



**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  
 Fax: 860-628-7341

Web Site: [www.stthomassouthington.org](http://www.stthomassouthington.org)

e-mail: [stchurch@snet.net](mailto:stchurch@snet.net)  
 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 17**

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

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19****St. Januarius**

7:30 Gaetano and Maria Sabino, req. by their daughter

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20****SS. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul  
Chong Ha-sang, and Companions**

7:30 Anne and Ralph Ferrucci, req. by Angie and family

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

12:10 Joseph Labrie-Anniversary, req. Irene Labrie and family

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23****St. Pius of Pietrelcina**12:10 Parishioners whose Funeral Mass was in August:  
Libero Nuzzolillo, Marie H. Susco, Jason S. Bellemare,  
and Louis F. Meccariello**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

8:00 Parishioners of St. Thomas

4:00 Marco Ingriselli-Birthday, req. by his wife and children

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**7:30 Frank and Carmella (Perillo) DeBenedetto, req. by  
Michele DiBenedetto and family

10:00 Florence and Frank Triano, req. by their children

**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.

**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 our 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.

**ST. THOMAS ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC!**

**THIS WEEKEND!** 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!!!

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2016**

This weekend, the Church celebrates 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 at the 10:00 Mass, here at St. Thomas Church. 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.

**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

**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 is 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.

**HOPES COLLECTION**

The HOPES Collection benefits the Catholic elementary schools of the Archdiocese by providing schools with individual HOPES Grants supporting the funding of safe Catholic school environments, the expansion of innovative educational technology, and the marketing of their Catholic schools as centers of excellence. The collection also supports the broad-based marketing and promotion of Catholic schools. Please help us provide a culture of faith and academic excellence to elementary school students by giving to the 2016 Catholic elementary school HOPES Collection next weekend, Sept 24/25th.

**SOUTHINGTON CROP WALK**

This year's Crop Walk will take place on Sunday, September 25th, hosted by the First Congregational Church, 37 Main St., Southington, CT. Registration begins at 1:00 and walk begins at 1:30pm. **Help end hunger one step at a time!** For more info and to register online visit [crophungerwalk.org/impact](http://crophungerwalk.org/impact) to see the difference you can make!



The sanctuary flowers are donated this week in memory of **Merinda DePaolo**, in honor of her birthday, requested by her brother Joseph and Shirley DePaolo.

**HOLY FAMILY MEN'S AND WOMEN'S RETREATS**

*The Light of Simplicity*—Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend of peace and reflection as we explore the simple and transformative message at the heart of Jesus' teaching. Discover how simplicity can shine a light on what is truly essential and important in our lives. Women's Retreat Dates: Sept. 30-Oct. 2 Men's Retreat Dates: November 4-6, 2016. The retreat begins with dinner at 6pm on Friday evening and ends with Sunday brunch at noon. Visit [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) for details.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Cristina and Vincenzo Aldi and Tina Ingriselli**, requested by Rose Ingriselli.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Millie and Frank Longo**, requested by family.

**RESPECT LIFE CONFERENCE**

The 17th Annual Respect Life Conference will be held at Holy Angels Parish Center, 585 Main Street, South Meriden, CT on Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 9am –3pm. Registration is \$25 per person, will begin at 8am and includes lunch. Keynote speaker: Mother Dolores Hart. Register today by calling 203-235-3822, ext. 402.

**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.**

**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 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.

**Boxtops for Education is Back!**-School is back in session and we are asking you to help collect Boxtops 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!



We wish to congratulate the parents of **Maximiliano Saverio DeMarco and Katherine Eleanor Orefice** who were baptized at St. Thomas Church last weekend.

*Saint Thomas Parish Family,  
Thank you all so much for your support and prayers over the past few years and for being such a caring part of my ordination weekend. What a blessing it was to have so many present and part of those special days. Thank you again for everything, and please know that my prayers are with you and the parish. With God's love,  
Father Matt*

**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.

Dear Father Melo,

In the name of the La Salette Missionaries and especially of Fr. Jobit Thottumkara, I wish to thank you and the people of St. Thomas for your hospitality, generosity and prayers during the mission appeal on Sept. 3-4th. We thank you for the opportunity to bring a renewed awareness of our Church's Mission to your people and to bring their love and support to the needy of the mission countries served by the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette. Sincerely yours in our Lord and Lady,

Fr. Thomas Vellappallil, MS

**SAINT THOMAS CEMETERY**

Pre-need graves are available for purchase, by appointment, at Saint Thomas Cemetery. Columbarium niches for cremains are also available. To schedule an appointment, please call 860-628-4713, Monday—Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

**Readings for the Week of September 18, 2016**

Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13  
 Monday: Prv 3:27-34/Ps 15:2-5/Lk 8:16-18  
 Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34-35, 44/Lk 8:19-21  
 Wednesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13  
 Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17/Lk 9:7-9  
 Friday: Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1-4/Lk 9:18-22  
 Saturday: Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17/Lk 9:43b-45  
 Next Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7-10/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31