

Baptism of the Lord



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 Administrative Assistant for Child Care Center: **Cheryl Kelley**
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FRONT COVER IMAGES

Philips Family enjoying the
nativity

1584-Annabale Carracci

BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JOE

1:30 pm on Thursdays in the Saint
Dominic Community Learning Center.
Also streamed to the St. Thomas
Facebook Group.

FAITH FORMATION Please see our parishes websites: saintdominicchurch.com or
stthomassouthington.org southington.dre@gmail.com 860.628.9679

ST. DOMINIC CHILD CARE CENTER

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

SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Located at 133 Bristol Street. 860.628.2485 www.southingtoncatholicschool.org

YOUTH MINISTRY 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: Mondays 7pm. Saint Dominic Chapel

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament: as scheduled

Reconciliation: 2:30-3:30pm Saturdays at Saint Dominic Church —Wednesdays at Immaculate Conception 6-7pm

Diabetes Support Group last Tuesday of each month, 10- 11:15am: Immaculate Conception meeting hall

GENERAL INFORMATION

St. Thomas Offices & Immaculate Conception: 860.628.4713, Saint Dominic Rectory: 860.628.0349

All event/meeting scheduling, Mass Intentions, Baptism, Marriages, Anointing of the sick, hospital or home visits, cemetery needs: please call 860.628.4713 for more information or assistance.

Bulletin and bulletin board submission: Monday 8am, prior to the bulletin publication date. *A week with a holiday: 16 days ahead LeeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com

Online Giving: www.saintthomassouthington.org or www.saintdominicchurch.com

COLLECTIONS 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. Please make checks payable to your parish.

Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

My college roommate wouldn't eat fish. He wasn't allergic; he hated it. He never tried it, but he was convinced it was horrible. We lived at the shore in Rhode Island where we had access to all sorts of fresh fish. Still, he was convinced he wouldn't like it. Recently, he told me how much he loves sea food. I laughed. Now he lives in Chicago, where the fish has to be imported. When he had complete access to it fresh from the water, it was a no. Funny thing how we can convince ourselves something good is terrible, simply because we say it's so.

Many times we convince ourselves things will be terrible when they're new or outside our comfort zone. We want to keep the old and familiar. We want life to be the way it always was. Why change? Well, because life changes all the time. I can't wear the clothes that no longer fit. I could try, but it would look ridiculous! If I'm injured, I need to adjust my tasks. I shouldn't try running with a broken foot; I could do some serious and permanent damage. Change isn't the end of the world, it just means adapting to new conditions. We all have to do it in life.

I've been hearing, "Father, we've all been talking..." a great deal lately. That's never followed by, and we want you to have a raise! It comes with some litany of things people hate. "You're a tyrant, making us all wear masks." No, I'm just trying to protect the health of the children and the immune compromised, on advice of medical professionals specializing in infectious disease. It isn't political, it's a health thing. It's also trying to show mercy to people who are not able to make certain choices. It's a change to help in a time of illness. That's all.

The most common complaint is about the changes coming to the Mass schedule. "Father, why isn't there a Mass at St. Dominic's?" There is. "Not on Saturday." No, but we have two Masses on Saturday. "Why isn't there a Mass in

English at Immaculate Conception?" There is, on Saturday evening. "Well, that doesn't count. It isn't Sunday!" Trust me, it counts. "Why doesn't Mary Our Queen have a Mass?" It does. The 4PM vigil Mass is at Mary Our Queen. "We don't go on Saturday!" There are other Masses on Sunday. Many people have convinced themselves it will be terrible and it will never work. That decision has been made before we have even tried it!

Let me explain a few things: Am I happy about all the changes? No. Do we have to make changes? Yes. How did we arrive at this schedule? The pastoral planning committee, with representatives from each of the parishes in town, looked at the data we have. We took the October counts, a head count of people attending all Masses in each church we do every year in the Archdiocese, and looked at the number of people attending at different times. We then looked at the seating capacity for each building. We matched that to the number of people attending at different times. We also needed to make sure every church building was being used, as we need to use each space we have as long as we have them. While also managing to find a time for a Mass in Polish to accommodate that need, we arrived at the schedule you have seen. We developed it this way. Will it work? I don't know. We hope it will, but we can adjust it if needed after a few months. We can't declare definitively how awful it will be before we see how things work. We need to try something, and this will help us meet the needs of changes that have already come and must be addressed. If it works, it works; if not, we will adjust. We won't know until we try.

