



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

**JANUARY 17, 2021**



## Pastor

Rev. Thomas B. Shepard

## Director of Music Ministry

Anna Jedd

## Director of Faith Formation

Wanda Mascola

## Pastoral Care Coordinator

Maryjane Calladio

## Secretary

Debbie Benham

## Bookkeeper

Karin Fuchs

## Maintenance

George Blake

Lou Luskay

## Office Hours

**Monday, Tuesday & Friday**

9:30AM - 3:00PM

**Wednesday & Thursday**

9:30AM - 2:00PM

## Address

733 Oxford Road, Oxford, CT 06478

Parish Office: 203-888-2382

Parish Hall: 203-888-0837

Fax: 203-881-5518

## Weekend Masses

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM (Winter) or 5:00PM (Summer)**

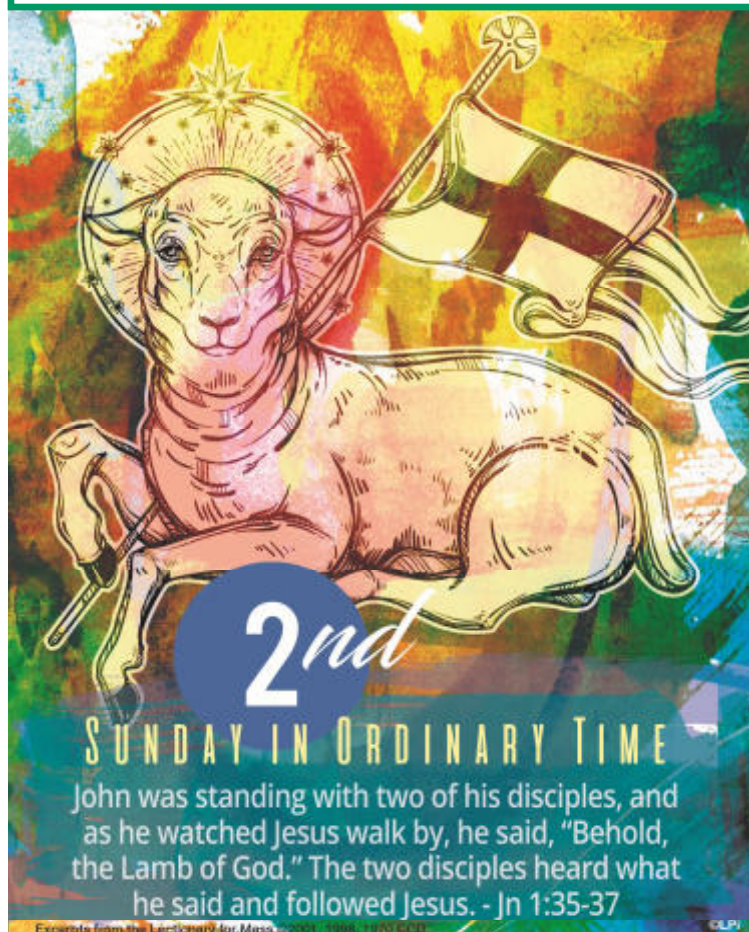
**Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00AM**

## Daily Liturgy

**Monday - Thursday: 8:00AM**

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Saturday: 3:00-3:45 (Winter) or 4:00-4:45 (Summer)  
or by appointment**



Email: [office@stthomasoxford.org](mailto:office@stthomasoxford.org)

Website: [www.stthomasoxford.org](http://www.stthomasoxford.org)

[www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostleoxfordct](https://www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostleoxfordct)

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 17, 2021



### **Sunday, January 17th**

- 4:00 PM (Vigil Mass) for Annette Loiaconi  
(requested by The Uva Family)
- 7:30 AM for John Sokolowski  
(requested by Christine and Family)
- 9:00 AM for Natalie DelGiudice  
(requested by The Gray Family)
- 11:00 AM for Ricky Witham  
(requested by The Swann Family)

### **Monday, January 18th**

- 8:00 AM for the intentions of  
St. Thomas Parish Family

Martin  
Luther  
King Jr.  
Day



### **Tuesday, January 19th**

- 8:00 AM for reconciliation and forgiveness in  
families

### **Wednesday, January 20th**

- 8:00 AM for Adam Saleski  
(requested by Marianne Riordan)

### **Thursday, January 21st**

- 8:00 AM for John Fallon  
(requested by The Fallon Family)

### **Friday, January 22nd**

No Liturgy Today

### **Saturday, January 23rd**

- 4:00 PM (Vigil Mass) for Timothy Brooks  
(requested by The Reynolds Family)

### **Sunday, January 24th**

- 7:30 AM for Ana D. Panasco (1st Anniversary)  
(requested by St. Thomas the Apostle Parish)
- 9:00 AM for Mary Forish  
(requested by The Gray Family)
- 11:00 AM for John Kernan, Jr.  
(requested by Barbara & Carmine Ciardullo)



