



Pastor

Rev. Joseph R. Cronin
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Deacon

Angelo J. Coppola

St. Thomas Convent

860-621-1904

**Director of
Religious Education**

Sr. Marie Roccapriore, M.P.F.
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Southington Catholic School
Mrs. Eileen Sampiere, Principal
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Saint Thomas Church

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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 *Week*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

4:00 The deceased members of the Dominican Sisters and Associates, req. by Carmel Avitabile

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

7:30 James Kaufmann and Robert Baldwin, req. by the Baldwin Family

10:00 Jean Kirychuk, req. by family

MONDAY, AUGUST 21**St. Pius X**

7:30 Parishioners of St. Thomas Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:30 James and An Quinn, req. by family

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24**St. Bartholomew**

12:10 Louisa Volpe-Anniversary, req. by Joseph Volpe

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25**St. Louis and St. Joseph Calasanz**

12:10 Luca and Teresa Leonetti, req. by Mario Leonetti and family

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

8:00 Michael and Lucy DiLorenzo, req. by the DiLorenzo and Rossignol Families

4:00 Patti Yorski-Birthday, req. by her husband and daughter

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

7:30 Frances and James Shaughnessy, req. by family

10:00 Arnold Furia, Jr., req. by Eleanor Furia

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. It is best to send by email to stchurchre@gmail.com. Submitting well in advance is greatly appreciated.

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

St. Thomas Parish offers Ministry to the homebound and shut-ins. If you know of someone who would like to receive the Eucharist on a monthly or weekly basis please call the rectory at 860-628-4713.

ST. THOMAS PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

To make a request for prayer contact the rectory at 860-628-4713 or, the Sisters at the Convent: 860-621-1904.

SAVE THE DATE!**ST. THOMAS ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC!**

Sunday, September 24th from 11:00am to 2:00pm on the grounds adjacent to the Church. There will be music, games and activities for children of all ages, as well as raffle prizes. Burger, hot dogs, rolls and fixings will be provided. We ask you to bring a side dish to share, beverages for yourself and lawn chairs, blankets, etc.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION 2017-2018

Reminder: Completed **re-registration forms** for enrolled students with the \$50 fee should be returned at this time. Registration forms were sent to parents via email. Registration forms for **NEW** students, or those entering 1st grade, may be obtained at the entrances of the church or weekdays at the rectory. **A copy of the child's full birth certificate, baptismal certificate and the non-refundable fee of \$50** must accompany the completed registration form for new students.

ARCHDIOCESAN BLUE MASS

Join Archbishop Leonard P. Blair to Honor First Responders at the 2017 Blue Mass on Sunday, September 10th at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 11am. Police, Fire, Emergency Responders, the Dept. of Corrections and other organizations who are in the service of protecting the public's well-being, will participate in an opening procession on Farmington Avenue in Hartford. The procession will lead into the Cathedral where Archbishop Blair will celebrate the Sunday Liturgy. While this annual event will once again honor the courage, generosity, personal sacrifice and life-saving competencies of first-responders, it will also be an occasion to reflect prayerfully on our unity as "*one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*"

NEW DAY PROGRAM FOR BEREAVED

St Thomas Church will conduct a bereavement seminar beginning September 13, 2017. 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. This process has been very successful in helping the bereaved transition to life without their loved one. During each meeting, participants work through one element of the grieving process using prayer, reflection, sharing and journaling. Everything that is shared during the meetings is held confidential. For more information or to enroll please call Vinny Raby [860-628-9425](tel:860-628-9425) or Dorothy Charette [860-628-4010](tel:860-628-4010). You may also call the Parish office [860-628-4713](tel:860-628-4713).

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING INFO SESSION

NFP is an umbrella term for modern, healthy, scientifically accurate, natural, and reliable methods of family planning. An introductory NFP session will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2017, 10:00am to 12:00pm at St. Joseph Church, 149 Goodwin St., Bristol, CT 06010. Open to anyone interested in understanding more about NFP. Free. Registration required by Sept. 9th. Call Office of Family Life at 860-242-5573, Ext. 2683 or email Martha.Pezo-Marin@AOHCT.org.

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.



