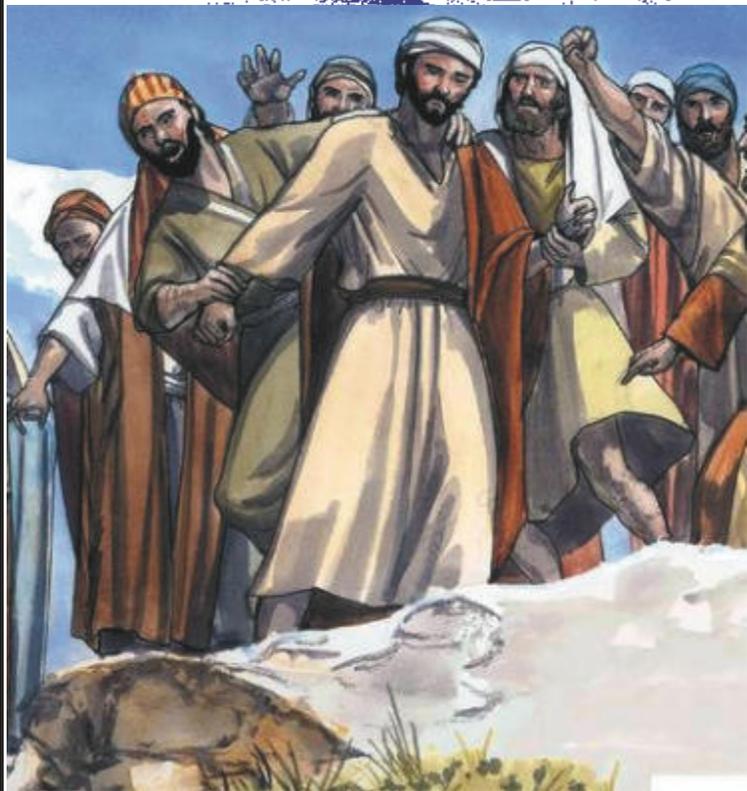


Saint Thomas Church

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).”



July 4, 2021

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Independence Day

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 Faith Formation

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, July 3—St. Thomas, Apostle

† 7:30 AM (IC) Dorothy Govotski

Requested by Fr. Ron

† 4:00PM Geraldine, Romeo, & Norman Martin

Requested by family

SUNDAY, July 4—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

† 7:30AM Gerard Soucy

Requested by daughter Judy

† 10:00AM John Kenny

Requested by Baldwin family

MONDAY, July 5—St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal

† 7:30 AM(IC) Rosemarie Wallett

Requested by daughter

† 12:00 PM (IC) Aldo Ragozzino —21st Anniversary

Requested by The Ragozzino family

TUESDAY, July 6—St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr

† 7:30 AM (IC) Stanley Pikora—10th Anniversary

Requested by wife & family

† 12:00 PM (IC) Maria White

Requested by Pat Talley

WEDNESDAY, July 7—Weekday

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

† 12:00 PM (IC) Raymond Derynioski

Requested by wife, Mary Ann

THURSDAY, July 8—Weekday

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

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

FRIDAY, July 9—St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest & Companions, Martyrs

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

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

SATURDAY, July 10—Weekday

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

† 4:00PM Gerard Soucy

Requested by his daughter

SUNDAY, July 11—Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

† 7:30AM Saverio Mercaldi

Requested by Angie Zacchia & family

† 10:00AM Helene & Vito Pace, & Matthew James Carta

Requested by Vellucci & Carta families



Sanctuary Candle

Church: Deceased members of Barbato family

Requested by: Luigi & Antonietta Barbato family





Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

This weekend, we as a nation celebrate Independence Day. We rejoice in the establishment of a new nation, conceived in liberty. We honor the sacrifices of those who fought for freedom and worked to ensure its protection. The gift of a nation of laws and justice is given to us to protect and continue. We pray that we will take the challenge seriously and live up to the high ideals.



