



### **Pastor**

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo  
frnickmelo@gmail.com

### **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](http://www.stthomassouthington.org)  
Pastoral Planning Web Site: [www.stewardsfortomorrow.org](http://www.stewardsfortomorrow.org)

e-mail: [stthomassouthington@gmail.com](mailto:stthomassouthington@gmail.com)  
Religious Ed email: [stchurchre@gmail.com](mailto:stchurchre@gmail.com)  
Download our App: see [MyParishApp.com](http://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 ..... 2:30 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 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, MARCH 25**  
 4:00 Thomas Tedesco, Jr., req. by Darlene, Gail and family

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26**  
 7:30 Francis Gualtieri, req. by Elizabeth Aiken  
 10:00 Ralph and Maria Parlapiano-Birthdays, req. by family

**MONDAY, MARCH 27**  
 7:30 Joseph Sukatski, Jr., req. by the Sukatski family

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28**  
 7:30 Ralph Salerno, req. by family

**THURSDAY, MARCH 30**  
 12:10 Edna and Domenic Egidio, req. by June and Floyd Alger and family

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31 (in church)**  
 12:10 Domenic and George Francischelli, req. by family

**\*\*SATURDAY, APRIL 1**  
 4:00 Louise Avitabile, Louis Avitabile, Sr., and Gertrude Morgillo, req. by Carmel Avitabile

**SUNDAY, APRIL 2**  
 7:30 Vincent Piazza, req. by family  
 10:00 Louis Avitabile, Sr.-Birthday, req. by Karen Avitabile

**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. It is best to send by email to [stchurchre@gmail.com](mailto:stchurchre@gmail.com). Submitting well in advance 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.**

**UGANDA FRIEND-RAISER DONATIONS**

Do you own a vacation home or time share? Can you cook and serve a gourmet meal? Do you have connections for cooking classes or wine tasting? Consider donating these or similar items for the Live Auction at the Uganda Friend-Raiser. For more information contact BJ Raby at 860-628-9425 or [Bj.raby@cox.net](mailto:Bj.raby@cox.net).

**HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF THE FEET**

**12 Volunteers are needed** for the Washing of the Feet at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on **Holy Thursday, April 13th**. Please call Jean at the rectory office, 860-628-4713 if you wish to participate.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO CONFESSION ON SATURDAY APRIL 1ST OR MONDAY APRIL 3RD.**

At Communion time **all are welcome to come forward**. Those who are not eligible to receive Eucharist should cross their arms at the chest and receive a blessing.

**MANNA SUNDAY**

Next Sunday is Manna Sunday, the first Sunday of the month. Please bring non-perishable food items to be shared with those in need. Suggested items include pasta sauces, canned fruits or vegetables, tuna, and healthy snacks. Donations may be left at any of the entrances of the church. Thank you.

**BREAD FOR LIFE**

St. Thomas Church has been assigned this week, **March 27-31** for the Bread for Life Soup Kitchen. We need two people per day from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Also, **donations of milk and fruit are needed**. If you are able to assist in the kitchen or help with a donation, please call Marie, 860-621-7615. Please consider giving the gift of your time one day during our assigned week.

**LAP BLANKET MINISTRY**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29th at 7 p.m. in the church basement. Lap coverings are shared with the sick and elderly at home, in nursing homes and in hospitals. Anyone who can sew, crochet or knit is invited to participate in this charitable outreach. **Donations of yarn are always appreciated**. For info contact Rita Gilbert, 860-620-0246.

**PASTA FAGIOLI**

Join us on Friday evenings during Lent for... Pasta Fagioli, salad, bread, beverages & desserts through from 5pm—7pm. In the school cafeteria. Cost is \$7.00 per person eat in (children under 7 pay their age), and \$30 max for family. Take out orders will be available for \$8 per container. All proceeds go to support Southington Catholic School so bring your friends and family!

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

We extend heart-felt thanks to John Kolosky and Zach Janowski for serving six years on our Pastoral Council, and Dot Fontana for having filled a vacancy on the Council. We appreciate all they have done to assist us. We must now fill those positions for 3 year terms. Dot Fontana may run again, since she was filling an unexpired term. According to the By-Laws, candidates must be nominated by a parishioner of St. Thomas Church. Qualifications for membership: Each member must be at least 18 years of age, a registered member of St. Thomas Church, and a practicing Catholic. All members must have received the Sacraments of Initiation. If married, the member must be living in a valid, sacramental marriage as outlined in Canon Law. If you know of someone who may be interested in serving on the Board to advise and assist the Pastor in the administration and development of the spiritual and material matters in the parish, you may submit their name below and drop it in the collection basket or by email to the rectory office at [stchurchre@gmail.com](mailto:stchurchre@gmail.com) by March 30<sup>th</sup>.

