



**Catholic Parishes of Southington**

**September 26, 2021**

**Farewell Mass for  
St. Thomas Church**

**Sunday, September 26th at 4pm**

Join us for a celebration at St. Thomas Church as we close the building. For 161 years, it has housed a community of faith in Southington. While we move ahead with the linkage and merger of parishes to meet the needs of our future, we pay homage and respect to all that has been that has led us to this point in our history as the Catholic Community of Southington. Following Mass, there will be a light reception in the school cafeteria.

We will also be processing the Blessed Sacrament after Mass from St. Thomas Church to Immaculate Conception Church. We hope to see you there to celebrate the good work of the parish, and pray for guidance and strength in all that awaits us in our future.

Please, join us!



**PARISH STAFF**

Pastor: **Rev. Joseph R. Cronin**  
 Parochial Vicar : **Rev. David M. Madejski**  
 Deacons: **Paul Kulas and Vinny Raby**  
 Liturgy Lay Minister: **Mary Anne Plourde**  
 Music : **Bryan Niedermayer, Emil Kopcha, H.I.S.**  
 Business Manager: **Sharon Ayotte**  
 Faith Formation Director: **Patrick Reid**  
 Information Technology, PICC Manager **Leeanne Frisina**  
 Development Coordinator: **Teresa Soltys**  
 Child Care Center Director: **Ashley Maddalena**  
 Administrative Assistant for Child Care Center: **Cheryl Kelley**  
 Sextons: **John Lehnou (in spirit), Joe Alfano**

**FRONT COVER IMAGES**  
*St. Thomas Church*

**FAITH FORMATION** Please see Faith Formation pages on our parish website:  
[www.saintdominicchurch.com](http://www.saintdominicchurch.com) [southington.dre@gmail.com](mailto:southington.dre@gmail.com)

**ST. DOMINIC CHILD CARE CENTER**

We proudly provide child care fifty-one weeks of the year for infants to age five. **860.628.4678**

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Located at 133 Bristol Street. We strive to foster students to have creative minds and compassionate hearts as future leaders in church and society. Educating children from pre-school to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Call for more information or a tour. **860.628.2485** [www.southingtoncatholicschool.org](http://www.southingtoncatholicschool.org)  
 Principal: Jim Messina



**YOUTH MINISTRY** Michael Pavano, 860.628.5159

**MASSES**

**Immaculate Conception Church:** Saturdays at 5:30pm in English and Sundays at 9:00am in Polish

**Daily Masses:** Monday-Friday 7:30am & 12:00pm, Sat. 7:30am Immaculate Conception Church

**Mary Our Queen Church:** Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00am

**St. Dominic Church:** Saturdays at 4:00 pm and Sundays at 7:30 & 10:30am followed by Coffee and....

**St. Aloysius Church:** Saturdays at 4:30pm and Sundays at 11:00am

**Rosary:** as scheduled

**Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament:** as scheduled

**Reconciliation:** 2:30-3:30pm Saturdays at Saint Dominic Church

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**St. Thomas Offices:** 860.628.4713, **Saint Dominic Rectory:** 860.628.0349

**Baptism, Marriages, Anointing of the sick, hospital or home visits:** please call 860.628.4713 for more information or assistance.

**Bulletin and bulletin board submission:** Friday 10:00 am, eight days prior to the bulletin publication date. \*A week with a holiday: 16 days ahead [LeeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com](mailto:LeeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com)

**Scheduling or booking events:** 860.628.4713

**Online Giving:** [www.saintdominicchurch.com](http://www.saintdominicchurch.com)

**Mass Intentions for Saint Dominic or Immaculate Conception:** 860.628.4713

**COLLECTIONS**

Collection baskets will be passed at each Mass one time. Anyone contributing a monthly envelope for any of the parishes may place that in the same collection. Please remember to use your parish envelopes so that we may send contributions to the correct Church. Any loose donations will remain in the parish collected in.

When there is an Archdiocesan collection we will have the collection baskets pass a second time.

## Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

It seems hard to believe that we are coming to the end of two months in which three parishes in town have been linked: Immaculate Conception, St. Thomas, and St. Dominic. I feel as if we were discussing this happening only a few weeks ago, but talks for planning and preparations have been going on for a few years now. The past year was a time of transition to line things up, and we are still working to get things organized now. The common Faith Formation Program and Youth Ministry programs are now operating. Southington Catholic School and the common daily Mass continue to serve the needs of our community. Now I can pause for a moment and see where we are and where we are going.

