



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

APRIL 24, 2022



Pastor

Rev. Thomas B. Shepard

Director of Music Ministry

Anna Jedd

Director of Faith Formation

Wanda Mascola

Coordinator of Health Services

Maryjane Calladio

Secretary

Debbie Benham

Bookkeeper

Karin Fuchs

Maintenance

George Blake

John Collins

Office Hours

Monday- Friday

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



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." - Jn 20:27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Email: office@stthomasoxford.org

Website: www.stthomasoxford.org

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - APRIL 24, 2022



Family Faith Formation

APRIL Schedule

24 Sun	Session A	4:00-6:30p (Church Hall)
25 Mon	Session B	5:30-8:00p (Church Hall)
26 Tue	Session C (7th and 8th Grade)	4:30-6:00p (Church Hall)
27 Wed	1st Holy Communion Rehearsal	6:00p (Hall & Church)
28 Thu	Session C (7th and 8th Grade)	6:30-8:00p (Church Hall)
30 Sat	Session D	9:30a-12:00p (Church Hall)
May 1 Sun	Children's Liturgy of the Word	At 9:00a Mass and 11:00 Mass



Sunday, April 24th

- 5:00 PM for Bill Riordan
(requested by Marianne Riordan)
- 7:30 AM for Ed Lapinski (2nd Anniversary)
(requested by Niece and Nephew)
- 9:00 AM for Charlotte Cassidy
(requested by Roger and Virginia Kiehl)
- 11:00 AM for Michael Luce
(requested by Carol Laurino)

Monday, April 25th

- 8:00 AM for Louis and Lorraine Panagopoulos
(requested by Dennis M. Ouimette)

Tuesday, April 26th

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

Wednesday, April 27th

- 8:00 AM for Lorraine Falcone (1st Anniversary)
(requested by St. Thomas Parish Family)

Thursday, April 28th

- 8:00 AM for those who live with chronic pain in body
or soul

Friday, April 29th

No Liturgy Today

Saturday, April 30th

- 5:00 PM for Frank Synos
(requested by Mary Adzima)

Sunday, May 1st

- 7:30 AM for Salvatore A. Petriello
(requested by Joe and Mary Cannizzaro)
- 9:00 AM for Rita Laudry
(requested by Jean and Fran Barr)
- 11:00 AM for Debbie Meszaros
(requested by the Yetter Family)

Readings for the week of April 24, 2022

- Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31
**2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy);
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr**
- Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
St. Mark, Evangelist
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/
Jn 3:31-36 **St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;
St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest**
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
**St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church;
Arbor Day**
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
St. Pius V, Pope
- Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13
[2a]/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
3rd Sunday of Easter; St. Joseph the Worker

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.



- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| John Butwell | Lucille Robert |
| Judith Jablonski | Loretta Ward |
| Susan Manne | Barbara DeSantis-Watts |
| Bob Potter | |

and all those who have died, especially
Joan Downey, Beverly Martinoli, Henry Ward

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



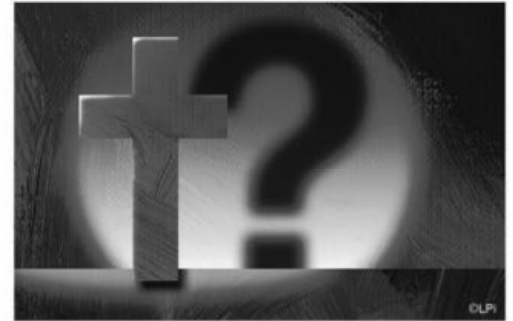
GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Even Thomas struggles to remove his boulder! Being very pragmatic and determined, he wants to see the risen Christ for himself! Thomas's boulder is heavy with mistrust. Many of ours are too. A certain amount of skepticism is good, as it can save us from being duped or misled. But we can become so skeptical of things that it erodes our ability to trust anything we see or hear. Skepticism can actually be a well-disguised defense mechanism that we use to prevent us from being hurt or perceived as a fool. Having too much ego protection is a real risk. Thomas, because of the boulder blocking his vision, could not even trust the word of his friends.