The sanctuary flowers are donated this week in memory of **Anna, Pasquale and Merinda DePaolo**, requested by Joseph

SAVE THE DATE!

ST. THOMAS PARISH ITALIAN NIGHT DINNER

Join us for a night of fun and good food. This year the Ladies Guild sponsored Italian Night dinner will be held at the Manor Inn Restaurant on Friday, September 22, 2017. A five course, sit-down dinner will be served along with musical entertainment by Enzo. Wine and music is included. There will be a cash bar. Tickets are \$50 per person. Proceeds will go towards the annual scholarship fund. Call Shandra at 860-628-9966 or Barbara at 860-2760758 for tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.



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

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in honor of **Jean and Tom Donnolly's 80th Birthdays**, requested by Rose, Kathy, Mary and John.

SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC NEWS!

It's Our Party! Please join us this Sunday, August 27th to celebrate the success of the Archdiocese's vision of one vibrant Catholic elementary school for the greater Southington area. Southington Catholic School is grateful for the community support that has contributed to the growth of our school since its inception two years ago this month. Greet our newest families and students while enjoying cake and ice cream with our growing faculty. The party starts at 2 PM on our school grounds. Call 860-628-2485 for more details.

Sharing your Gifts and Talents- Skilled carpenters, painters, electricians and computer techs are needed to help maintain the physical plant at Southington Catholic School. By donating your time you are helping to maintain the tuition rate at an affordable level for all our families and will enhance the environment for all of our students. **Volunteers** are urged to call Mrs. Sampiere at 860-628-2485.

Memorial Gifts- Recent technology upgrades at Southington Catholic School were made possible by generous Memorial Gifts from parishioners and their families. Remembering the mission of Catholic schools in your final will and bequests will help shape the future generations of our Catholic Church family. Donors are remembered in the daily prayers of our students and faculty.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

A special Mass will take place at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford on Sunday, October 15th at 2:00pm. All couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th and any other special wedding anniversaries this year are invited! Archbishop Leonard Blair will be the main celebrant. Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows, followed by a simple reception and an opportunity for a photo with Archbishop Blair. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Please call the Rectory/parish office by **September 11th** at 860-628-4713 to respond to this invitation.



Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

I have spent much of my spare time over the last month doing home improvement projects. I've been working in the rectory to prepare the parlor as a meeting space so we can reorganize the offices to work better. I painted my bathroom and began to tackle some gardening issues in the courtyard. At my parents' home, I have been hanging shades and valances in the office and have been choosing paint colors for bedrooms. I've helped my parents eliminate some of the clutter that has accumulated over the 38 years they have been in the house. It has been a summer of multiple home projects.

Any homeowner knows that you have to do work to keep it beautiful and functional. Over time, things fall apart and piles accumulate. We often are unaware of the issues that develop with miniscule changes over the course of years. Things just become part of the background of our lives and it's easy to ignore items that aren't immediately pressing. Sooner or later, we see that there's work that must be done. That's when we get the paint, break out the screwdriver, or grab the pruning shears. The work has to be done. It's best not to put things off too long or the issues just get worse and the projects become more involved.

While we're aware of this issues with our physical homes, we aren't always so aware of the work that needs to be done with our spiritual home. (Don't worry, I am not speaking now about the state of the church to hit you up for money – not yet! That comes in the fall.) We live with our souls every day. We may not notice the small changes in our relationship with God over the course of time. Maybe we get lazy in our prayers. Maybe things that use to work for us are no longer so helpful. Maybe concerns in our lives have so overwhelmed us so that we have forgotten about seeking God. Things aren't a disaster, but they might be out of order. This is a good time to get to work. Maybe we could refocus our prayer life or try something new. All relationships can use some improvement, even the one we have with the Lord. In these last weeks of summer, we could use the time to make the changes to make our spiritual homes much more comfortable and useful. It is a good time for some spiritual renovations.

Gratefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

Readings for the Week of August 20, 2017

- Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
- Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44/Mt 19:16-22
- Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-14/Mt 19:23-30
- Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-7/Mt 20:1-16
- Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
- Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-10/Mt 22:34-40
- Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-5/Mt 23:1-12
- Next Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20