this fall. We need Catechists, who are interested in offering an hour and half a week, to help instruct the younger generations in the faith. Training, resources, and materials are provided! Anyone who is interested in serving, please contact the Director of Religious Education, Patrick Reid, via email at Southington.dre@gmail.com, by June 20th.

Stewardship Thought



The focus of today's feast is the total self-giving of Jesus. The Bishops' stewardship Pastoral reminds us that "the glory and the boast of Christian stewards lie in mirroring, however poorly, the stewardship of Jesus Christ, who gave and still gives all He has and is, in order to be faithful to God's will and carry through to completion His redemptive stewardship of human beings and their world.

Our Sunday Visitor, Stewardship by the Book: Bulletin Bits Based on the Sunday Readings, by Sharon Hueckel, 2004 edition pg 33

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or visit them at <https://wwmectw.org/>.

Magnificat Virtual Prayer Visitation – "Forgiveness"

ZOOM EVENT
Saturday, June 19, 2021
10:00 a.m. EST

EMAIL REGISTRATION: Please register by 6/18/2021 by emailing us at Motherofdivinemer-cyct@yahoo.com

Speaker: Alexandra Andrews



Alexandra is a wife and mother of two young boys, and a Pro-Life speaker who shares her testimony as an Abortion Survivor. Alexandra reveals the ways in which God carried out His plan for her life, to bring her out of an orphanage in Russia so she could spread the message of the Gospel.

Please provide your full name, email address for yourself and any guests who are attending with you as well. After you are registered, you will be sent the login and password 1 week prior to the event. For more information, please contact Kathy at 860-621-7814.

DONATIONS: We are accepting free will offerings through our Magnificat webpage by PayPal or Credit Card on the "Donate" Button near the bottom of the page via link:

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Online giving is a great way to support our parish. Signing up is easy if you can use a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Go to our webpage: www.stthomassouthington.org and click the Online Giving Logo. *To keep costs down, we ask that you make your donations scheduled for Saturday or Sunday.* For online support, call them at 1-800-348-2886, Ex. 2. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**We are happy to announce
that we have hired a new
Director of Youth Ministry
for Southington's parishes:
Christopher Kelley**



Christopher T. Kelley, a native son of Southington, went to Southington High (Class of 2008) and graduated from Western New England

University with a bachelor's in philosophy, before pursuing his master's in public administration from the University of New Haven. Following his graduation from UNH, he entered the seminarian program for the Archdiocese of Hartford and has spent the last several years working in various ministries, including campus ministry, in locations both here in Connecticut and in the greater Washington, D.C. metro area while pursuing his master's in divinity (theology). You may know Chris from some of his activities in the parish and the wider community, having been a part of the RCIA program as a team member and sponsor, member of the St. Dominic Parish Education Committee, and a member of the Knights of Columbus among a variety of other activities. Chris is excited to help combine and develop the parish youth ministry for the town, as the new Director of Youth Ministry. If you are interested in helping, please don't hesitate to reach out and see where the journey goes.

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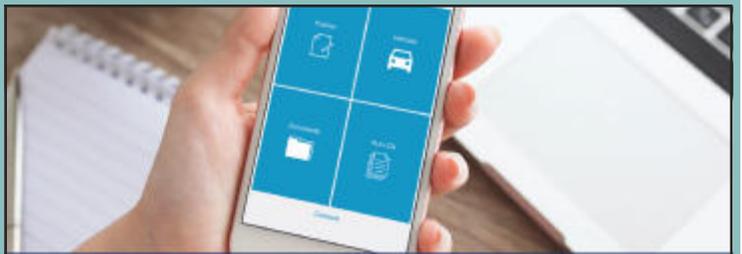


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