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**SS. Thomas and Anne**  
61 Preston City Rd  
Voluntown CT

## PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Very Rev. Ted Tumicki  
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Tom Griffin  
Deacon: Bryan Jones  
Music Director: Howard Drye

## CHURCH OFFICES

34 North Main Street  
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Fax: 860-376-5771  
Office hours: Mon-Thur 9:00-1:00

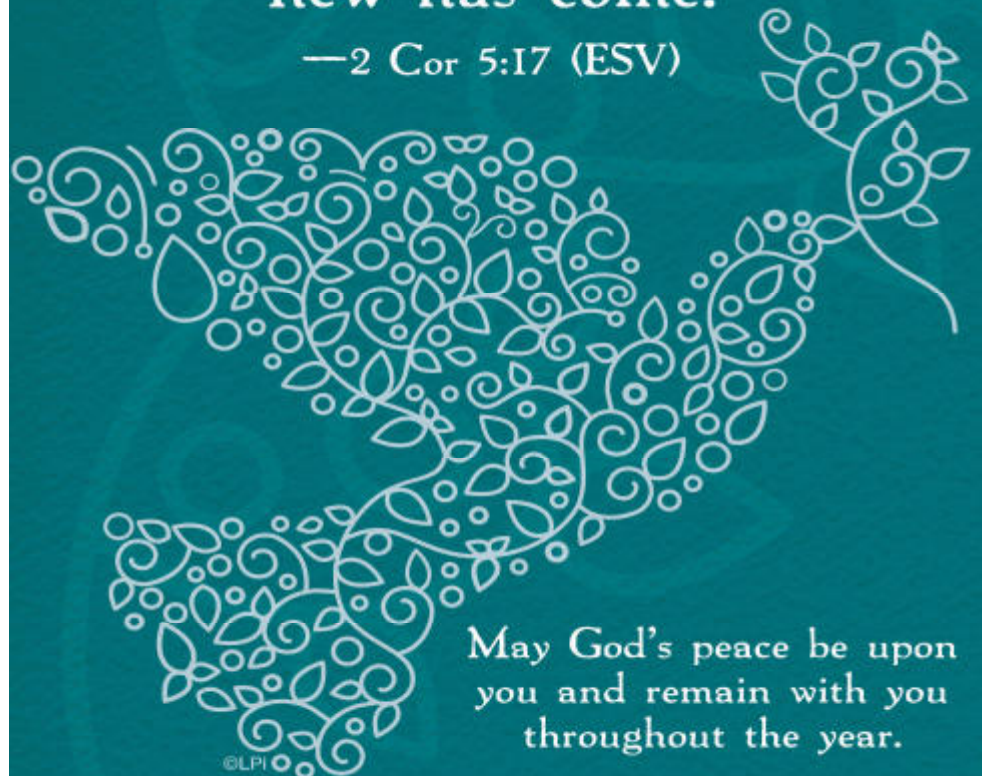
*St. Mary Our Lady of the Rosary*  
Admin. Assistant: Sheila Landry  
[saintmary.secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:saintmary.secretary@yahoo.com)  
*Website: [stmaryjc@weconnect.com](mailto:stmaryjc@weconnect.com)*  
Hours: Mon-Thur 9:00-1:00

*SS. Thomas and Anne*  
Secretary: Jaymie Macko  
[stthomasvoluntown@yahoo.com](mailto:stthomasvoluntown@yahoo.com),  
Hours: Mon & Tues 9:00-1:00

*St. Catherine of Siena*  
Secretary: Jaymie Macko  
[stcatherine.secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:stcatherine.secretary@yahoo.com)  
Hours: Mon & Tues 9:00-1:00

Therefore, if anyone is in  
Christ, he is a new  
creation. The old has  
passed away; behold, the  
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon  
you and remain with you  
throughout the year.

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December 26, 2021



### Inclement Weather Cancellation Notices

Please watch WFSB Channel 3 for updates regarding cancellation of weekday or weekend Masses and religious education due to inclement weather. Cancellations can also be accessed on the Internet at [www.wfsb.com](http://www.wfsb.com) and click on the tab for cancellations.

Announcements for weekday and Sunday Masses will be posted by 6:30 a.m. Announcements for Saturday Masses will be posted by 2 p.m.