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

mass intentions

SATURDAY, January 8 Saturday after Epiphany

- 7:30am (IC) Gemma & Anthony Renzi
Requested by Luisa Renzi
- 4:00pm (SD) Paul & June Lehr
Requested by Mary Ann Nessel
- 5:30pm (IC) Anthony & Gladys Leach
Requested by their daughter, Barbara

SUNDAY, January 9 The Baptism of the Lord

- 7:30am (SD) Maria Parlapiano, Memorial Mass
Requested by her Family
- 9:00am (IC—Polish) Krystyna & Andrzej Warzynski
Requested by the Family
- 10:30am (SD) In memory of Ron Grenier
Requested by the counting team

MONDAY, January 10

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
12:00pm (IC) pro-populo

TUESDAY, January 11

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
12:00pm (IC) pro-populo

WEDNESDAY, January 12

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
12:00pm (IC) pro-populo

THURSDAY, January 13—St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

- 7:30am (IC) Nikodemus Redler
Requested by the Family
- 12:00pm (IC) pro-populo

FRIDAY, January 14

- 7:30am (IC) Pro-Populo
12:00pm (IC) Barbara Gheorghiu
Requested by her Husband & Family

SATURDAY, January 15

- 7:30am (IC) pro-populo
- 4:00pm (SD) JoAnn Belanger
Requested by Morris & Diane Blanchette
- 5:30pm (IC) Henry & Genevieve Daniels
Requested by the Family

SUNDAY, January 16 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30am (SD) Hannah Weir
*Requested by her parents, Kevin & Peg,
and her Brothers*
- 9:00am (IC—Polish) Deceased members of the
Polish National Alliance
Requested by members
- 10:30am (SD) Alfred Laone
Requested by the Family

Additional Christmas Flower Intentions

In memory of Philomena Mankowsky
Given by Rosemary Paulick

In memory of Stanislaw & W. Mysiorski, Czeslous
Krzynowek, Zofia Kaminska, Zuhany Dymysty
Given by Mr. & Mrs. Krzynowek

In memory of Edmund Chmievinski, Maria Chmievinska,
Teresa Gaejdek, Tadewsz Chmievinski, Grazyma Jeziorska
Given by Mr. Michael Sikorski

In memory of William Dubicki, William A. Dubicki,
Stanley & Agata Dubicki, Joseph &
Ester Kania, Edward J. Kania
Given by Mrs. Mary Dubicki



Please note that due to the nature of handwriting, some typos may occur. If you wish it to be re-listed please contact LeeanneF@saintdominicchurch.com with the correct spelling. Thank you!

liturgy corner

Baptism of the Lord Paul Turner

Christmas Time comes to its close when we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, an event recorded in all four Gospels. To begin his public ministry, Jesus presented himself to be baptized by John the Baptist, and God manifested Jesus as the divine Son.

Because we associate baptism with the forgiveness of sins, the idea that the sinless Jesus would undergo baptism seems out of place. The evangelists must have thought the same; as a whole, they downplay the incident. But the baptism of Jesus had nothing to do with forgiveness; it had everything to do with manifestation. It was a new beginning because it publicly revealed Jesus' identity, and that testimony came not from just any witness but from God.

Three incidents in the Bible are traditionally called the "epiphany" events or the "manifestations" of Jesus, newly arrived on the biblical scene: the visit of the magi, the baptism, and the miracle at the wedding in Cana. Prior to 1969 we heard all three of these Scriptures in successive weeks: Jan. 6, Jan. 13, and on the following Sunday. All three stories form a unit because they progressively reveal the identity, the authority, and the power of Jesus.

In today's calendar the Sunday readings spread over a three-year cycle. On the Baptism of the Lord we hear a different evangelist's account each year. Only in year C, does the following Sunday feature the Gospel of the wedding at Cana to unify the three celebrations.

In the United States we celebrate Epiphany on a Sunday. But in countries where the Epiphany is a holy day of obligation, it is celebrated on Jan. 6. In the United States, the Baptism of the Lord is usually the Sunday after the Epiphany, but if Epiphany comes late, falling on Jan. 6 or 7, the Baptism of the Lord goes to the next day, Jan. 7 or 8, a Monday, in order to make room for the weeks of ordinary time.

