



**Pastor**

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo  
 fr\_nick.stchurch@snet.net

**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*

Telephone: 860-628-4713      Web Site: [www.stthomassouthington.org](http://www.stthomassouthington.org)      e-mail: [stchurch@snet.net](mailto:stchurch@snet.net)  
 Fax: 860-628-7341      Religious Ed email: [stchurchre@yahoo.com](mailto:stchurchre@yahoo.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 ..... 2:30 p.m.  
 or by Appointment

**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 at the rectory to arrange for a Baptism.

**Marriage**  
 The Archdiocese requires a minimum of 6 months for marriage preparation. Couples should contact Fr. Nick 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.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

4:00 Mario and Stefano Votino, req. by Mary Nigro and Antoinette Votino

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

7:30 The deceased members of the St. Thomas Ladies Guild, req. by the members  
10:00 Eric Thomas-Birthday, req. by his wife and children

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 The Most Holy Name of Mary**

7:30 Giuseppe and Angelina Carusone, req. by Rosa Izzo

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 St. John Chrysostom**

7:30 Helen and Joseph Sukatski and Joan Zeglen, req. by the Sukatski family

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 Our Lady of Sorrows**

12:10 Janina Mojowska, req. by Hanna and family

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 SS. Cornelius and Cyprian**

12:10 Parishioners of St. Thomas

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 St. Robert Bellarmine**

8:00 Giuseppe Izzo-Anniversary, req. by Rosa Izzo  
4:00 Brian Watts and Joann Watts, req. by Ray Watts

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

7:30 Concetta Cusano-Anniversary, req. by her daughter, Lena and family  
10:00 Alfonso Ricciardi, req. by Joe and Angelina Della Porta

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome! We are delighted to have you join our parish. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Nick 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. Submitting well in advance of that date is greatly appreciated.

**ST. THOMAS PRAYER LINE MINISTRY**

To make a request for prayer contact **Barbara Burke: 860-621-3129, Noreen Fragola 860-628-2500, or the Sisters at the Convent: 860-621-1904.**

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2016**

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18th and will focus on the theme "*Prayer: The Faith Prayed*". Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. For more information go to our website [www.orehartford.org](http://www.orehartford.org) or to [www.USCCB.org](http://www.USCCB.org).

**LADIES GUILD**

The first meeting of the St. Thomas Ladies Guild will be held Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, in the Church Basement. All ladies of the parish are encouraged to join us. In celebration of our 50th Anniversary all members will be receiving a special commemorative gift.

**NEW DAY PROGRAM FOR BEREAVED**

St Thomas Church will conduct a bereavement seminar beginning **this Wednesday**, September 14, 2016. Anyone grieving the death of a loved one is encouraged to enroll and participate at no cost. The New Day process, developed by Sr. Mauryeen O'Brien, OP, will be used and participants will meet each Wednesday evening from 7 – 9 pm for 10 consecutive weeks. For more information or to enroll please call Vinny Raby at 860-628-9425 or Dorothy Charette at 860-628-4010. You may also call the Parish office 860-628-4713.

**ST. THOMAS ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC!**

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, September 18th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM is the St. Thomas Annual Parish Picnic on the grounds adjacent to the Church. There will be music provided by a D.J. Burgers, hot dogs, rolls and fixings will be provided. We ask you to bring a side dish to share with 8-10 people and a lawn chair. All are welcome!!!

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2016-2017**

Welcome to all students in this year's Religious Education Ministry. Our parish schedule of classes is as follows:

Grades 1-4 Mondays, 4:15-5:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 19  
Grades 5-8 Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. beginning Sept. 20  
Grades 9-10 Sundays, 6:00-7:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 18\*

**All meet in the school cafeteria for general assembly—** followed by class instruction in the designated classrooms.

\*Parents of grade 9 and 10 students will also meet on Sept. 18.

For more information, contact Sr. Marie at 860-621-1904

**YOUTH SOCCER CHALLENGE**

The Knights of Columbus Councils #15(Isabella) and #25(Rev. Walter F. Geraghty) are jointly sponsoring their annual pre-fall Youth Soccer Challenge for boys and girls ages 9-14 on Sept. 11th at Rec Park Field 3 (off S. End Rd). Competition starts promptly at 2pm with rolling registration from 1:30 to 2:30pm. For more information call Phil Mazzatti at 860-276-8228.

**MUSIC MINISTRY AT ST. THOMAS**

Looking for a way to give to your church without it costing anything? Why not come and join the choir as we begin the new season? Our choir sings a variety of styles and forms of music. We sing at all liturgical celebrations during the year and weekly at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday masses. You don't need to know how to read music. What we want are people who can carry a tune and commit to the weekly Thursday rehearsals that occur between September and June. Anyone high school age and up are encouraged to come and join us. We have a dedicated and fun group of members, many who have been part of the St. Thomas Choir for several years. Our rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the choir loft, If you have any questions, please call or email or music director, Emil Kopcha at 860-621-0637 or [ekopcha@cox.net](mailto:ekopcha@cox.net). Come take the musical plunge and try out being part of the St. Thomas Choir.



