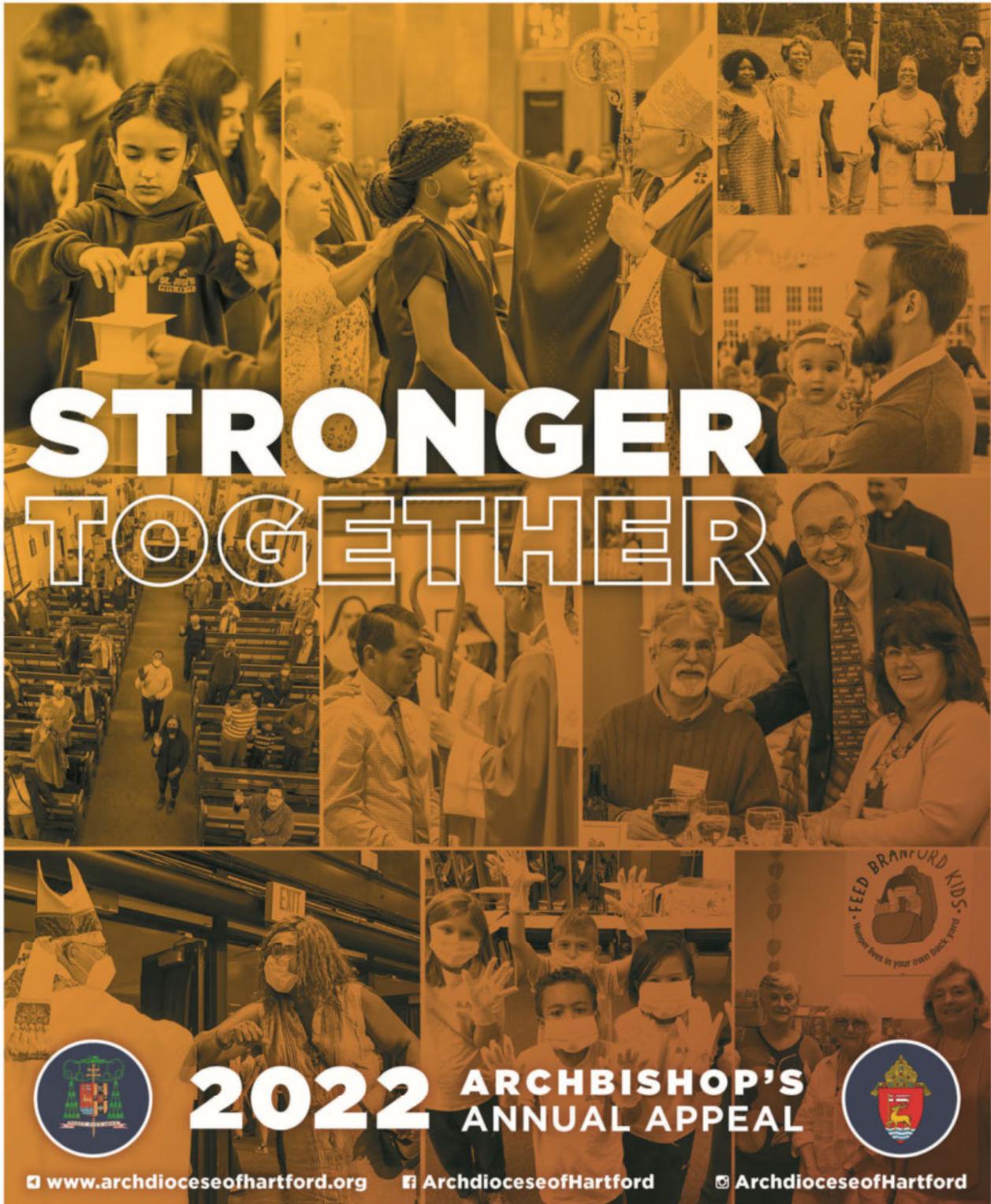


KICKOFF WEEKEND | FEB. 26-27, 2022



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REV. THOMAS B. SHEPARD, PASTOR
203-888-2382**