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Mass Schedule Changes Effective July 1st

With the merger of parishes, the Pastoral Planning Committee of the parishes in Southington have examined our Mass attendance from October counts and looked at seating capacity of each church building. Following guidelines from the diocese that Masses should be scheduled one and half hours from the start of one Mass to the beginning of the next (allowing time for transportation), we have come up with a schedule for the new merged parish effective the Weekends of July 2nd and 3rd, 2022. This will be the Mass schedule:

SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES

4:00 PM – Mary Our Queen Church

5:30 PM – Immaculate Conception Church
(in English)

SUNDAY MORNING MASSES

8:00 AM – St. Aloysius Church

9:30 AM – Immaculate Conception Church
(in Polish)

11:00 AM – St. Dominic Church

Confession will be Saturdays from 2:30-3:30PM at Mary Our Queen Church

WEEKDAY MASSES – Monday through Saturday

8:00 AM – Immaculate Conception Church

We have begun booking intentions for these services between 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM through the rectory office at St. Thomas – 99 Bristol Street, 860-628-4713. To begin, we will book one weekend Mass and one weekday Mass (Saturday morning included) per family until we see how quickly the calendar fills.

this and that



Youth Night

1/9/22 Sunday

Open to high-school aged teens

Saint Dominic Church
6:00 to 8:00PM



Theme: Baptism of the Lord

Make blankets for children in support of Project Linus!
(No experience in crocheting or sewing required!)
Closing Prayer Service
Snacks and Activities
Open Faith Talk

altar adornment

All donations will be listed in the bulletin for the date of request if received in time, though, depending on the liturgical season/date, flowers may not be present on the altar.

Please pick up a donation envelope at an usher's position in the back of the church. Fill it out and drop it in the collection basket with your donation of \$50.00 or more, or mail it to the rectory. Two weeks notice please. Make checks payable to either St. Thomas or St. Dominic Church. Thank you!



flower intentions

For: **Your Loved One**

Requested by the Family



candle intentions

For: **Your Loved One**

Requested by the Family

the ABCs of annulment

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield

Father Philip Schulze, Pastor of Saint Margaret Parish, 24 Academy Street, Madison, Connecticut, in collaboration with Father George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield, Connecticut, will host “The ABCs of Annulment” on Saturday of January 22nd, 2022, from 10 am to 12:00 pm, in the Church Hall at the address above. Updates of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as those made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be presented by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, and Jim Tottenham.

Follow-up Annulment Workshops to help participants write their applications will be held at the same address on Saturday January 29th, and February 12th and 19th, from 10 am to 12:00 pm. Br. Larry, Jim Tottenham, and other members of the Annulment Team, will be present for the Workshops.

The “ABCs of Annulment” event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at brolarlus300@gmail.com.

ask father



Question: Father, can a candidate in RCIA receive the Anointing of the Sick?

Answer: What a great question! Normally, the sacraments are reserved to members of the Catholic Church, both Roman and Eastern Rite Churches, but exceptions can be made. The Code of Canon Law allows for licit administration of sacraments to non-Catholics, especially if they have no access to their own church (#844). It also has provision for baptized Christians of other denominations receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to their reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Since both Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are sacraments of healing, and since we are allowed to anoint baptized non-Catholics in danger of death who have no access to their church’s rites, and since the candidate has united him or herself to the Catholic Church and shows proper disposition to receive the Sacraments, we can offer a candidate Anointing of the Sick. It would be a different matter entirely for a catechumen. If that person were in danger of death, we would have to confer baptism.

a progress report . . . to the parishioners of the church of saint dominic

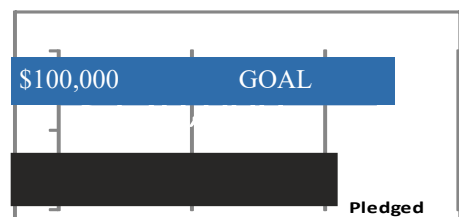
Goal for 2021 Annual Parish Appeal \$100,000



Every parish family should have received a letter from Father Joe asking for a contribution to our Parish Annual Appeal to help upgrade our technology for cameras, projection and streaming, and to save for future improvement projects. The participation of parishioners is essential for the success of this effort. Please consider returning your gift today. Thank you!

Collected to date: \$82,059

If you did not receive a mailer and would like to contribute, there are letters with donation envelopes available at the greeter stands.



calling all men!