NOMINEE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PARISHIONER


NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ENVELOPE # \_\_\_\_\_

**LENT**

- Mondays** Confessions ..... 6-7:00 p.m.
- Tuesdays** Holy Hour for Vocations ..... 11:00 a.m.
- Miraculous Medal Novena & Rosary 7:00 p.m.
- Thursdays** Eucharistic Adoration ..... 8-11:00 a.m.
- Holy Hour and Benediction ..... 11:00 a.m.
- Fridays** Stations of the Cross ..... 7:00 p.m.

There will be a Communal Lenten Reconciliation Service held at St. Dominic Church on Thursday, March 30th at 7:00pm.



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

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

**WOMEN'S RETREAT**

The St. Thomas Women's retreat weekend is April 21-23rd at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT. The Theme of this year's Retreat is "*Embracing Joy: Learning to Bear the Beams of Love*". For more information or questions contact Barbara Dahlgren at 860-276-0758, or Lori Armstrong at 860-628-6108.

**ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**

In just a few short weeks, our parish has raised \$30,513 for the 2017 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. In these trying times, the need of our surrounding community grows and the assistance provided by the Appeal becomes all the more crucial. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese.

**UGANDA FRIEND-RAISER TICKETS**

You can now purchase your tickets for the Uganda Friend Raiser! This event will be held on Fri, May 5 at 6:30pm at Testa's Banquet Facility and includes a live/silent auction. The cost is \$50 per person and includes dinner and wine on the table. Tables of 10 may be reserved. Get your tickets early as only 200 tickets are being sold. To order tickets, complete the form below for each ticket request and drop it in the collection basket after Mass or you can email Jean at [stthomassouthington@gmail.com](mailto:stthomassouthington@gmail.com), or call 860-628-4713. Please make checks payable to **St. Thomas Church**.

**TICKET ORDER FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Pastor's Corner**

Here is the latest update on the Pastoral Planning Process of our Archdiocese. On April 18, representatives from each parish in Wallingford, Meriden, Southington, New Britain and Kensington (the new Deanery #5) will meet to discuss the proposal for the restructuring of our Archdiocese. Each parish is asked to send the two Lay Trustees, the Pastoral Council Chair, and a Finance Council member. Attending from St. Thomas will be Stan Maigarie (860-628-8350), Susan Howard (203-233-0003), John Kolosky (860-276-1239) and Jean Moriarty (860-628-4713). Because of the large number of people attending, an open invitation is not practical. However, to ensure that everyone has a voice, please feel free to contact any of our representatives or me with any suggestions or comments you would like to raise, and we will bring them to that meeting.

It is important to keep in mind that the current pastoral model reflects many of the comments and opinions already voiced by priests and people of the Archdiocese. But, the current model needs to be reduced further, below the 115 pastorates (main church and any other church or ministry also run by that pastor) on the current plan, by an additional 10-15. This will ensure stability for the next 5-7 years based on the number of priests available. There are 156 pastorates today.

The latest timeline is for these Deanery meetings to take place in April, a final draft proposal to be drawn up in May by the Pastoral Planning Committee and be presented to the Archbishop, who will announce the Plan in June publicly. Then in July, the corresponding priest assignments will be announced, effective TBD.

Please continue to pray daily for the success of this difficult but extremely necessary process so that we might continue to grow as God's Church of Hartford.

**Fr. Nick**

**PASSION PLAY TICKETS**

Listed below are the contact names and phone numbers to obtain tickets for the Annual Saint Thomas Passion Play.

- Diane 860-628-4197 Lois 860-621-0411
- Ginny 860-628-4628 Joan 860-426-2371

**Performances**

Saturday	April 8th	7:30 p.m.
Palm Sunday	April 9th	3:00 p.m.
Monday	April 10th	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	April 11th	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	April 12th	7:30 p.m.
Good Friday	April 14th	7:30 p.m.

**Readings for the Week of March 26, 2017**

- Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54
- Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-15, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
- Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47
- Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12/Jn 7:40-53
- Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45