While we celebrate our nation, we also have to be aware of the flaws and problems that have plagued us. Our Constitution allowed for the subjugation of human beings as property in a system of slavery. We denied women the vote and access to equal treatment, even in the ability of opening a bank account on their own. We excluded Chinese immigrants explicitly in acts of laws. Catholics were denied rights, persecuted, and taxed at higher rates when this nation was founded. Most of our immigrant ancestors were told to go back home and deprived of quality jobs and housing. It has taken centuries to right wrongs and to even just open the eyes of citizens to the injustices of hypocrisy of things in the society. Every generation has to ask new questions about not just what is legal, but what is right and moral. It is part of the ongoing forging of America.

As Catholics in this nation, we try to raise the question about many such problems. While abortion may be legal, it is the taking of human life. While the death penalty is legal, it is cruel punishment and also is the

taking of a life. We try to point out the abuses of vulnerable people, such as the horror of human trafficking. We speak out for the rights of the disabled or developmentally challenged. We promote seeking greater unity in society that has become wildly fractured. In an effort to become a more perfect Union, we must confront such questions each generation. It is a process of refinement to produce a more just, peaceful, and honorable nation.

This Independence Day, we celebrate our nation and pray for us to grow stronger as we work to live the ideals of freedom. Have a wonderful holiday with your family and friends.

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

✠ Ask Father ✠

Question: Father, sometimes I see people receive the Eucharist who shouldn't. Why do you give it to them?

Answer: I wish we lived in a world where our people were perfect and such issues were non-existent. Unfortunately, we don't live in that world. There are regulations about who can and cannot receive the Blessed Sacrament. It's my obligation to teach these rules; however, it's not my place to condemn anyone. I don't possess the ability to read souls. If a man or woman comes to me to receive the Eucharist, I have to assume that she or he would be properly disposed for the Sacrament. Is it a sin for someone to receive the Blessed Sacrament in a grievous state of sin? Yes. Can I know the state of a person's soul in line for Communion? No. How do I know what the conscience of another person dictates? I cannot. How do I know if someone has been absolved in Reconciliation? I cannot. So, I have to operate under the assumption that a person coming for the Eucharist is properly disposed to receive it. If that person shouldn't, then the sin would be on that person's soul. If I should refuse the Sacrament to a person and she or he were in a state of good grace, then the sin would be on my head. That is why I give Communion to those who present themselves for it.

Readings for the week of July 4, 2021

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-4/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a
Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-4,14-15/Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b-3,6-8b,15/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57;42:5-7a,17-24a/
Ps 33:2-3,10-11,18-19/Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Gn 44:18-21,23b-29;45:1-5/Ps 105:16-21/
Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Gn 46:1-7,28-30/Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,39-40/
Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Gn 49:29-32;50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-4,6-7/
Mt 10:24-33
Next Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-14/Eph1:3-14/Mk 6:7-13



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

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 June 27th

Weekly—\$3974/Diocesan—\$1240/Online—\$2440



† Southington Catholic School †



*Get on board with us!
Registering for the
2021-2022 school year!!*

**There is still time to get on board with
Southington Catholic School—Fall 2021!**

The Admissions Office at Southington Catholic School will continue to accept registrations over the summer months. Call 860-628-2485 to arrange a convenient time to visit and explore the advantages of small class sizes with very challenging academics at SCS. We enroll students from PreK 3 through 8th

† Southington Faith Formation †

CATECHISM SIGN UP!

Enrollment for Faith Formation:

Enrollment for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation program begins Tuesday, July 6th for the Parishes of Southington! You can find the enrollment form, program handbook, and schedule on the parishes' websites. To register your child (or children) for classes, please print out and complete the enrollment form for each child. Submit (or mail) the enrollment form, a copy of the child's Baptism certificate, and payment to St. Thomas Church. If you cannot print the enrollment form, please contact your parish office and request a printed form.

CALLING CATECHISTS!

We are still in need of catechists for the Faith Formation program year. Catechists are ordinary people, *just like you*, who generously volunteer their time to share our Catholic faith, values, and traditions with our youngest generation. Training, resources, and materials are provided! If you are interested in helping with the town wide program or have any questions about the 2021-2022 Faith Formation program, please contact Patrick Reid via email at Southington.dre@gmail.com, or by phone at (860) 628-9679.



