



**Pastor**

Rev. Nicholas P. Melo  
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**Deacon**

Angelo J. Coppola

**St. Thomas Convent**

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**Director of  
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# 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)

## 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, FEBRUARY 25**

4:00 Joseph Avitabile, Sr. and Joseph Avitabile, Jr., req. by Carmel Avitabile

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

7:30 Ann Quinn, req. by her husband and family  
10:00 Lisa and Tony Fragola, req. by Noreen and Rich

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

7:30 Reverend Ronald Genua

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

7:30 John and Betty McNassor

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1**

**Ash Wednesday**

12:10 Frank and Caroline Babinetz  
7:30 Luisa Volpe and Paula Rusiecki, req. by their grandchildren

**THURSDAY, MARCH 2**

12:10 Clementina Marcuccio, req. by Joe and Angelina DellaPorta

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3**

**St. Katharine Drexel**

12:10 Evo J. Mongillo, req. by family

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4**

**St. Casimir**

8:00 Parishioners of St. Thomas Church  
4:00 William and Helen Spring, Jack and Carol Potter and Ed and Florence Podhajski, req. by the Spring family

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5**

7:30 Dominic Arre, req. by his nephew, Richard and Deborah Testa  
10:00 Larry Scaringe, req. by his wife, Betty



The sanctuary flowers are offered this week in memory of **Annamarie Coccozza-10th Anniversary and Birthday**, requested by her family.

**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.

**LENT**

**Wednesday, March 1st is Ash Wednesday.** Ashes will be distributed during Masses at 12:10 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

At Masses during the season of Lent, the presider will ask the congregation to kneel for the Penitential Rite as we recite the Confiteor and sing the Kyrie.

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

**Lenten Regulations**

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

**Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 – 59 years of age. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

**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.**

**SAFETY AT ST THOMAS**

The safety of all is a priority here at St. Thomas. Anyone who notices a safety concern is asked to submit a Safety Observation Form. These forms are available in the church sacristy and at the rectory.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

St. Thomas	12:10 pm, 7:30 pm	Mass
Mary Our Queen	9:00 am, 7:00 pm	Mass
St. Dominic	7:00 am	Service
	9:00 am, 7:00 pm	Mass
St. Aloysius	7:00 am	Mass
	12:15 pm, 5:30 pm	Service
Immaculate Conception	8:00 am, 7:00 pm	Mass

**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!

**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL**

**“Discover Mercy”** - For 5th, 6th & 7th grade girls and their parents. Mercy High School in Middletown, CT on Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Register online at [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com).

**“I PHONE FAST! WILL U?”**

For the first time, the Archdiocese of Hartford is inviting people to “fast” from using cell phones on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, and Good Friday, April 14th, in an initiative called: “I Phone Fast!” Silencing our busy phones, gives God a chance to call our hearts. Please consider including this practice as part of the fasting, almsgiving and prayer, which are the traditional disciplines by which the Church observes Lent. Visit: [archdioceseofhartford.org](http://archdioceseofhartford.org).



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Evo J. Mongillo, Sr.-Birthday**, requested by his family.

**NEW DAY PROGRAM FOR BEREAVED**

St Thomas Church will conduct a bereavement seminar beginning March 15, 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. Maureen 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 at 860-628-9425 or Dorothy Charette at 860-628-4010. You may also call the Parish office 860-628-4713.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED  
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Church Women United will host a **World Day of Prayer Service** and luncheon on Friday, March 3rd at 12:00pm at the Southington Cultural Arts Community Center, on the corner of Main St. and Berlin Ave. *All are invited.* Please register by February 24th, by calling Marilyn at 860-628-9564. Tickets are \$5 per person and may be paid at the door.

**LENTEN CONFESSIONS**

Let the light in this Lenten season be going to confession. Every Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation **Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m.** For more information, visit [Light4you.info](http://Light4you.info).

**SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC NEWS!**

**Irish Blessing Bags**-The Student Council of Southington Catholic School is conducting a charitable giving drive for “Irish Blessing Bags”. A blessing bag is a ziplock bag that is filled with personal care items to assist those in dire need. Items could include: band aids, tissues, toothpaste, a toothbrush, soap, a wash cloth or granola bars. The bags will be distributed to the homeless in New Britain. A green collection box will be located in the church ramp entrance if you would like to help us with donations.  
**Tee Time**-Think Spring and mark your calendar for the Southington Catholic School Golf Tournament on May 12th. Meet your foursome at the Southington Country Club for a great day of golf while supporting Catholic education in Southington. Call 860-628-2485 for further details.



We wish to congratulate the parents of **Nora Ann Fox** who was baptized at St. Thomas Church last weekend.

**LAUDATO SI**

**ENCOUNTERING CREATION:** A day of Reflection on Pope Francis’ call to Care for our Common Home. Sat., March 18, 2017, 9:00am –2:00pm at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield, CT. Guest speaker will be Kevin Johnson, Adjunct Prof. of Philosophy, Religion and Theology at Sacred Heart University. There is a \$25 registration fee to cover continental breakfast and lunch. Call 860-242-5573 ext. 2688 for Office of Catholic Social Justice Ministry to register or online at [www.catholicsocialjustice.org](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org).

**CATHOLIC BIBLICAL SCHOOL PRESENTS..**

“Transformative Encounters in The Gospel of John” on Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 12:30-4:30pm at St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield, CT. Presenter will be Dr. Harold Attridge, Sterling Professor of Divinity at Yale University. All are welcome! Registration is required by March 17, 2017. Register online at [www.orehartford.org](http://www.orehartford.org) or call 860-242-5573, ext. 2679. Donation requested.

**CATHOLIC GRADUATES CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**

The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford is offering 3 Scholarships of \$2000 for one year to any Catholic student in the Hartford County who wishes to attend a 4 year college beginning in 2017. Application deadline is March 15, 2017. See your principal or counselor or go to [www.Catholicgraduates.org](http://www.Catholicgraduates.org).

**ST. THOMAS LADIES GUILD SCHOLARSHIP**

St. Thomas Ladies Guild offers a scholarship to a graduating senior who is a registered St. Thomas parishioner. Applications for the 2017 scholarship are now available. The deadline to submit the scholarship is April 1st, 2017. Contact: Helen Kaminsky at 860-202-6403 or email to [helkfrog@aol.com](mailto:helkfrog@aol.com).

**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 April 1st.

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

Sunday:	Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34
Monday:	Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11