



**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.  
 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 ..... 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 Intentions for the Week*


**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20**

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 and Richard and Lorraine Raposa, req. by Shirley Lenzi and family

**MONDAY, JANUARY 22**

7:30 Parishioners of Saint Thomas

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 23 St. Vincent & St. Marianne Cope**

7:30 Maria Zacchia, req. by Marie &amp; Pasquale DiChello

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25 Conversion of Saint Paul**

12:10 Mattia Rappoccio, req. by her family

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26 St. Timothy and St. Titus**

12:10 Joe and Irene Vecchio, req. by Maria and Pasquale DiChello

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27 St. Angelo Merici**

8:00 The deceased members of the Salerno Family, req. by Nancy Carroll

4:00 Marie Albert and Pierce and Reynold Charette, req. by Don and Dorothy Charette

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

7:30 Anthony and Mary DeSarro, req. by Sr. Gina Piazza

10:00 Giuseppa Cuccaro, req. by her daughter, Rosa and family

**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](mailto:stchurchre@gmail.com).

**BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG EVENT**

For the next two weekends we will collect the baby bottles that were distributed this weekend. Your donations support the staff and volunteers at Carolyn's Place, a Catholic pregnancy resource center serving the greater Waterbury area. As Jesus tells us, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me." If donating by check please make it payable to Carolyn's Place. For more information please contact Roberta Vendetti, 860-621-7808.

**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.

**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**

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. This is a great time to sign up. The first chorus rehearsal is Jan. 31st and this is also the last day you can sign up. For a schedule check our web site [stthomassouthington.org/passionplay](http://stthomassouthington.org/passionplay) or contact Bonnie Peterson at 860-621-7005.

**PALMS TO ASHES**

Last year's palms will be collected next weekend. 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.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The floral arrangements in our sanctuary enhance our liturgical setting. The donation for the flowers is \$100. If you would like to be a sponsor or dedicate the flower arrangements in memory of someone, please contact the rectory. The dedication or donation will be acknowledged in the bulletin that week.

**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.

**BIBLE STUDY**

Because some asked, we will have Bible study class at two times on Thursdays. We will have an afternoon session in the chapel in the rectory basement at 1:30PM. We will have an evening session in the school cafeteria at 7:00PM. The material will be the same at both. Fr. Joe will cover 1 Thessalonians, chapter 1 this week for Scripture class Thurs., Jan 25th. All are welcome!

**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 on Feb. 1st at 7:00 p.m. For more information or to apply online, go to [NorthwestCatholic.org/Admissions](http://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 will be available after all Masses Jan. 27th and 28th. or you may contact the committee at [scsgalacommittee@gmail.com](mailto:scsgalacommittee@gmail.com). Be sure not to miss this fun event and helping Southington Catholic School.

**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.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Anna Loprieto** requested by Dominic and Carmina Testa.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Fanny Janazzo**.

**FAMILY LIFE OFFCE**

**11th Annual Marriage Enrichment Celebration** will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3rd from 5:00—9:00 p.m. at Mary Our Queen Church. The program will begin with Mass and include dinner, prayer and reflection. The theme is “The Lord AND the Rings: Epic Moments in Sacramental Marriage.” Cost \$25 per couple. To register or for more information contact Tom or Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or [tfinnphd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tfinnphd@sbcglobal.net). RSVP by Jan. 30th.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus Council #15 is hosting a trip to Mohegan Sun on Saturday, Jan 27th. Cost \$30. You will receive a \$15 voucher for food and a \$10 voucher for games. The bus departs from the commuter lot on Rt 10 (Mulberry St) in Plantsville at 10:00 a.m. and returns at 5:30. Contact Dick Pillar, 860-334-0005 or Bill Shatas, 860-302-4556.

**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.

**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, 203-241-9515.

**Readings for the Week of January 21, 2018**

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20  
 Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30  
 Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Mk 3:31-35  
 Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20  
 Thursday: Acts 22:3-16/Ps 117:1bc,2/Mk 16:15-18  
 Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 4:26-34  
 Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12a]/Mk 4:35-41  
 Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

**Father Joe’s Notes**

My dear friends,

This past week, our nation celebrated Martin Luther King Day. For those of you old enough to remember Dr. King, I have to tell you that I am not. He was killed one month before I was born. He has always been a historical figure in my life, and the day to honor him was a holiday when I was in school. I have been to sites of his life like those of other past American leaders, like the historical monuments for Lincoln. When I see the legacy of Reverend King, I’m always left feeling torn.

There are times I am happy. A few years ago, I visited the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, where MLK was assassinated. As I went through the exhibits, I heard a young child ask his parents, “Did this stuff really happen?” For him, the terrible atrocities of lynchings, beatings, and burnings were so unbelievable that he had to ask. I was strangely happy that all those things seemed so incredible to an African-American child. I love that people of color can engage in life and follow their dreams not crippled by fear or intimidation. It gives me hope to know the dream of Dr. King will come true.

There are times I am quite sad. While I understand that the repressive systems of Jim Crow is gone and equal rights is law, I am not naïve enough to believe that all problems have been solved. I am outraged that we live in a country where white supremacists still exist and spread their message of hate. Sadly, their influence has grown recently. I’m ashamed to know that all people of color face persecution and hardships fighting for the equality they are supposed to have. I know that I benefit from the privilege of being a white man in this society, and that no one is watching me extra close to make sure that I’m not a threat. I am upset to know that MLK’s dream is not yet a reality, even half a century after his life was brutally cut short.

There are times I am honestly confused. If we want to put an end to racism, how do we do it? If I ignore it were a reality, then I give it greater power to rise. If I spend all my time always confronting this evil, would people become tone deaf to the cry? If I try not to pay attention to race, will I miss something of the lives of people around me? What problems are actually caused by racism, what problems do people dodge by crying racism, and how much of life is a confused and painful blending of the two? Sometimes it’s hard to see the dream through so many lenses.

Martin Luther King Day helps me to look closely at my own life. I have to ask questions. How do I view people who are different than me? Do I let race color my vision? Do I ignore that racism is still an all too real force in this country? Do I work to make the world better? Do I try to combat poverty as a great sin in our nation, as Dr. King did? Am I willing to consider what equality is and what I need to give up for it to happen? Taking time to ask the questions and examine my life helps. I know I may not be living the dream, but we are closer than it once was. I know the dream still lives if I keep it alive, and it can be fulfilled if I do my part to get to the mountaintop.

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe