



Pastor

Rev. Joseph R. Cronin
fr.cronin@aohct.org

Deacon

Angelo J. Coppola

St. Thomas Convent

860-621-1904

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Marie Roccapriore, M.P.F.
 860-628-9679

Southington Catholic School
 Mrs. Eileen Sampiere, Principal
 860-628-2485

Saint Thomas Church

99 Bristol Street, Southington, CT 06489-4599

Telephone: 860-628-4713 Fax: 860-628-7341
 Web Site: www.stthomassouthington.org
 Pastoral Planning Web Site: www.stewardsfortomorrow.org

e-mail: stthomassouthington@gmail.com
 Religious Ed email: stchurchre@gmail.com
 Download our App: see MyParishApp.com

Mass Schedule

Chapel

Monday & Tuesday 7:30 a.m.
 Thursday & Friday 12:10 p.m.
 Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Church

Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m.
 or by Appointment
 Mondays during Lent 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Holy Hour (Chapel)

Tuesday (for vocation) 11:00 a.m.
 Thursday (with Benediction) 11:00 a.m.
 Eucharistic Adoration 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Miraculous Medal Novena (Chapel)

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Sponsor Certificates

Sponsor Certificates are available in the sacristy of the Church or the rectory office. You must be an active parishioner, registered with our parish for 6 months or more. The use of the envelope system assists in verifying that you are an active parishioner.

Baptism

Parents are asked to contact Jean Moriarty at the rectory to arrange for a Baptism.

Marriage

The Archdiocese requires a minimum of 6 months for marriage preparation. Couples should contact Fr. Joseph Cronin at the rectory.

RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If your faith journey has led you to think about the Catholic Church or to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, please join us in the RCIA. For more information contact Sr. Marie Roccapriore, M.P.F. at the Convent.

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

4:00 Paul Emond, req. by Marie Thelen and Marie Ayotte

SUNDAY, JANUARY 147:30 Edward Maigarie, Sr. and Edward Maigarie, Jr. –16th
Anniversary, req. by Genevieve Maigarie

10:00 Alfred Laone, req. by his wife and children

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

7:30 Elio Cinquedita, req. by his wife, and daughters

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

7:30 Parishioners of Saint Thomas

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

12:10 Vincenza Pandolfo, req. by her sister, Teresa

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1912:10 Constantina and Michael Tranquillo, req. by Maria and
Pasquale DiChello**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 St. Fabian and St. Sebastian**

8:00 Norman Madore, req. by the Sisters

4:00 Milagros Montano, req. by her family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

7:30 Rinaldo Brino, req. by his family

10:00 Vance Lenzi—2nd Anniversary, req. by his wife,
Shirley and children**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome! We are delighted to have you join our parish. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Joe after Mass. Parish registration forms are available in the sacristy after Mass or at the rectory office during the week.

BULLETIN

All bulletin announcements must be submitted *in writing* no later than the **Monday** prior to publication but you are encouraged to send your submissions 2 weeks in advance. It is best to send by email to stchurchre@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2017 contribution statements are available upon request. You may enclose a note in your offertory envelope, call the office or send an email request. Statements will be mailed to you.



The sanctuary flowers are donated this week in memory of **Ann Marie Coccozza**, requested by the Coccozza Family.

GROCERY AND SCRIP CARDS

You can order grocery cards, gas cards, movie tickets, department stores cards, etc. Every purchase earns rewards for Southington Catholic School. Gift cards are great for birthdays, thank you gifts and holidays. Please call the school (860-628-2485) for more information and to obtain a complete list of participating retailers. This list is also available at the rectory.

2018 PASSION PLAY NEWS

The 40th St. Thomas Passion Play gets underway in January. Besides acting we are in need of help in many areas to keep the play running smoothly. Please help us spread God's message of love during this Lenten prayer. **Auditions** and rehearsals will be held at Southington Catholic School. **Women: Wednesday, Jan. 17th in the cafeteria at 7pm. Men: Thursday, Jan. 18th in the gym starting at 7pm (note the different location).** Calling all members past, present and future; a night for praise and information will be held on January 24th in the gym at 6:30pm. For a schedule check our web site stthomassouthington.org/passionplay or contact Bonnie Peterson at 860-621-7005.

RESPECT LIFE BABY BOTTLE EVENT

St. Thomas Respect-life Ministry will be distributing baby bottles after all the Masses **next weekend January 20th and 21st** to benefit Carolyn's Place, a Catholic Pregnancy resource center in Waterbury. Please take bottles to collect money over the next 2 weeks and return them to the collection boxes at each entrance of the church. If you choose to write a check, please make it payable to Carolyn's Place. Since 1991, the caring staff and volunteers at Carolyn's Place have assisted in the birth of over 1,000 babies. They also provide parenting skills, baby supplies, and education about God's great gift of human sexuality to teens in local schools and religious education programs. Carolyn's Place relies totally on donations, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC

Northwest Catholic offers its Entrance Exam to 8th & 9th graders on Jan. 22nd at 8:30 a.m. An application will serve as your registration for the exam. There will be an Information Session for prospective families, who were unable to attend the October Open House, on Feb. 1st at 7:00 p.m. For more information or to apply online, go to NorthwestCatholic.org/Admissions.

SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC OPEN HOUSE

Southington Catholic School invites you to our Open House on **Sunday, January 28th from 11:00am to 2:00pm**. Our faculty, students and families are anxious to share with you their reasons for investing in Catholic education. Speak to parents of graduates who have gone on to high school honors programs based on their experience at Southington Catholic. Chat with parents of younger children about the advanced early reading program. Applications for the 2018-2019 school year will be available. For more information, call the Advancement Office 860-628-2485 ext 114.