We are currently studying PAUL'S LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS using the USCCB approved New American Bible Revised Edition (NABRE) translation. Come to our discussion and explore this book of scripture together! Doors are open (virtually speaking) whenever you can make it.

The study group meets every other Monday evening from 7:00-8:30 PM using Zoom for virtual meetings. All are welcome. Are you in? Contact Joe Premus at joepremus@gmail.com to automatically receive Zoom meeting invites.



men's club update

Immaculate Conception-Saint Thomas-Church Of Saint Dominic



AND MORE!

Take those 2022 calendars and plan to mark these dates down. Your Men's Club will be holding a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 16, 2022, but it's planned to be more than just pancakes. Included will be bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice and coffee. This is the inaugural event hosted by the new three Parish Men's Club. What exciting news!

Location: Saint Dominic Church Parish Center

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses.

Cost: Adults - \$10.00
Children over 6 Years - \$5.00

Mark this next on your calendar:

Mardi Gras on Sunday, February 27, 2022 – more info to follow.

Next Men's Club meeting – January 6, at Saint Dominic Church – 7:00pm

bereavement group winter 2022

The Southington Catholic Parishes will be offering an in-person bereavement workshop. The New Day process consists of 10 facilitated meetings, and the winter 2022 group is being formed. The first meeting will begin Thursday, January 6, at 6:30 PM. To enroll, or for more information, contact the parish office 860-628-4713 or stthomassouthington@gmail.com.

passion play news 2022

Please consider joining us in spreading God's message of love. All are welcome to sing in the adult and youth choruses without auditioning.

Auditions

Tuesday – Jan. 18th Speaking roles only - 7:30pm in the school cafeteria

***DON'T COME EARLY! We cannot enter the building until the CCD classes leave.**

Thursday – Jan. 20th Singing and speaking roles – 7pm in the school cafeteria.

Important information

- For more info: www.stthomassouthington.org/cast-info
- First Chorus Rehearsal: Feb 2nd in the school gym. Youth 6pm – 7pm and Adults 7pm – 8:30pm
- We are in need of someone to run the sound system.

help wanted! Are you looking for a part time job? Do you have some extra time on your hands? Do you love working with children?

St. Dominic Child Care Center is looking for part-time child care workers starting at \$16/hour *Paid Holidays after 90 days and additional flex days after 1 year. Available positions include mornings and/or afternoons Monday through Friday. Flexible hours available. No experience necessary.

For more information, contact Ashley:

directorcc@saintdominicchurch.com or call the center 860.628.4678 ext. 123.



adult confirmation spring 2022

The Southington Catholic Parishes will be offering a preparation process for Adult Confirmation. The process will include 6 to 10 facilitated meetings, and the spring 2022 group is being formed. The first meeting should begin Tuesday, February 8 in anticipation of Confirmation being celebrated at the Cathedral in May 2022. For more information and to enroll, please contact the parish office by telephone at 860-628-4713 or by email at stthomassouthington@gmail.com.

rite of christian initiation of adults (rcia)

Is something missing from your life?

Are you searching for God? Were you baptized in another Christian faith?

Have you been thinking about becoming Catholic?

Were you baptized in the Catholic Church, but did not complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)?

If so, the Southington Catholic Parishes offer a process through which people can learn what the Catholic Church believes, teaches, and tries to live in the world. The first step in the process is called inquiry. It's a time when inquirers explore the basics and meet people who can help them with the process. If after a time, inquirers feel that membership in the Catholic Church is something desirable, they can continue the process of preparation to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

For more information, please contact the parish office by telephone at 860-628-4713 or by email at stthomassouthington@gmail.com.

women's walking with purpose bible study

Women's Walking with Purpose bible study begins Jan.11, 2022 via Zoom! There is still room for more women! *“Living in the Father’s Love”* is a Catholic, small group bible study created especially for women. Six weeks on Tuesdays, 7pm to 8:30 pm. A small group leader who guides the study with both walkingwithpurpose.com on-line videos, and a workbook each woman purchases at the website. *“Living in the Father’s Love”*, according to *Walking with Purpose*, is a “brief but powerful six-lesson Bible study which is the ideal way to revive and refresh each woman. In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn’t it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? This bible study will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all.” To register, email Lori Mierzejewski and Pat Adams at

wwpfatherslove@gmail.com

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

**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
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