All things haven't worked out as we initially thought they would. We didn't imagine we would have all the issues with the heat and other repairs at St. Thomas that made us ask whether or not to spend the money on repairs. Those led to a choice to close the church building, though the parish still exists in union with Immaculate Conception and St. Dominic parishes. We had planned for five church buildings to be utilized in the initial phase of the merger instead of four. We did not foresee a change of staff at Immaculate Conception that would leave that office vacant this year. That led to having to move operations to the rectory at St. Thomas. We did not plan on an office closing quite so soon to merge operations. There has been an ever changing series of plans and events leading to more plans to be developed. We have faced our share of surprises.

As we go throughout this year to the ultimate merger of five parish communities into one, we will be doing our utmost to find our best solutions. I cannot promise that all things will be easy, simple, or painless. No honest person could ever make such a claim. What I can promise is that we will work to find answers that will meet the needs of our united community. We will work to draw Catholics together into a single family of faith. It won't be easy, but the effort will be worthwhile. I believe we can be a beacon of Christ's light in our unity and ministry to all people. I hope and I trust.

As we move forward, I promise to do all I am able to guide the community to seeking greater unity and peace. I know I will make mistakes, and not everyone will agree with things that will need to be done, but I promise to offer my best to love and serve the people of our new parish. I ask for your prayers and I assure you of mine for you.

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

**We welcome all high-school students! Please join us for Faith, Fellowship, and Fun at our next Youth Night event on October 10th from 6:00 to 8:00PM at St. Dominic Church.**

### Mission Statement

**Pray, Love, Serve Like Jesus; Live Catholic Daily.**

The Catholic Youth Ministry of Southington seeks to reach out to our young brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome them, and offer them opportunities to build deep, meaningful relationships with Our Lord Jesus, with one another, and with the larger Catholic community of Southington. In our Youth Ministry, all high school-aged teens will be able to participate and lead others in fun and engaging events centered on our Catholic Faith and our God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our events will include powerful encounters with traditional Catholic Prayer, regular youth group meetings, fellowship nights, and service projects.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to help out at major events, please contact Michael Pavano by phone at (860)-628-5159 or by email at [Southingtonyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:Southingtonyouthministry@gmail.com)

Youth ministry updates will be posted in our parish bulletins, on our parish websites and on social media. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Facebook: Catholic Youth Ministry of Southington

Instagram: youth\_ministry\_of\_southington



# mass intentions

## SATURDAY, September 25

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
- 4:00pm (SD) Deceased members of the Adelaide & Joseph, Sr. Casale Family  
*Requested by the Family*
- 5:30pm (IC—English) Marc Adams  
*Requested by Southington Catholic School*

## SUNDAY, September 26—26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30am (SD) Joseph Costagliola  
*Requested by the Family*
- Maria Zak  
*Requested by the Family*
- 9:00am (IC—Polish) Polkowski Family  
*Requested by the Jurski Family*
- 10:30am (SD) Gabriel Delchiaro & Adeline Stagni  
*Requested by Elaine Ainsworth*
- 4:00pm ST. Thomas Farewell Mass**

## MONDAY, September 27—St. Vincent De Paul

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
- 12:00pm (IC) Special Intention for Beata Chauhan  
*Requested by Mom*

## TUESDAY, September 28—Ss. Wenceslaus, and Lawrence Ruiz

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
- 12:00pm (IC) Claire McManus  
*Requested by Pat Adams*

## WEDNESDAY, September 29—Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
- 12:00pm (IC) Domenico Marigliano  
*Requested by Joe & Angelina Della Porta*

## THURSDAY, September 30—St. Jerome

- 7:30am (IC) Flora Banzon  
*Requested by Art & Shellane Tolentino*
- 12:00pm (IC) Jean Donnelly  
*Requested by Ken & Kathleen Baldwin*

## FRIDAY, October 1—St. Therese of the Child of Jesus

- 7:30am (IC) Carolyn Impellizzeri  
*Requested by Cheryl & Craig Impellizzeri*
- 12:00pm (IC) Jennie Marena  
*Requested by her Husband & Family*

## SATURDAY, October 2—The Holy Guardian Angels

- 7:30am (IC) Carmela Carusone  
*Requested by the Ragozzino Family*
- 4:00pm (SD) Benedetto & Addolorata Luciano  
*Requested by the Daughter & Family*
- 5:30pm (IC—English) Rev. Harold Heinrick  
*Requested by the Schultz Family*