GALA AND AUCTION Southington Catholic School will be hosting it's 3rd Annual Gala and Benefit Auction at the Aqua Turf on **February 9th at 6:30 p.m.** Please join us for our Mardi Gras themed dinner with silent and live auctions, games and dancing. Tickets are \$75 in advance and are available weekday mornings in the school lobby from 7:15—8:15 a.m. or you may contact the committee at scsgalacommitee@gmail.com. Be sure not to miss this fun event and helping SCS.

NATIONAL MIGRATION SUNDAY

Today is an opportunity to become aware of the millions of God's children fleeing war, persecution and poverty and to share their journey by walking with them in prayer and support. To add your voice to this urgent issue send a message to your lawmakers at Justiceformigrants.org.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes for baptized Roman Catholics who have made their First Communion and are over the age of 18 will begin soon. Contact Sr. Marie at 860-621-1904 for further information and registration.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Julia Manware** requested by her family.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Ralph Salerno**, requested by his family.

ACTS CT MEN'S RETREAT

Save the Date-The ACTS CT Men's Retreat will be held on Feb. 15-18, 2018. Where are you in your journey to God? Speeding down the open road? Stuck trying to get back in traffic? Want to hear more about it? contact: Ed Baker, 860-919-2030; Steve Reilly, 860-877-4200 or Mike Knopf, 203-241-

Readings for the Week of January 14, 2018

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13 [5b]/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11 [2a]/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-7/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 /1 Cor 7:29-31/ Mk 1:14-20

PALMS TO ASHES

Last year's palms will be collected Jan 21 & 28. These palms will be burned and the ashes will be used for distribution on Ash Wednesday. You may return your palms to the box in the front Bristol Street entrance of the church.

PARISH POTLUCK SUPPER!

St. Thomas Parish will be holding a **Potluck Supper** on Sat., Jan. 20th, after the 4pm Vigil Mass, in the school cafeteria. All parishioners are invited to bring their favorite ethnic or family dish to share. If you plan to attend this fun event, please indicate how many will be in your party by emailing or calling the rectory office at stthomassouthington@gmail.com or 860-628-4713 by Thursday, January 18th.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED

Eucharistic ministers are parishioners who have been commissioned to serve Christ in the gathered assembly on Sundays and Holy Days. They also serve the unity of the worshipping community by taking Holy Communion to those members who are prevented by sickness, old age, or other cause from taking part in the congregation. The extraordinary ministers of Saint Thomas parish bring Communion to Southington Care Center, The Orchards, the hospital, and to the homebound. If you are interested in learning more about this wonderful ministry, please call Deb Montano at 860-621-3528.



Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

We're back in Ordinary Time! As good as Christmas can be, there's something great about getting back to normal. The house may look a bit bare as the decorations come down, but the place looked cluttered and dirty by the end of the season! The reason all the Christmas celebrations are so special is because we live in Ordinary Time so often. That's one reason I love this season. It also gives me a chance to get back to normal and cover a few things

I want to thank everyone for making our Epiphany celebration enjoyable! It was great to have you come to the rectory and see the decorations. It's a good thing to gather as a parish family and know we can do more than sit in a pew together. I also want to thank those who made it possible. Thanks to Bonnie who got the place spic-and-span for inspection. Thanks to Jean who was there to let people in to the place. Thanks to the Ladies Guild who worked to provide the treats and serve us. It was a wonderful day and I am glad we had that time.

I want to say a word of thanks to Kathleen Baldwin. She was our parish secretary. Kathleen found working with the computer was severely aggravating her headaches. While we tried to make accommodations, it was still hard for her. She did great work with the bulletin, our parish app, religious education, and so many other areas. While I'm sorry she won't be working with us every day, I'm happy to tell you that Kathleen will still be here. She plans to volunteer with things that don't require computer work, like being on a money counting team. Thank you, Kathleen, for all you have done, and continue to do, for the parish!

I am grateful for our crew. The custodial staff had to work hard in the past few weeks clearing lots. Harry was out on Christmas Eve getting the paths clear for people to come to Midnight Mass. Casey, Marty, and Dan were here bright and early on Christmas Day plowing before they were able to celebrate the holiday with their families. They've been coming in driving winds and bitter cold to make our church safely accessible. I also want to express my appreciation to Marian and Jean who worked so hard to make the church look so beautiful for Christmas. Thanks one and all!

I want to thank all of you who have been inviting your family, friends, and neighbors to come to Mass with you! I have noticed many new faces in the crowd and seen younger families with small children in the pews. I know you have been bringing them with you, and I am grateful for that. Your enthusiasm in the work of evangelization is what keeps our parish and our Church alive. Thank you!

While we are back in Ordinary Time, there are some special celebrations to come. We have the Pot Luck Supper next Saturday. It should be fun as we bring food to celebrate our ethnic of cultural heritage. It's wonderful to see a smorgasbord of food from all over the world. How special is it to be able to put on one plate: lasagna, rice and beans, tabbouleh, and kielbasa, and then sample a wide variety of desserts? Maybe you grew up down South and want to bring fried chicken and biscuits, or you're from out West and want to bring chili or barbeque. Come on down! It should be a great evening of good food and good company. I hope to see you there!

Gratefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

BIBLE STUDY

No Bible study this week. The next class will meet **Thursday evening, January 25th** at 7pm in the school cafeteria. Please bring your bible.