The sanctuary flowers are donated this week in memory of **Leonide and Stella Bouchard**, in honor of their Wedding Anniversary, requested by their daughter, Priscilla Dunn.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SOCIAL/OPEN HOUSE**

On Monday evening, September 19th at 7:00pm, you are invited to a Eucharistic Minister Social/Open House in the St. Thomas Parish Center. Have you ever considered participating in the worthwhile ministry? Now if the time! Come and talk to some of our members and find out more of what we really do and why. Discover how easily you can become a part of the amazing ministry. This will be a fun and informal gathering. Refreshments will be provided. Please come! We would love to have you join us. Any questions, please call Debbie Montano at 860-621-3528.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Phil and Rita Hayes**, requested by Sadie and Jim Manware.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Edward Sieruta-Anniversary**, requested by LouAnn Sieruta.

**SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS!**

**You have an Option**— Southington Catholic School offers our families the option of a quality Catholic education within our town. With the support of each of our parishes, the vision of a school dedicated to educating the future moral leaders of our community is a reality. Please visit and experience the difference that a Catholic education can mean for your student. New students are welcome to register for K through grade 8.

**Apple Harvest Festival**- Southington’s Apple Harvest Festival offers Southington Catholic School a unique opportunity to raise needed funds while bringing the community together to promote SC and have FUN! Won’t you consider joining with our students and parents for a few hours on either weekend? Help is needed in the donated parking lot provided for SC as well as in our food booth both weekends. This wonderful community outreach requires many helpful hands and smiling volunteers. Everyone is welcome so please contact Southington Catholic to volunteer. 860-628-2485.

**SOCCER COACH NEEDED**- The Southington Catholic “Saints” invite you to join their team. Our middle school students are looking for a soccer coach this season. If you have any experience in coaching, please consider volunteering your time for these great kids? Our students practice after school on weekdays and extra parent help is always welcome. Please call 860-628-2485 to join the soccer team of Southington Catholic School. Go Saints!

**Boxtops for Education is Back!**-School is back in session and we are asking you to help collect Boxtops and Campbell Soup labels again, from your favorite packaged foods. Just drop them in the Bright marked box in the Double Door entrance at the back of the church. The funds collected help fund additional school supplies and gym equipment. Thank you for your support!

**“Heal...the pain of still-grieving families and all who lost loved ones in this tragedy. Give them strength to continue their lives with courage and hope.”** —Pope Francis, “Prayer of Remembrance” Ground Zero Memorial, New York, Sept. 25, 2015

**NORTHWEST CATHOLIC OPEN HOUSE**

Come learn about Northwest Catholic at our Open House on Sunday, October 30th from 1 to 3pm. For more information or to register for an info session online, go to [www.NorthwestCatholic.org/InfoSession](http://www.NorthwestCatholic.org/InfoSession). Please contact Andrew Selig at [aselig@nwcath.org](mailto:aselig@nwcath.org).

**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Mercy High School, Middletown, will hold an Open House on Sun., November 6th at 1:00pm for middle school girls and transfer students. The Entrance Exam will be held on Sat., November 12th from 8:00am to 11:15am. Testing fee is \$30. Pre-register at - [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com). Make up date: Sat., Nov. 19, 2016.

**COURAGE AND ENCOURAGE SUPPORT GROUPS**

Courage is a Catholic support group for men and women who experience same-sex attraction and are seeking to live chaste lives in Christ. Courage will meet Thursday, September 22nd at 7pm. Encourage helps the loved-ones of those who experience same-sex attraction to grow in understanding and love, while honoring the virtue of chastity. Encourage will meet on Wednesday, September 14th at 7pm. For meeting locations and other info contact Fr. Robert Landback, at 203-265-0961 x2, or [ahctcourage@gmail.com](mailto:ahctcourage@gmail.com). The website for Courage International is [couragerc.org](http://couragerc.org).

**ST. PAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND**

St. Paul Catholic High School is kicking off our 50th year in style! Mark your calendars and join us for these fun-filled events! On Sat., Sept. 17th: Home football game with picnic and an outdoor concert. Before the game, enjoy campus tours, a pre-game BBQ and be ready to cheer on the football team as they play Holy Cross High School at 1:30pm. After the game, Cajun Ray and the Steamers will perform and outdoor concert. On Sun., Sept. 18th: 50th Anniversary Opening Mass and Reception. Mass will be celebrated at 2pm at St. Gregory the Great Church, Bristol with an outdoor reception to follow. Archbishop Emeritus, Henry J. Mansell will be the principal celebrant. For more detail and information, visit [www.spchs.com/celebrating50](http://www.spchs.com/celebrating50).

**Readings for the Week of September 11, 2016**

Sunday: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10  
 Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-10, 17/Lk 7:1-10  
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 7:11-17  
 Wednesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
 Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 28/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
 Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1, 6-8, 15/Lk 8:1-3  
 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10-14/Lk 8:4-15  
 Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13