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 there 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://www.mectw.org/>.

"...and many who heard him were astonished." Jesus commands us to love one another. Learn to love your spouse more fully on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Thursdays/Mondays Jul 8-29



CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

Bread for Life is holding its 5th Annual Golf tournament.

When: Thursday, July 15th

Where: Hawk's Landing Country Club

Registration: starts at 8:30, with a 9:30 kickoff.

***Lunch and a dinner buffet, as well as a door prize are included.**



Please join us for our golf tournament, and take a swing against hunger! We welcome golfers and sponsors. All proceeds will benefit **Bread for Life's** mission to insure that no one goes hungry in our community. For more details, call 860-276-8389, or check out our website at www.southingtonbreadforlife.org.

Stewardship Thought

During this time, we celebrate the independence of our country. We would do well to echo the psalmist, saying, "Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for His mercy." May we always recognize and use the gifts of freedom and abundance He has showered upon us.



Our Sunday Visitor, Stewardship by the Book: Bulletin Bits Based on the Sunday Readings, by Sharon Hueckel, 2004 edition pg 20

Online Giving

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!

CARE FOR GOD'S ACRE ST. THOMAS CEMETERY

These guidelines have been developed with concern for the operational expenses of the cemetery. For aesthetic and practical reasons, they have been adopted.

Upright Monument Lots: The planting of annuals is permitted only in the 10 inch area directly in front of the monument, not to exceed the length of the monument. (When burials are on both sides of the stone, annuals may be planted 10 inches in front of the stone and behind it, also not exceeding the width of the monument.) Wood mulch is allowed on the planting area, but you may not use gravel, stone, or crushed rubber. Edging and fencing is prohibited. Nothing is allowed to be attached to the monuments. Planting urns or pots are not permitted on monuments.

Flush Marker Lots: Planting of flowers is prohibited.

Artificial Decorations of any kind are not permitted between March 15th and November 20th. Pumpkins and other fruit are not allowed for decorations. Vases, bottles, and cans are also prohibited. Lights and candles are prohibited. **Winter decorations** are permitted between November 20th and March 15th. These consist of wreaths and bows, and artificial flowers and evergreens placed in boxes. No decorations shall exceed 2 feet in width, 2 feet in depth, and 2 feet in height. These are to be confined to the space immediately in front of an upright monument (and behind, if burials are on both sides of the stone – decorations to the side are prohibited). Damage may occur to winter decorations during snow removal or moving for burials. All due care will be taken, but the cemetery is not responsible for any damage in these cases. *Please note, all allowable grave decorations are as stated above. No other items are to be placed on graves. Any items violating the rules and regulations will be removed by the cemetery personnel immediately.*

Potted Plants and flower boxes at upright monument plots and flush marker plots are allowed only during the week (7 days including and following) of: Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, Mothers' Day, Memorial Day, and Fathers' Day. Potted plants dug into the soil will be removed immediately. *Please note – palms are blessed and should not be used to decorate graves.*

New Shrubbery is not permitted on individual lots. Existing shrubs will be removed by the cemetery workers at such time as they become overgrown. *Please note, roses are shrubs.*

Pets are not allowed in the cemetery. There have been issues with animal waste, pets digging around or marking stones, and animals off leashes. Out of respect for those buried there, no pets are allowed.

Drinking alcoholic beverages or consumption of illegal drugs is prohibited.

The Speed limit for driving in the cemetery is 15MPH.

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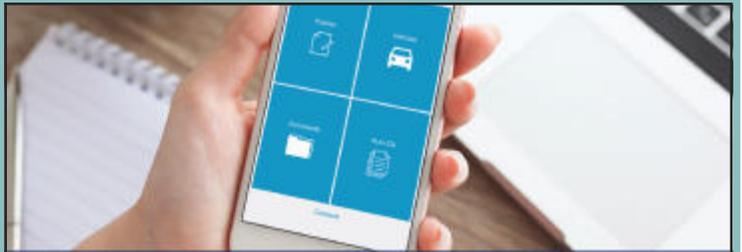


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Mt St Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield
860-242-0738

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860-646-3772

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