



ST. THOMAS the APOSTLE

733 Oxford Road
Oxford, CT 06478

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Email: office@stthomasoxford.org

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May 18, 2025



HABEMUS PAPAM

Parish Office Hours

9:30AM - 2PM (Mon-Fri)

Parish Office Phone 203-888-2382

Staff

Rev. Joshua R. Wilbur

Pastor

Anna Jedd

Director of Music Ministry

Wanda Mascola

Director of Faith Formation

Mary Jane Calladio

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Debbie Benham

Senior Office Coordinator

Michelle Albino

Massucci & Associates
Bookkeeper

Mary Lefebvre

Administrative Assistant

George Blake

John Collins
Custodians

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil - 4PM

Sunday Mass - 7:30AM, 9AM and 11AM

DAILY MASS

Tuesday - 6PM

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

8AM and 5:30PM

EUCARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday - 6:30-7:30PM

CONFESIONS

Tuesday - 6:30-7:30PM

Saturday 3PM-3:45PM or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact Fr. Josh 6 months in advance

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 18

4:00 PM † Florence and Neil Wanamaker (requested by the Wanamaker Family)
 7:30 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas
 9:00 AM † Lawrence Slater (requested by Carol Laurino)
 11:00 AM † Judith Ann Oberheim (requested by Arthur Oberheim and Family)

Monday, May 19

No Liturgy Today

Tuesday, May 20

6:00 PM † Florence (Mickey) Hayes (1st Anniversary) (requested by St. Thomas Parish Family)

Wednesday, May 21

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Thursday, May 22

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Friday, May 23

8:00 AM † Lawrence Slater (requested by Mary and Nicole Lefebvre)

Saturday, May 24

4:00 PM † Raymond Boufford (requested by Eva and Bernie Lintzner)

Sunday, May 25

7:30 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas
 9:00 AM † William E. Fox (requested by Mel Turner)
 11:00 AM † George DePalma (requested by Barbara and Carmine Ciardullo)

† = Deceased

MASS INTENTIONS

Offering a Mass for a special intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

Schedule Sunday and Daily Masses for your loved ones up to six months in advance.

Masses are offered for many reasons – for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance of someone who is deceased, or for the living – for someone who is ill, or for someone celebrating a special occasion. The donation for Sundays, vigils and holy days is \$25 and \$15 for a daily Mass. Payment is expected at time of booking.



PARISH COLLECTIONS

May 10-11, 2025

Weekly Collection	\$ 5,778.00
Online Collection	\$ 1,333.00

Thank you for your support!

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, MAY 18

BAKE SALE (Ladies Guild) after all Masses
PLANT SALE (Faith Formation) after 9:00 and 11:00 Masses

Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Church

Faith Formation - Sacramental Prep

2025 Confirmation RETREAT

11:00 AM Mass, Retreat 12:00 - 6:30 PM Church Hall

MONDAY, MAY 19

Giving Dolls 1:30 - 3:30 PM Church Hall

Social Justice Meeting

7:00 PM Lower Parish Center - Large Room

TUESDAY, MAY 20

New Day Bereavement

1:00 - 3:00 PM Lower Parish Center - Both Rooms

Adoration and Confessions 6:30 - 7:30 PM Church

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Contemporary Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Church

THURSDAY, MAY 22

All In For Oxford (A.I.F.O.)

6:00 - 8:00 PM Church Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Confessions: 3:00 - 3:45 PM

St. Michael's Raffle after all Masses

SUNDAY, MAY 25

St. Michael's Raffle after all Masses

Traditional Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Church



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 the Parish Office at 203-888-2382. This week, please pray for all those who are ill in mind, body or spirit

Catherine Baber

Mike Caprio

Vitorino DaSilva

Ines Davino

Kathy Davino

Joe Flach

Dean Golembeski

Emily Inzitari

Judy Jablonski

Julia Kallogjieri

Michael Korsko

Mike Mazzeo

Robert Orlando

Mark Purington



Pray For The Recent Deceased

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace – Amen

Gillette Alvin

IN NEED OF PRAYERS?

Please call Maryjane in the parish office for prayer requests through our confidential prayer chain.



FR. JOSH'S JOURNAL

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The past few weeks have been quite a roller coaster ride for the Catholic Church! We had the glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. We witnessed Pope Francis giving his Easter Sunday blessing from the balcony at St. Peter's Basilica, then to the shock of almost everyone, he rode around St. Peter's Square imparting his blessing upon the faithful gathered there. In less than 24 hours, the world was then informed of the passing of the Holy Father on the morning of Easter Monday.

Fast-forward a few weeks later, and in an incredibly quick conclave, a new pope was elected. Not only was this news alone enough to make headlines, but come to find out it was an American elected; now known as Pope Leo XIV! Last weekend at all Masses we offered our prayers for the intentions of Pope Leo. May he guide the Church well, and always find his support through the Holy Spirit.