## SUNDAY, October 3—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30am (SD) James Fasulo & Doreen Fasulo  
*Requested by Mike Fasulo*
- Benjamin & Joan Fabian  
*Requested by the Family*
- 9:00am (IC—Polish) Josef & Janina Mieczkowski  
*Requested by the Mieczkowski Family*
- 10:30am (SD) Louise Bell  
*Requested by Marge & Chris Banach*



## candle intention

*Intentions of the donor listed here.*

## liturgy corner

### Today we celebrate World Day against Human Trafficking

September 26, 2021

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides the following information.

#### Who We Are

The mission of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Anti-Trafficking Program (ATP) is to educate on the scourge of human trafficking as an offense against fundamental dignity of the human person, to advocate for an end to modern day slavery, to provide training and technical assistance on this issue, and to support survivors through community based services.

#### What We Do

Each year, an estimated 17,000 vulnerable men, women and children are trafficked across our borders and then forced into slavery. Many are fleeing terrible situations in their home countries, and come to the United States to find a better life. Unfortunately, the nightmare often begins when they reach our shores.

For over a decade, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has been a national leader in advocacy and education to eradicate sex and labor trafficking. Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) leads efforts to combat trafficking in human persons, carrying out the commitment of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Migration to protect the life and dignity of the most vulnerable. Our initiatives include advocacy, awareness raising, training and technical assistance, and integration services.

- Programs and Awareness Raising
- COMPASS- Coalition of Organizations and Ministries Promoting the Abolition of Slavery at Sea
- Trafficking Victim Assistance Program
- Become a Shepherd
- The Amistad Movement

If you would like more information about programs and work, please go to the following website

<https://www.usccb.org/topics/anti-trafficking-program>

## volunteer opportunities

**Let's build our new parish community together....  
a few minutes on Sunday to make all feel welcome!**

As we settle into our new community together let us remember to welcome those who enter the doors of the Church. Each and every one of us plays a vital role in the Southington Parish community and the first face they see is a lasting impression!

Please help us for a few minutes on Sundays as we usher parishioners into the Church. If you would like to be a part of the greeter ministry please contact Angela Chester at [FashionMom53@gmail.com](mailto:FashionMom53@gmail.com) or call the rectory 860.628.0349

## ask father



**Question:** Father, someone was telling me that Father Madejski is the pastor of Immaculate Conception, since he is Polish. Is that true?

**Answer:** No. I am the pastor of Immaculate Conception, St. Thomas, and St. Dominic Parishes. As I prepared to become the pastor of the three parishes, I knew we had a need for Polish language ministry with Masses and Confessions. I approached the Archdiocese of Hartford, and Monsignor Shanley found us Father David Madejski to come here to help serve the parishioners. Since he does speak Polish, I have assigned him to preside at the Sunday Morning Mass in Polish. That doesn't mean he is pastor there any more than he would be pastor of the 7:30AM people, if I assigned him regularly to that Mass. The pastor is the priest who is ultimately responsible for all aspects of ministry in a parish. Pastors are the head of the parish corporation, signing checks and contracts. The pastor ensures all things are done according to Canon Law, legal laws, and meet the policies and procedures of the diocese. The pastor is one responsible for all elements of the operation of a parish. Those are my duties for all the parishes, even if you don't see me presiding at every Mass. That does not mean the pastor works alone in this. Various people are delegated to handle certain aspects, like business managers who pay the bills, balance the books, and make the financial reports; nevertheless, the pastor needs to review these regularly. Father Madejski is the Parochial Vicar. That is his assignment. I am the pastor.



**Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary at Mary Our Queen  
Sat. October 30th, 7-8PM**

Open to the entire community of Southington!

Participate in our first Living Rosary Prayer Service in honor of the Month of the Rosary. We will be praying in the Mary Our Queen Prayer Garden (if inclement weather, we will pray in the Church)

Hosted by the Catholic Youth Ministry of Southington!

## lector ministry invitation

Hello everyone. As we continue with the merger of the Ministries, I wondered if anyone, other than those already signed up, would be interested in participating in the Lector Ministry. A desire to share sacred scripture with the rest of the congregation along with a clear and expressive speaking voice are what's needed. Lectors must be Confirmed and training will be provided.