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 27, 2022



Sunday, February 27th	
4:00 PM	for Janina Brzozowska and Ugenia Blazel (requested by Ella and Jacek)
7:30 AM	for Marie Kalenauskas (birthday remembrance) (requested by Anna Jedd)
9:00 AM	for Helen Turner and Melvin Turner, Sr. (requested by Mel Turner)
11:00 AM	for James and Barbara Tamborra (requested by Carl Miller)
Monday, February 28th	
8:00 AM	for Special Intention (requested by Elizabeth Ward)
Tuesday, March 1st	
8:00 AM	for Muriel McKeon (requested by the Saunders Family)
Wednesday, March 2nd Ash Wednesday	
9:00 AM	for Betty Moher (requested by the Gray Family)
12:00 PM	for the intention of Pope Francis
5:30 PM	for the intentions of St. Thomas Parish Family
Thursday, March 3rd	
8:00 AM	for Ralph Rodia (3rd Anniversary) (requested by daughter, Linda Rodia Dobrydney)
Friday, March 4th	
No Liturgy Today	
Saturday, March 5th	
4:00 PM	for Ralph Rodia (3rd Anniversary) (requested by his children)
Sunday, March 6th	
7:30 AM	for Deborah Tomascak (requested by Bob and Barbara Evans)
9:00 AM	for Stephen Pavlo and John Drobne (requested by Chris and Dave Babina)
11:00 AM	for Frank Synos (requested by Joe and Kathy Chicoski)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH	
Sacramental Prep (1st Communion) 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Hall)	
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH <i>(Rescheduled from 2/21/22)</i>	
ZOOM Bereavement 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	
THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD	
Lenten Soup Supper: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (Hall)	
ZOOM New Day Bereavement: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	
FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH	
In-Person New Day Bereavement : 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (Lower Parish Center - Large Room)	
SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH	
Confessions: 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	
SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH	
Sacramental Prep (Pre-Confirmation) 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (Hall)	
Lenten Prayer Service: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Church)	
2022 Confirmation Candidates: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM <i>The Authentic Life/Faith Talks</i> (Hall)	

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.

Dan Bolduc Judith Jablonski Kathy Wolak
 John Butwell Evelyn Necroto

and all those who have died, especially,
 Debra Meszaros

SPECIAL NOTE: Our apologies for not reporting in last weekend's bulletin that The Sanctuary Lamp, signifying the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus Christ, was lite last week (2/19-2/26) for a Special Intention requested by Elizabeth Ward.

Readings for the week of February 27, 2022	
Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/ 1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45
Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/ 2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 Ash Wednesday
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25 St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15 St. Casimir
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13 1st Sunday of Lent



Collections as of February 19-20, 2022: Needed to Meet Ordinary Operating Expenses	
\$8,600.00	
Weekly Collection:	\$8,600.00
Thank you!	

DONATE TO THE
ARCHBISHOP'S
ANNUAL APPEAL

2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

This weekend marks the start of the 2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal in our parish. If you haven't already, you will soon receive a letter from the Archbishop Blair seeking your support. As Catholics in the Archdiocese of Hartford we have a profound impact on our local communities not only in the spiritual realm, but intimately connected to it, the realm of social services and many charities and outreach services performed by, or with help from, our Church.

To view some of the wonderful things accomplished through your generosity, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is launching a new web series called, *The Annual Appeal at Work*. The premiere episode will be airing on Thursday, March 3rd on all Archdiocesan Social Media sites as well as the Archbishop's Annual Appeal webpage. New episodes will air the first week of each month, for the rest of 2022. Each episode will highlight some of the wonderful ministries supported by the 2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, **Stronger Together**. If you go to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal Website, <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/> you will find a link for each episode. Please tune in Thursday, March 3rd for the premiere broadcast.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.

No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

"Everyone Counts at Saint Thomas" Parish Census

Have you returned your registration form yet?

Parishioners are now reminded to take the form found in the church vestibule home and return it, by mail or in the church vestibule. The new Census form may also be found on our website www.stthomasoxford.org - **This is the only way we can identify you as a member of our parish!**

NOTE: If you returned a census form in 2020 or 2021 and have no new updates you do not need to complete another form. Any questions, please call the office at 203-888-2382. Thank you!

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

Sunday, March 6th

1:00 PM	Pre-Confirmation Students	(Hall)
4:00 PM	Families of St. Thomas	(Church)
5:00 PM	2022 Confirmation Candidates <i>The Authentic Life / Faith Talks</i>	(Hall)

Lenten PRAYER

O Lord, open our eyes that we may see the needs of others.

Open our ears that we may hear their cries.

Open our hearts so they need not be without succor.

Let us not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.

Show us where love, hope and faith are needed, and use us to bring them to those places.

So then...open our eyes and ears and heart, that we may be able to do some work of peace for Thee.

Amen.

(Adapted from a prayer by Alan Paton)



MOST Scholarship

The Men of St. Thomas (M.O.S.T.) is pleased to offer scholarship opportunities to high school seniors who attend St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Oxford, CT. Scholarships will be awarded to applicants who have demonstrated the most outstanding combination of academic excellence, community service, church service, and school citizenship. To qualify for this scholarship, student applicants must plan to continue their education at an accredited institution in the fall of 2022 and submit an application and supporting documents to St. Thomas the Apostle Church by Saturday, **May 7, 2022**. Application forms are available in the church vestibule and online at the St. Thomas Oxford website (<http://www.stthomasoxford.org/men-of-st-thomas-m-o-s-t>).