Amid the fast pace of the events of the last several weeks, one thing remains constant: Jesus Christ established his Church. As our Lord said in Matthew 16:18, "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." I can't help but feel a renewal of hope these past few weeks for the faith. As much as the Church has not exactly been perfect in its mission over the centuries, the core tenets of our faith remain, and that's what matters. The message of Jesus and the Gospels carries on, even through the very imperfect humans he chooses to carry on that mission.

Each and every one of us is called to carry on that mission in some way. A question we might ask of ourselves regularly is, "how am I sharing the good news of the Gospel this day?" It doesn't need to be in super-human ways, but it should simply be part of our everyday life.

May God continue to bless all of us, His Church, and our missionary roles as people of the Christian faith.

Peace and joy,

Fr. Josh



ST. THOMAS PARISH
(Sponsored by M.O.S.T.)

APPRECIATION NIGHT

Saturday, June 14

5:00 PM in the Church Hall

FREE ! TO THE FIRST 125 PARISHIONERS
WHO SIGN UP!
(Sign-up sheets in vestibule)



Buffet-Style Pasta Dinner
BYOB (beer or wine)
Karaoke with DJ Steve





Carolyn's Place Collection

Carolyn's Place offers several educational classes to new parents. At completion of the class, they are sent home with all the needed supplies for their newborn. Due to several large classes at Carolyn's Place since the first of the year, their supplies are dwindling. The **St. Thomas Ladies Guild** will be doing a collection to support their material aid program during the month of May.

The most needed items are:



There will be a collection box in the vestibule during the month of May for your donations. **Thank you!**



ELDER JUSTICE HOTLINE

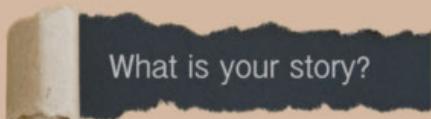


Elder justice issues can range from age-based discrimination in the workplace to scams and frauds, elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

If you have been the victim of a scam, or neglected, exploited or abused, we are here to help.

Call 1-860-808-5555.

Information about the hotline, resources and an online complaint portal can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/ag/elderhotline>.



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY BY SHARING OUR STORIES



Thursday, May 22nd
6-8 PM
Church Hall

When we tell our stories we discover how much we have in common!

RSVP: lynnaiksnoras@gmail.com
or 203-592-1774
by May 20

Facilitated by All In for Oxford for the benefit of the St. Thomas the Apostle community

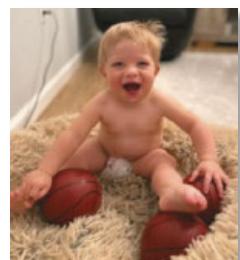


DIAPER DRIVE!



The Social Justice Committee in a cooperative effort with the Ladies Guild, will be coordinating a DIAPER DRIVE from May 11 to June 15 to support the CT Partnership for Children and Carolyn's Place in assisting families with infants and young children by supplying diapering items during the upcoming summer months. Disposable diapers of all sizes (infants to size 7) will be collected.

Please feel free to also donate baby wipes, diapering creams, baby shampoo, baby lotion and newly purchased packages of children's underwear for those youngsters who are transitioning out of diapers. Thank you for considering a possible donation to help keep babies clean and dry! Items may be left in the church vestibule.



Care for the Caregivers Support Group



In-Person

Sunday, June 1

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Reservations Required. No walk-ins accepted.

RSVP by 5/28/25

Contact: Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104 or email pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org.

**Our Weekly
St. Thomas Bulletin**

Do you know someone who is homebound and would like to receive the weekly bulletin? If so, please contact Maryjane in the parish office at 203-888-2382, Ext.6.



HomeFront Day 2025

On Saturday, May 3rd our St. Thomas HomeFront Team made a huge difference in the lives of Paula and her daughters!

On that day, our team completed many tasks. We replaced the cellar door and fixed the garage roof, both of which were the top priorities of the homeowner. Inside we fixed the sluggish plumbing and replaced the toilet; and we fixed the electrical issue with the ceiling fan/light. We cleared debris from the yard, removed years of moss from the outdoor steps, and mowed the lawn – giving the outdoor landscape a lift.

Prior to the afternoon rain, the team made a lot of progress with removing shingles and replacing siding and did an extensive amount of scraping and painting, but we were unable to finish those tasks on the 3rd. That work is ongoing.

And, a big thank you to the Ladies Guild who provided many snacks and drinks. And thank you to team members, Carol and Jerry Salvatore, who made lunch possible. A giant thank you to team members: Fernando and Julie Videira, Jim DeSabia, Matt DiGiovanna, Tony Arrato, Rich DeFrank, Susan and Brooklynne DeRosa, Lynn Kostka, David Manning, Steve Schneider, Shauna Davis, Brenda Pachucki, Bob Sylvester, Jamie, Leah, and Sean Durkin, Mark Anderson, Marlene Golembeski, Madden Criscuolo, Jeff Giovacchino, Jon Toigo, Tammy Horn, Joe LaCava, Josie Hamer, Marcia Franko (Volunteer Coordinator), Gee Gramlich (Assistant House Captain) and Nick Mastriano (House Captain).