### Monthly Financial Updates July 1, 2021—November 30, 2021

	Saint Mary Parish	Saint Catherine Parish	Saints Thomas & Anne Parish
<b>Income:</b>			
Weekly Offertory:	\$ 72,206.31	\$40,477.18	\$33,622.29
Additional Income:	\$ 45,948.34	\$10,214.96	\$15,502.64
<b>Total Income:</b>	\$118,154.65	\$50,692.14	\$49,124.93
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$(100,033.19)	(\$56,842.05)	(\$45,404.36)
Unpaid Obligations:			
Property/Liability Insurance:	(\$41,474.50)	(\$ 9,340.00)	(\$ 4,718.00)
Cathedraticum			(\$ 2,172.43)
<b>Total: Surplus or (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$23,353.04)</b>	<b>(\$15,489.91)</b>	<b>(\$ 3,169.86)</b>

#### SAINT OF THE DAY

#### SAINT STEPHEN

“As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Greek-speaking Christians complained against the Hebrew-speaking Christians, saying that their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit...” (Acts 6:1-5).

Acts of the Apostles says that Stephen was a man filled with grace and power, who worked great wonders among the people. Certain Jews, members of the Synagogue of Roman Freedmen, debated with Stephen, but proved no match for the wisdom and spirit with which he spoke. They persuaded others to make the charge of blasphemy against him. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

In his speech, Stephen recalled God’s guidance through Israel’s history, as well as Israel’s idolatry and disobedience. He then claimed that his persecutors were showing this same spirit. “...you always oppose the holy Spirit; you are just like your ancestors” (Acts 7:51b).

Stephen’s speech brought anger from the crowd. “But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, ‘Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’ ...They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. ...As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ ...‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them’” (Acts 7:55-56, 58a, 59, 60b).”

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-stephen>

## COVID-19 Guidelines Update

December 19, 2021

**With the rising numbers of COVID cases in our towns, communities, families, and parishes, everyone is strongly encouraged to wear a mask when inside all of our churches.**

**While a large number of people are vaccinated, we are finding that anyone can still get sick and/or spread viruses.**

**Please be considerate of everyone around you and wear a mask when in Church.**

**Thank You**

### THIS DAY IN AMERICAN CATHOLIC HISTORY

◆ DECEMBER 26 ◆

### INTO THE WILD

“On the day Charles Seghers was born— December 26, 1839— no Catholic priest had yet set foot in Alaska. But by the time of Seghers’ death, in November 1886, Catholic missions dotted America’s northernmost territory.

In the intervening 46 years, Seghers entered seminary” (at the American College of Louvain), “left his native Belgium” after being ordained a priest in 1863 in the Diocese of Mechelen-Brussels “to serve as a missionary in Canada, and, at just 33 years old, became Bishop of Vancouver Island (in present day British Columbia).

As bishop, Seghers committed himself to personally proclaiming the Gospel in the most remote parts of his diocese. In temperatures that routinely plunged to 40 degrees below zero, he traveled across western Canada and Alaska by schooner, canoe, dogsled, and foot. A master linguist, Seghers always preached to the people in their native dialects, not trusting translators to get the theology right.

In 1879, Seghers reluctantly left Vancouver Island to become the co-adjutor bishop (and in 1880, archbishop) of the Archdiocese of Oregon City (now Portland). Of his work in his new see, which consisted of present-day Oregon, Montana, and Idaho, Seghers wrote. “When I am preaching, I rest from riding. When I am riding, I rest from preaching.”

He didn’t ride for long. In late 1883, Seghers learned Vancouver Island needed a bishop and asked Pope Leo XIII’s permission to return. Leo agreed, and by 1885, Seghers was riding dogsleds through the wilderness once more. During his first year back, he visited all existing missions and established two new ones. He also began building a new pro-cathedral and a bishop’s residence in Victoria. In July 1886, with those projects underway, Seghers set sail for Alaska yet again. It would be his final trip.

As his party traveled through Alaska’s interior, one of Seghers’ companions—a laymen named Francis Fuller—began showing signs of mental illness. One morning in late November, Seghers awoke to find Fuller standing over him with a shotgun. Seconds later, the archbishop was dead.

Seghers’ murder shocked the country, but as news of his work spread, young priests flocked to Alaska’s missions. Today, Seghers is considered the “Father of Catholicism” in Alaska.”

Source: *The American Catholic Almanac*, New York, Image Books, 2014, page 390.