If interested, please contact me as follows:

Bev Graham 860.302.8495. cell#/text  
[vebbie@cox.net](mailto:vebbie@cox.net)

Thank you and have a blessed day.

## beware of email scammers

Please note that scammers may create email accounts, pretending to be from the Parish or the Priests, asking for money or gift cards. You will never receive a legitimate email from the Parish asking for gift cards. When we do fund drives it will be via mail or in person. Thank you.

## bible study

Join Fr. Joe at 1:30pm on Thursdays in the Learning Center at St. Dominic Church. (It is in the back left hand corner of the property attached to the day care, to the left front of the daycare building.) The class will be live streamed on the St. Thomas Facebook page where it can also be watched afterwards. Please, join us!



**THE ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN  
RESPECT LIFE MASS**

**Celebrated by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair,  
Archbishop of Hartford**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021 AT 2:00 P.M.  
ST. BRIDGET CHURCH, CHESHIRE, CT**

## your parishes need you!

Now, more than ever we are seeing a need to grow our media volunteer team in order to serve the Parishes of Southington. We will see changes in the upcoming year and technology will be a bridge for many of these as we work together to rebuild our Southington Catholic Community.

The media team is currently responsible for running the computers and camera equipment at Masses and other events in the Church.

We currently stream the 4:00pm Mass to a streaming platform and prepare for overflow into the Geraghty Parish Center if needed.

The team also displays visuals on the screens for parishioner participation. During special liturgies we may also have video or powerpoint presentations. We have also streamed weddings and funerals for families.

Do you attend mass regularly? Would you like to assist in bringing Mass not only to attending parishioners but to those at home who cannot attend or are uncomfortable attending due to Covid?

There is no experience required, just a desire to serve your community, and we will teach you the rest! If you are interested in joining this exciting ministry, please contact Leanne at [LeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com](mailto:LeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com) today!



## 40 days for life

The Respect Life Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford is sponsoring a 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil at a *NEW LOCATION*

The site this year is on the sidewalk outside of  
Planned Parenthood: 1030 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT

This year's fall campaign is September 22 through October 31, 2021.  
Vigil hours are 6:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.

40 Days for Life is an ecumenical, internationally-coordinated 40-day peaceful **Pro-Life** campaign to end abortion. The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility.

Those who are called to stand witness during this 40 day vigil send a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion.

Please contact Coordinator Teresa Wells via Text at 203-314-9816 or email [twells@prolifeministry.org](mailto:twells@prolifeministry.org)

## pet blessing october 2, 9:30am - saint thomas lawn

### The Blessing of Pets

As autumn arrives, people in various places may notice something odd. A procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, is led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of Pets.

This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. Francis, whose feast day is October 4th, loved the larks flying about his hilltop town. He and his early brothers, staying in a small hovel, allowed themselves to be displaced by a donkey. Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures." And there was testimony in the cause for St. Clare of Assisi's canonization that referred to her little cat!

For single householders, a pet can be a true companion. Many people arrive home from work to find a furry friend overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature.

The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love.

No wonder people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated.



## The Blessing of the Pets

**Please join us at St. Thomas on Saturday, October 2nd, at 9:30am for a special blessing for your pets. Our blessing will take place, weather permitting, on the lawn.**

## faith formation

**Director of Faith Formation: Patrick Reid 860.628.9679 southington.dre@gmail.com**

**Calling Catechists** We are still in need of catechists for the Faith Formation Program year. Catechists are ordinary people, *just like you*, who generously volunteer their time to share our Catholic Faith, values, and traditions with our youngest generation. Training, resources, and materials are provided! If you are interested in helping with the town wide program or have any questions about the 2021-2022 Faith Formation program, Call Patrick Reid at 860.628.9679

## meet and greet

Informational Meeting

**Attention: All active members of The Ladies Guild/Ladies Club of the Immaculate Conception, St. Thomas and St. Dominic Churches**

**When: October 18, 2021 Time: 6:30 – 8:30pm Where: St. Dominic Parish Center (use church entrance)**

**Purpose:** As we start the process with blending into one Southington Catholic church, the officers of these 3 ministries have agreed to present an informational meeting to help each other learn who we are and how we have served our individual parish communities. We do not have all the answers on future endeavors but we would like to start by working together to figure it all out.