Additional pictures can be found on the St. Thomas website.



NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD



Branches on the Vine

MAY 17 - 23, 2025



PHOTO BY FATHER ANTHONY FEDERICO
Zach Wehner, video production specialist for the Archdiocese of Hartford, directs a group of seminarians who have pledged to pray 100 rosaries each for the "Rosary 100K" challenge being sponsored by the Office of Vocations.

If you've been telling yourself you really should pray the rosary more often, now is the perfect time to start building the habit. The Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Vocations is asking Catholics of all ages to commit to praying the rosary for an increase in vocations.

Father Anthony Federico, director of Vocations and director of Seminarians, is asking Catholics to pray 100,000 rosaries as part of a "Rosary 100K" challenge that is kicking off this May, during the Month of Mary.

"I read a quote from Our Lady to St. Dominic. She said something to the effect that if you promote the rosary, 'I will unleash a torrent of vocations.' And so, we are taking her at her word," Father Federico says.

"Together, the archdiocese is going to pray 100,000 rosaries for new vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious and consecrated life, holy Catholic marriage and family, and the generous single life – for all the vocations of the Church," he explains.

And everyone is invited. "We are sending the invitation to join the campaign to every parish,

VOCATIONS OFFICE LAUNCHES 'ROSARY 100K' DURING THE MONTH OF MARY

- Story by Shelley Wolf

every school, every high school, every college, and every apostolate and institution in the archdiocese," he reports.

How will Father Federico be able to keep track of all these prayers, you may ask. Kevin Healy, an archdiocesan seminarian, is creating a web landing page where the archdiocese can keep track of the many pledges that come in. Go to the website hartfordpriest.com, where you can sign up and make a pledge indicating how many rosaries you plan to pray.

Kickoff day was May 11, which was both Mother's Day and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. "What better way to start?" Father Federico asks. The sizable goal might seem daunting, but the campaign is already off to a good start.

The 20 seminarians of the archdiocese have pledged 100 rosaries each, for a total of 2,000 rosaries, and others made early pledges for a total of 14,000 rosaries before the campaign even launched.

People may choose to pray outdoors in good weather or indoors at church or at home.

"I think it would be great if families could pray the rosary together," the priest says.

Leaders or individuals may choose to announce their intention before each rosary, but Father Federico says not to get hung up on that. "God can do the math," he says in jest. It's primarily about "the spirit of praying the rosary and asking the Blessed Mother to intercede for us," he explains.

"The rosary is at the heart of the Christian life, and I believe it will be the unified collective commitment of the archdiocese that will be the cause of such great fruit. We already saw this when the archdiocese came together and began praying for priestly vocations, how our numbers exploded after that," he reminds everyone. "So, I think there's something in our combined effort," he says, "that really brings out the Lord's generosity."

To submit a pledge, visit hartfordpriest.com/rosary-100k, email vocation@aoht.org, or call the Office of Vocations at **860.761.7456**.



Upcoming Events



06/4 WEDNESDAY 6PM - 9PM
IN MY LOVE, ABIDE IN SONG
 Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd,
 West Hartford

Music ministers are some of the most faithful members of any parish community. Music has assisted many faith-filled people to "abide" or remain with God through participation and reflection. Gather with others who share in the ministry of music for an evening retreat at Holy Family. We will sing, learn, laugh, and pray together in a spirit of love and service. The evening includes dinner, a retreat conference and the celebration of the Eucharist.

NPM members attend at a reduced cost. Pastors are welcome at no charge. Music directors attend free with ten or more choir members.

Offering: Non-NPM Member - \$45

NPM Member - \$35

Clergy - Free

Music directors - Free when registering with a group of 10 or more choir members.

Contact Ted in our registrars office to sign up your choir.

860.521.0440



05/29 - 05/31 WEEKEND 6PM - 10PM
ST. BERNARD CHURCH CARNIVAL
 St. Bernard Church, 426 Hazard Ave,
 Enfield

Get ready for fun, food, and festivities at the St. Bernard Church Carnival! This family-friendly event promises an exciting weekend filled with games, rides, delicious fried dough, and other food booths. Kids will love the monitored play area, giving parents a chance to relax and enjoy the carnival atmosphere. There's something for everyone, from thrilling rides to tasty treats, and plenty of surprises in between.

We're also looking for volunteers to help make this event a success—if you're interested in lending a hand, please contact Gary Cote at **860.481.2626**. Come out and be part of a great community tradition!

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Total Goal: \$10M

Scan the QR code
 to learn how you
 can make a
 lasting impact!



71.43% as of 5/6/25

\$7,143,303.37 pledges from
 21,450 generous donors



www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal



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