



Pastor

Rev. Joseph R. Cronin
fr.cronin@aohct.org

Deacon

Angelo J. Coppola

St. Thomas Convent

860-621-1904

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Marie Roccapiore, 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
 Pastoral Planning Web Site: www.stewardsfortomorrow.org

e-mail: stthomassouthington@gmail.com
 Religious Ed email: stchurchre@gmail.com
 Download our App: see 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 Roccapiore, M.P.F. at the Convent.

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

4:00 Eric Thomas—Anniversary, req. by his family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

7:30 Ada Valentino, req. by Paquale and Maria DiChello

10:00 Roland and Helen Gelinis, req. by their daughter, Barbara

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Saint Agatha

7:30 Mary Foley, req. by Mr & Mrs William Magri

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Saint Paul Miki and Companions

7:30 Giovanni and Lucia Mercaldi, req. by Mr and Mrs Guarino Zacchia

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Saint Jerome Emiliani & Saint Josephine Bakhita

12:10 Dominic and Dorothy DeRosa, req. by their daughter and grandchildren

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

12:10 Giovanni and Carmela Vecchio, req. by Michael DiChello

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Saint Scholastica

8:00 Parishioners of Saint Thomas

4:00 Paul Martin, req. by his family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:30 Philip Koboski, req. by Mr & Mrs. William Magri

10:00 Nicola and Saveria Sabino—Anniversary, req. by their daughter, Teresa and Vincenzo Scirooco

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

The 2018 Mass Book has weekday Mass intentions and a few Sunday Masses at 7:30 a.m. available. The stipend is \$15 for a weekday Mass, \$20 for a Sunday or Holy Day Mass. Also available are the dedication of the Sanctuary Flowers (\$100) and Sanctuary Candles (\$20). Call the rectory with your request.

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.

Last Chance! Southington Catholic School's 3rd Annual Gala Auction at the Aqua Turf on **Feb 9th at 6:30 p.m.** Dinner with silent and live auctions, games and dancing. Tickets are \$75 in advance. Contact scsgalacommittee@gmail.com.

CANTORS NEEDED

Please consider sharing your musical talents. We are looking for some new cantors to join our musical ministry. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact Emil Kopcha at 860-621-0637.

NEW DAY PROGRAM FOR BEREAVED

St Thomas Church will conduct a bereavement seminar beginning March 7, 2018. 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).



We wish to congratulate the parents of **Juliana Katherine Claywell** who was baptized at St. Thomas Church last weekend.

BIBLE STUDY

We offer Bible study class at two times on Thursdays. An afternoon session in the chapel in the rectory basement at 1:30PM and 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 3, on Thursday February 8th. All are welcome!

CATHOLIC GRADUATES CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

The Catholic Graduates Club will award three scholarships of \$2,000 each to Catholic students who plan to attend a four year college in the Fall of 2018. Information is available from your guidance counselor or at www.catholicgraduatesct.org. Deadline for application submittal is March 15th.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP

Isabella Council #15 and Isabella Assembly #122 offer scholarships those seeking to further their education at a recognized institute of higher learning during the upcoming academic year. Applicant, Parent or Legal Guardian must be a registered member of the parish. Applications are available at the parish office and must be returned by March 4th.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be held on Monday, February 12th at 7:30pm in the parish center. Any parishioner with a question or concern about our parish they would like to see discussed at the meeting is encouraged to call one of the Pastoral Council representatives. You may also email the members of the Pastoral Council by going to the parish web page. The members of the Pastoral Council include: Joe DellaPorta 860-628-8703, Kathleen Baldwin 860-628-8465, Diane Snow 860-860-628-4197, Michael Casey 860-628-8473, BJ Raby 860-628-9425, Ed Baker 860-620-0622, Dan Vendetti 860-621-7808, Larry Ryan 860-621-2443, and Walter Kustra 860-302-1936. The ex-officio members include Fr. Joseph Cronin, Sr. Marie, D.R.E., Eileen Sampiere, Deacon Angelo Coppola, Stan Maigaire, and Susan Howard Parish Trustees.

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.

ITALIAN ROSARY SOCIETY

The Italian Rosary Society will meet in the parish center on **Tuesday, February 6th** at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center. We invite anyone who would like to pray the Rosary in Italian to join us. For further information, please contact Antoinetta Barbato at 860-628-2241.

VOCATIONS

Healing, reconciling, and proclaiming good news: the mission of Jesus, after which he withdraws to the desert to pray. Spend time in prayer to learn if God is calling you to be a healer, reconciler, proclaimer of good news as a priest or religious. If so, call FR Michael Casey, Vocation Director, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Tel. 860-761-7457, email vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

LADIES GUILD

St. Thomas Ladies Guild will meet on Monday, February 5th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. All are welcome to attend a short general meeting followed by Movie and Pizza. For further information contact Terry Bouchard, 860-628-2981. The January meeting was cancelled due to the weather. New members are welcomed to join the Guild.

SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

This spring we are looking to reunite Catholic School graduates to share their stories and rekindle friendships. If you benefited from attending St. Dominic School, Southington Catholic School or St Thomas School, we invite you to get involved. Please send contact information with your suggestions for a fun kick-off event to malexander@southingtoncatholicschool.org.

Volunteers requested-SCS is looking for volunteers to work on updating the school database of friends, graduates and supporters beginning in mid March in the Advancement Office. Flexible hours can be arranged. Please call 860-628-2485.

Readings for the Week of February 4, 2018

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/
Mk 1:29-39

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3-11/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 /Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-37 and 40/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 /Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45



Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

Here we are on Super Bowl Sunday. I'm not sure how much attention anyone will give to this letter this week. There are no hints on how to bet with predictions for the victor. And please, don't ask me to pray for one team over another. We're speaking about millionaires who get paid vulgar amounts of money, even if they lose. I will keep my prayers for those who really need them, like the poor and the homeless. Well, them and the Jets. (Sorry, Jets fans – that was too easy!) What I can do is share my joy.

This week, we celebrated one of my favorite feast in the Church year, the Presentation of the Lord. Candlemas remembers Mary and Joseph bringing the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to dedicate him to God. There, Simeon and Anna prophesied about the child who is to be a light to the nations. On that day, we pray: "Behold, our Lord will come with power, to enlighten the eyes of his servants." This is why we bless the candles for Church on that day. They will bear light for us to remind us that our true light has come.

Since Candlemas is February 2nd, the blessed candles are on hand the next day, which happens to be the Feast of St. Blaise. If you wondered why we bless throats with candles – it's because they're there! Given the widespread flu, colds, and other such illnesses this year, we are grateful to have this feast. I will be blessing throats after Masses this weekend. I am happy to offer this for you, though I wish someone had blessed my throat before my own miserable bought with a cold! (I hope and pray that my voice has recovered by this weekend!)

As the days get longer and the promise of Spring is more real, the blessing of light is all the more important. We rejoice in the longer days and the warmth of the sun. We are happy to have light and power in our homes, when so many people do not. We rejoice that the Church continues to be a beacon of the True Light of the world for all people to see. Today, let's share that light with each other.

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

PLAN AHEAD!!!

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14th is Ash Wednesday. We will have three Masses with distribution of ashes.. They will be at 7:30AM, 12:10PM, and 7:30PM in the church. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting, abstinence, and prayer.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions during Lent. We will hear Confessions on Mondays from 6:00PM until 7:00PM and Saturdays from 2:30PM until 3:30PM.