## MASSES & MASS INTENTIONS

### SAINTS THOMAS & ANNE

#### Saturday, December 25th

9:00 am Mass  
5:45 **NO MASS**

#### Sunday, December 26th

8:00 am Reconciliation  
9:00 am *Ruthie Dupointe*  
*Req. by Mike & Joyce Gresh*

#### Monday, December 27th

8:00 am **NO MASS @ St. Mary**

#### Tuesday, December 28th

7:00 pm Mass

#### Friday, December 31st

8:00 am *Maurice Proulx*  
*David & Nancy Kiddy*

#### Saturday, January 1st, Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am *Donald Wunderlich*  
*Req. by family*  
5:45 pm Mass

#### Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 am Reconciliation  
9:00 am Mass



The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Mary will be lit for the week of December 26  
For  
Philip & Louise Anthony  
Req. by their loving children

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are  
Monday—Thursday,  
9:00 am—1:00 pm

### SAINT MARY

#### Saturday, December 25th

8:00 am *Catherine Ann Pucel*  
*Req. by family*  
4:00 pm **NO MASS**

#### Sunday, December 26th

8:00 am *Claire Way*  
*Req. by Arline Maynard*  
11:00 am *William & Claire Maynard Sr.*  
*Req. by family*

#### Monday, December 27th

8:00 am **NO MASS**

#### Tuesday, December 28th

8:00 am Mass

#### Wednesday, December 29th

8:00 am Mass

#### Thursday, December 30th

8:00 am *Dolores Davidsson*  
*Req. by Husband Jeff Davidsson & family*

#### Friday, December 31st

4:00 pm Mass

#### Saturday, January 1st

4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 am *Richard cook*  
*Req. by Steve & Peg Cook*  
11:00 am Mass

All weekday Masses are in the  
Chapel in the Parish Center

### SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

#### Saturday, December 25th

10:00 am Mass  
4:30 pm **NO MASS**

#### Sunday, December 26th

10:00 am Mass

#### Thursday, December 30th

10:00 am Mass

#### Friday, December 31st

4:30 pm Mass

#### Saturday, January 1st, Mary, Mother of God

4:30 pm Mass

#### Sunday, January 2nd

10:00 am Mass

SAINT MARY PARISH

Total 2021-2022 Budget—\$305,101.00

Divided by 52 weeks equals a weekly budget  
of \$ 5,867.33

Due to early publishing deadlines, the December 19th offerings will be published next week.

*Please mail your donations to:*

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*34 North Main Street, Jewett City, CT 06351*

SAINTS THOMAS & ANNE PARISH

Total 2021-2022 Budget—\$124,534.80

Divided by 52 weeks equals a weekly budget of  
\$ 2,394.90

Due to early publishing deadlines, the December 19th offerings will be published next week.

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*C/O 34 North Main Street, Jewett City, CT 06351*

SAINT CATHERINE PARISH

Total 2021-2022 Budget—\$141,015.00

Divided by 52 weeks equals a weekly budget of  
\$ 2,711.83

Due to early publishing deadlines, the December 19th offerings will be published next week.

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*C/O34 North Main Street, Jewett City, CT 06351*

*“...They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” MATTHEW 2:11*

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold—we should reflect Christ’s wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense—represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh—is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.



*Christopher Hart, Cheryl Wakely, Hunter Picco, James Gauthier, Damaris, Cherrill Gemeasky, David Gemeasky, Margaret Labriola, Sister Charles Marie, Mike & Jan Clancy, Grady Sadosky, Mary Mitchell, TJ Faulise, and Dolores Davidsson*



**Readings for the week of December 26, 2021**

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or  
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-1

St. Mary Food Pantry

The Pantry currently needs donations  
Of the following items:

Baked Beans  
Diced Tomatoes  
Canned Pasta  
Assorted Juice Boxes

Donated items can be left Monday—Thursday  
from 9am—1pm or they can be left in the donation  
bins in the rear of St. Mary church, or on the table  
in front of the Rectory. Thank you!

**PARISH CONTACTS**

**Columbiettes Council #2364**  
**Meets on 1st Monday. Call Maryann at**  
**860-608-6772**

**Knights of Columbus Council #2364**  
**Meets on 3rd Thursday, 860-376-2627**  
**St. Mary St. Thomas Cemetery**  
**Call Sheila at the office ,860-376-2044**

**St. Catherine Our Lady of Good Council Guild**  
**For information, please call the office**  
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**St. Mary Food Pantry**  
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