Collections as of January 9-10, 2021:  
Needed to Meet Ordinary Operating Expenses

**\$8,600.00**

Last Week's Offering: \$7,496.00

**Thank you!**

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 18TH**

#### **ZOOM Monthly Bereavement Meeting:**

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

#### **ZOOM Social Justice Committee/Book Club:**

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20TH**

#### **EVENING Monthly Bereavement Meeting:**

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ZOOM / Church Hall)

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 23RD**

**Confessions:** 3:00PM - 3:45 PM

#### **\*\*\* CONFIRMATION RETREAT WEEKEND \*\*\***

Details available by emailing Wanda Mascola at:  
faithformation@stthomasoxford.org



#### **In Our Prayers**

If you would like to be prayed for or have a loved one who would like to be prayed for, please call Debbie in the parish office at 888-2382 and let her know. This week, please pray for all those who are ill in mind, body or spirit.

Mary Ann Boufford  
Mary Calladio  
Denise Dorosh  
Ellen Osterling  
Tom Timlin

and all those who have died

#### **Please Note:**

Names will appear in the bulletin for 4-weeks and then removed unless their name is resubmitted by calling the parish office. Using this method we can keep names current. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **Readings for the week of January 17, 2021**

- Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9,  
10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42
- Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c [5]/  
Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/  
Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10,  
17 [8a and 9a]/Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14 11a]/  
Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/  
Mk 3:20-21
- Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/  
1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-2

**JANUARY 23 & 24th Second Collection for  
The Catholic High Schools**

The Catholic High School Collection, occurring in all parishes of the Archdiocese on the weekend of January 23/24, supports the outstanding education offered at our Catholic secondary schools by providing funds for tuition assistance, technology enhancements, curricular improvements, and marketing, all of which are so critical during this ongoing pandemic. Please consider investing in the exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and spirit of service at our high schools by making a gift to this year's Catholic High School Collection January 23/24.

**Sick/Homebound/In the Hospital:**

Please inform us if you or any family member is homebound, sick or in the hospital and would like Anointing, Confession or Holy Communion. Call the office at 203-888-2382 between the hours of 9:30am-2:00pm. **Please note:** that if the hospital/nursing home is in quarantine they may not allow priests to enter the building.



To facilitate the safety and well being of the parish staff, effective **January 1, 2021**, there will be only one staff member in the office at a time.

Please call ahead for an appointment or to make arrangements for Mass cards, Faith Formation supplies, Bookkeeping issues, etc.

Envelopes and other types of correspondence may be dropped off using the mail slot in the Parish Office door.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we all try to navigate safely together through this pandemic.

**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

NOTE: For phone contact dial main office number 203-888-2382 and then press the extension number for that individual.

Name	Phone	Email
Father Shepard	Press 8	<a href="mailto:pastor@stthomasoxford.org">pastor@stthomasoxford.org</a>
Wanda Mascola	Press 5	<a href="mailto:faithformation@stthomasoxford.org">faithformation@stthomasoxford.org</a>
Maryjane Calladio	Press 6	<a href="mailto:pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org">pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org</a>
Karin Fuchs	Press 7	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@stthomasoxford.org">bookkeeper@stthomasoxford.org</a>
Debbie Benham	Press 4	<a href="mailto:office@stthomasoxford.org">office@stthomasoxford.org</a>



**Archbishop Leonard P. Blair's Requirement on  
Mass attendance in the time of COVID-19**

The following is an abridged summary of Archbishop Blair's requirements and/or recommendations sent to all active priests of the Archdiocese of Hartford regarding Sunday Mass and Holy days.

- The Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of obligation is extended to **Tuesday, February 16, 2021**, the eve of Ash Wednesday.
- No social gatherings either before or after Mass, including the parking lot.
- All members of the Congregation need to wear masks. [People who claim an exemption for a legitimate health reason (one that does not pose a risk to others) may forego wearing the mask.]
- No congregational singing at all.
- There should be no holding of hands, during the Our Father and no invitation to exchange a sign of peace.
- All Communions lines should be single file, with people wearing masks, approaching row by row and keeping six feet apart. Neither the priest nor the communicants should wear gloves during the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Communicants will receive the consecrated host in their hand, step to the side, lower their mask, consume the host, replace the mask, and return to their pew.
- Tape on the floor should indicate where to stand as a communicant approaches to receive Communion. There also will be tape on the floor to show where to stand to unmask, and consume the host, and arrows showing how to return to the pews.
- At the end of Mass people should observe safe distancing in exiting, pew by pew.