Boulders are hard to move. It's difficult to seek change or take a risk, especially when we are so afraid to be vulnerable or reluctant to trust another's word. When we are closed minded, overly pragmatic, unwilling to see things in a different way, stubborn or defensive, it is difficult to be surprised by God and stretched. We need to be less guarded, self-assured, and self-absorbed. God cannot break into the ordinary moments of our lives and inspire us when we cling to doubt. If we are going to discover resurrection faith, we have to believe that what the witnesses say is true, especially when they are credible. We also have to trust that the risen Christ is alive in us, too!

While the first witnesses to the resurrection have faded into history, there are many others who have come after them. They continue to inspire by walking the talk of faith. They are the martyrs who offer their lives for the Gospel, the simple holy people in our communities who cling so steadfastly to their faith, those who have touched despair and found new hope and the ones who, even in spite of ridicule, still pursue their hunger and thirst for God. They are our friends, acquaintances, biblical heroes, and saints, and many others who are convinced that they have seen the Lord! The risen Christ may not surprise us with the same kind of visit as he did the first disciples, but God finds other ways. All we have to do is open our eyes, remove whatever is preventing us from seeing and believing and exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

Can anyone offer the Anointing of the Sick to a sick or dying person, or is that only something a priest can do?

Answer:

The Letter of James speaks to us of the ancient tradition of a special anointing and blessing of those who are sick: "Is there anyone sick among you? Let him send for the presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord ... If he has committed any sins, they will be forgiven him" (5:14, 15b). This passage forms the foundation for the theology of the sacrament that we call "Anointing of the Sick." In keeping with what we read in the Letter of James and the ancient tradition of the Church, the anointing of a person who is sick or dying may only be performed by a priest or bishop.

Although deacons and other members of the Church are not able to celebrate the sacrament with a person who is sick, we can read Sacred Scripture and pray with and for those who are ill. Resources like the Book of Blessings also contain special blessings that can be celebrated by deacons or lay ministers. In the end, we want to be sure that we show a special care and concern for the sick, helping them to always experience God's loving comfort through made tangible through our acts of charity and service.

LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Luke tells us of the success and healing power of the apostles in the Jerusalem church in the early days, weeks, and months following Jesus' resurrection. Where do you see this level of enthusiasm for the faith today?

Second Reading

The resurrected Jesus appears to John on the island of Patmos during his exile for bearing witness to the faith. In this encounter, John is initially fearful but then reassured by Jesus. When have you turned to Jesus in moments of fear in your life?

Gospel Reading

The apostle Thomas challenges his fellow apostles about the reality of Jesus' resurrection, seeking direct evidenced from Jesus himself. How often do you encounter fellow believers who are skeptical in their faith?



2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER



Care for the Caregivers Support Group In-Person

Sunday, May 1st

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Reservations Required. No walk-ins accepted.

Facemasks are suggested.

RSVP by 4/27/2022

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



FRONT DAY

Can You Spare a Few Hours on May 7th?

Specifically, can you help with the St. Thomas HomeFront project?

WHAT is HomeFront?

It is a community-based, volunteer-driven home repair program that provides FREE repairs to low-income homeowners, thus enabling them to remain in their homes with an improved quality of life.

WHEN? Saturday, May 7th

WHERE? Our project will be helping Susan, a single Mom in Seymour with home repairs inside and out.

WHO DO WE NEED? YOU!

People of varying skill levels - skills with outdoor steps, railings, and maybe concrete repair, and/or painting skills and some general labor - willing to help wherever needed. There is always a special need for afternoon volunteers. Anyone aged 14 or older is welcome to be part of the team; those between the ages of 14 and 18 need parental consent. Please call or text Marcia Franko (Volunteer Coordinator) at 203-217-2816 or e-mail at marciafranko@yahoo.com to VOLUNTEER or ask a question.



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>).



PLEASE JOIN US !



TAG SALE



Saturday, May 14th, 2022
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Parking Lot
733 Oxford Road (Rt. 67), Oxford

Tools • Appliances • Sports Memorabilia • Books • Toys
• Games • Household Items • Costume Jewelry

Proceeds from Tag Sale to be used for
M.O.S.T. Scholarships and Brian Bags

Parishioners:

Please drop off donated tag sale items at Church parking lot on Saturday May 7th and Friday May 13th from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



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