CARE
for the **CAREGIVERS**
Support Group

A caregiver support group can be a lifeline, providing a place to share feelings, confidentiality, make friends, get help navigating the Healthcare system and learn from others who have walked a similar path.

There will be an in-person monthly support group meeting on the first Sunday of the month from 2:30-4:00 pm in the lower parish center. Reservations are required.

Please contact Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104 or pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org to reserve a spot. Next in-person meeting is **Sunday, March 6th** from 2:30-4:00pm.



Along the Road Lenten Services for Seymour/Oxford 2022

March 2 – April 6, 2022

March 2, 2022
(Ash Wednesday)

Seymour Congregational Church, UCC
6:30 pm Soup & Bread
7:00 pm Worship

March 9, 2022

Seymour United Methodist Church
7:00 pm *Worship Only*



Seymour - Oxford Food Bank

Below is a list of the most needed items for the Seymour-Oxford Food Bank.

Please leave donations for the Food Bank in the church vestibule by:

SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Salt | Grated Cheese |
| Pepper | Dish Soap |
| Cooking Oil | Laundry Soap |

Needs

Thank you for helping!



ZOOM Care for the Caregivers Support Group Meeting

Tuesday, March 8th

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

RSVP: Patricia Soos 203-785-8533 ext 3159 or email: psoos@aoascc.org

MARCH

MONTHLY BEREAVEMENT MEETINGS

Type	Date	Time	RSVP by
DAYTIME			
In-Person	Tues., Mar. 8th	10:30a-12:00p	3/4/22
EVENING			
In-Person	Wed., Mar. 16th	6:30-8:00p	3/16/22
ZOOM	Mon., Mar. 21st	6:30-7:30p	3/17/22

Reservations Required for ALL Sessions.

In-Person: Facemasks are suggested.
No walk-ins accepted.

Contact: Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104.



March 2-April 10
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

HELP SAVE BABIES!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over 20,000 babies saved from abortion
- Over 200 abortion workers converted
- Over 100 abortion centers closed

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil location: Sidewalk at Commerce Park, 4697 Main Street, Bridgeport (Planned Parenthood is located in Commerce Park)

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

Local contact: Barbara Grabowski
bgrabows@aol.com/203-232-7134

Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/Bridgeport

LOURDES IN LITCHFIELD

Beginning **March 1st**, Spring hours for the Grotto Gift Shop at the Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield, 50 Montfort Rd., Rte. 118, Litchfield will resume Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 to 4:30 and Sunday, 11:30 to 4:30. New Spring items are in stock and there is a large selection of outdoor statuary as well as Baptismal, First communion, Confirmation gifts plus medals, rosaries and gifts for all occasions. For further information, call 860-567-0891 during regular business hours or visit our website www.shrinct.org.



Ash Wednesday – March 2

9:00 AM Mass
12:00 PM Mass
5:30 PM Mass
(Distribution of Ashes takes place during Mass)

Mondays of Lent

Confessions: 6:00 – 6:30PM

Sunday, April 3

11:00 AM Mass
Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
This sacrament are for those who suffer chronic illness of body or mind, those in Nursing Homes, or those preparing to enter a hospital.

Wednesday, April 6

Ecumenical **“Way of the Cross”**
Hosted at St. Thomas
6:00 PM – Soup Supper
7:00 PM – Way of the Cross

Thursdays (except on April 7)

Soup Supper and Lenten discussions
6:00 PM

**Devotional Material
& Caring For Others
In the Holy Season of Lent**

*Available on February 27
in the church vestibule:*



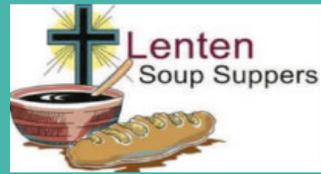
“Rice Bowls”

Catholic Relief Services
to share with your family to remember people in the our world who may not have enough to eat each day.



Reflections in the “Little Black Book”

To help us meditate on each day of the Holy Season of Lent



March 3rd - Where Does Your Garbage Go?

Want to learn about waste management and how we can help the environment? Join us this week at our first soup supper. See bulletin insert for more information.

WHAT IS
GOD
SAYING
TO THE PARISHIONERS OF
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH?

Please join parishioners of St. Thomas parish to reflect and answer the question of:

“WHAT WILL THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH LOOK LIKE?”

**ON MARCH 19TH,
AFTER THE 5:00PM VIGIL MASS**

We'll gather for a light supper, provided by the parish, in the parish hall, and watch a video with Bishop Robert Barron of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and Founder of “Word on Fire,” – an evangelical outreach to thousand Christians in America.

Don't miss this opportunity to prepare St. Thomas for the Future!

Please call the parish office to give your name for the supper and gathering!

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