### **Social Justice Committee**

#### **Recycle Greeting Cards and Help Children**

St. Jude's Ranch for Children accepts the fronts of your recycled cards (except for Hallmark, American Greetings and Disney which cannot be accepted due to copyright laws); this recycled card program helps their effort to provide teens with life and work skills.

It is one small way to help children and youth break the cycle of abuse, abandonment and neglect.



Please cut your cards along the fold and send the cover (picture side) to:

St. Jude's Ranch for Children  
100 St. Jude's Street  
Boulder City, NV 89005



### **Preparing For Lent**

Lent is a season for reflection and preparation. How are you going to prepare for the season? We will be offering an 8-week program with Bible study via ZOOM.

#### **Wednesdays**

10:00 - 11:30 AM

FEBRUARY	MARCH
3rd	3rd
10th	10th
17th	17th
24th	24th
	31st

If you would like to attend, please contact Maryjane in the parish center.

### **CPR/AED Training**



Did you know the CPR guidelines changed as of October 2020? The Parish Nurse Ministry will be offering CPR training. The course will be held on a Sunday afternoon, date to be determined. It is recommended for all ushers, employees and ministry leaders at St. Thomas. If you are interested in the training, please contact Maryjane in the parish office.

### **St. Pauly Clothing Shed REOPENS at St. Thomas the Apostle Church**

The clothing donation shed, which was temporarily closed due to global effects of the pandemic, has now been reopened to the public.

If you're not familiar with the clothing donation shed, it's designed to give community members a uniquely clean, convenient, and well-cared-for option to donate their used clothing to. St. Pauly Textile Inc., the company that has provided the shed, partners with businesses and various organizations to distribute donated items both here in the U.S. and worldwide, where they're ultimately re-worn by people who need them. St. Thomas the Apostle Church receives funding for donated clothing, and additionally has the option to use donations to serve community needs.

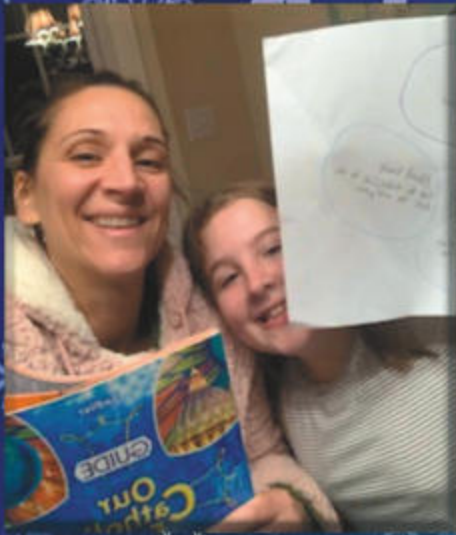
With over 1,300 clothing drop-off sheds in place, St. Pauly Textile Inc. collects over 90,000 pounds of clothing every day and estimates that this clothing ends up in 44 different countries (including the U.S.) yearly. In 2019, the company was able to help keep over 20 million articles of clothing out of landfills, which clothed an estimated 2.5 million people worldwide. The company was founded in 1996 and is an A+ rated member of the Better Business Bureau.

Accepted items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillowcases, and stuffed animals.





## G.O.L.F. / Faith Formation Projects and a Special Visitor to the St. Thomas Grounds



### GOLF at Home

Kristen & Cassidy complete Faith Session



### After Christmas Tree Project

Tristan creates bird seed ornaments.



### Special Visitor

*Maui* joins owners Megan and Mary Ann in taking a walk to St. Thomas' crèche.



### Question:

**Why do parishes have the Blessed Sacrament in a separate room?**

### Answer:

While many Catholics of a certain age have memories of the Blessed Sacrament being housed in the tabernacle on the high altar of the church, many parishes in the decades since the Second Vatican Council have chosen to build a separate space — a reservation chapel — where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Although this practice is not universal, it is in keeping with the guidance offered by the US Bishops in their document *Built of*

*Living Stones* (see nos 77-78). The goal is to create a space that is separated from the nave and sanctuary, but which is “integrally connected with the church” which can foster “reverence and can provide the quiet and focus needed for personal prayer.” This can be especially important for communities that have continuous eucharistic adoration, allowing people to come and pray in a space separate from the normal activities of parish life.

The practice of reserving the Eucharist in a separate space — or in a dignified location away from the altar where Mass is celebrated — is that it emphasizes the importance of the liturgy itself, which is the “source and summit” of the life of the Church.

As with many things in the Church, the practice of placing the tabernacle in the sanctuary or in a separate chapel is not universal (as can be seen in visits to historic churches in Rome and other places). The important thing is that as communities question where to place the tabernacle, they listen to the voice of the Church, explore the ancient and varied liturgical tradition of the Church, consider the needs and life of the community, and also take into account the architecture and limits of the spaces they might already have.



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