RSVP: If all active members attend this meeting we can have approximately 65 attendees. Please RSVP to your individual ministry leaders to reserve a seat for this meeting. We will be practicing safe distancing and will ask all participants to wear a mask while indoors. If anyone feels uncomfortable meeting in a larger group, please let your ministry leaders know if you are interested in being kept on a Ladies Guild/Club membership list. **RSVP deadline: 10/11/21**

### Contact Ministry Leaders:

Immaculata Ladies Club:	Felicia Michanczyk: 860-628-4322
	Barbara Pozuczek: 860-620-1925, pozuc8@aol.com
St. Thomas Ladies Guild:	Terri Bouchard: 860-628-2981, tmbouch58@aol.com
St. Dominic Ladies Club:	Rita Fitzgerald: 860-276-8850(h), 860-384-0287, ritafitzgerald@cox.net
	Maria Ierardi: 860-426-0259, jmierardi@cox.net

Notation: Although this meeting is being geared to active members at this time, we would like to encourage any non-active member who may be interested in joining the Ladies Ministry to contact the officers listed above. We need to limit the size of the group for safety precautions. If there is availability of seats you will be invited to attend as well.

We may have different names for our ministries and different functions, however, we all share the common goal to serve our parish community. Thank you to all who are working toward this goal of being more united than divided.

## moving forward....

A group has been formed for those who are alone, would like to move forward and would like to meet new people. Both men and women are welcome to join. Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm if we go to a restaurant to socialize and the following week it will be at 2:00 pm at the Church of the Resurrection in Wallingford for discussions. For more information, call Francine Madar at 203-269-5342.

**Saint Dominic Parish is now accepting bids for snow plowing for the 2021-2022 season.**

**Please contact Sharon Ayotte at 860-628-0349 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until noon for more information.**

**bereavement group Autumn 2021**

The Southington Catholic Parishes will be offering an in-person bereavement workshop. The New Day process consists of 10 facilitated meetings, and the autumn 2021 group is being formed. The first meeting will begin Thursday, September 23 at 6:30 PM. To enroll, or for more information, contact the parish office by telephone 860-628-4713 or email [stthomassouthington@gmail.com](mailto:stthomassouthington@gmail.com).

**Blessed Sacrament Talk**

Date: 10/10/21  
Time: 2:00-4:00pm

St. Aloysius Church, 254 Burritt St.,  
Plantsville, CT 06479

Please join us for an afternoon of worship and praise with world renowned singer/songwriter/speaker Annie Karto.



There will be adoration, the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Sign up to attend: [vmsouthington@gmail.com](mailto:vmsouthington@gmail.com)

For more information visit Annie's website [www.anniekarto.com](http://www.anniekarto.com)

**saint thomas cemetery**

If you or your family are looking to purchase a plot or niche in the columbarium, give us a call at the parish office, 860.628.4713. We'll have our Plant Manager, Casey Potthoff, meet with you and explain the options for graves and markers. Please, call to schedule a meeting.

**saint dominic  
nourishes item of  
the month:**

Olive oil  
Peanut butter &  
Jelly

**social justice  
ongoing food drive**

- Canned tomato
- Tomato paste
- Cooking oils
- Tuna
- Canned chicken
- Canned vegetables
- Canned beans
- Snack Nuts /Seeds
- Napkins
- Crackers/ Popcorn
- Fiber One Cereal
- Flour/Sugar
- Cereal/Breakfast bars
- Packaged fruit
- Pancake mix, syrup
- Taco/fajita kits
- Oatmeal
- Ketchup/Mustard/Relish
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Household cleaners
- Sponges
- Facial tissue
- Freezer bags
- Foil and cling wrap
- Kitchen garbage bags
- Chicken broth/stock
- Beef broth/stock
- Vegetable broth/stock
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Boxed or bagged rice
- Boxed/bagged potato
- Coffee/tea
- Juice
- Pasta and sauce
- Soups

**Pet foods & accessories**  
are sent to

Meriden Humane Society, a non-kill shelter.  
Canned cat/dog food  
Dry cat/dog food  
Pet toys

*Food donations benefit parishioners in need, & Southington Community Services.*

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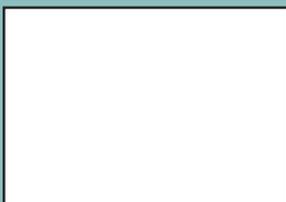
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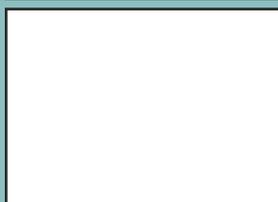
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