



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 Roccapriore, M.P.F.
 860-628-9679

Southington Catholic School

Mrs. Eileen Sampiere, Principal
 860-628-2485

Saint Thomas Church

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Telephone: 860-628-4713 Fax: 860-628-7341
 Web Site: www.stthomassouthington.org
 Pastoral Planning Web Site: www.stewardsfortomorrow.org

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 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 2:30-3:30 p.m.
 or by Appointment
 Mondays during Lent 6:00 -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  for the
Week

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

4:00 Antonio and Anna DePasquale, req. by Jerry and Vittoria Altieri

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

7:30 Thomas Tedesco, Jr., req. by his wife, Rose and family
10:00 Edda Mastroianni, req. by her husband, Raffaele

MONDAY, MARCH 26

7:30 Marie and Peter Nazruk, req. by their nephew, Richard

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

7:30 Joseph Sukatski, Jr., req. by The Sukatski Family

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29

7:30 P.M. MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30

3:00 P.M. Solemn afternoon service

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 P.M. EASTER VIGIL

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

7:30 Mary Cronin
10:00 Eugene Cronin

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 M-F

ONLINE GIVING

Online Giving has been updated with improvements for our donors including an easier-to-use interface, and a quicker way to donate to specific funds. Online giving is a great way to support our parish. Signing up is easy-you can use a computer, tablet or smartphone. Go to our website, www.stthomassouthington.org, and click the Online Giving logo. To keep costs down we ask you to make donations on a Saturday or Sunday only. For online support call 1-800-348-2886 x2.

BULLETIN

All bulletin announcements must be submitted *in writing* no later than the **Monday** prior to publication but you are encouraged to submit 2 weeks in advance to stchurchre@gmail.com.

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.

VOCATIONS

Blest are they who come in the name of the Lord. Am I being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? If you are, contact 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.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

To date our parish has pledged \$40,215 to the 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 will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese.

SOUTHINGTON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Register Now! Southington Catholic School is accepting registrations for pre-k through grade 8 for the Fall of 2018. Avoid the waiting list by enrolling for our academic pre-k program now. Screening for kindergarten students will be scheduled in the next few weeks. Call 860-628-2485 for further details. We look forward to welcoming your family as part of our family!

Golf Tournament-Mark your calendar for this spring event. On May 11th, Southington Catholic School invites you to enjoy a great day of golf while honoring the memory of a loyal friend of Catholic education, Joe Angelillo. Call SCS at 860-628-2485 to register your foursome or to request sponsorship information.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY

When **Easter** occurs prior to April 15th, artificial flowers may be used. They will be removed 10 days after Easter. We urge families to remove them prior to this time, as they can be used for several seasons. Palms have been blessed and therefore, should not be used as cemetery decoration.

BIRTHRIGHT VOLUNTEERS

Birthright is a crisis pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling and practical support. Our guiding principle: It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born. Birthright has served in Connecticut since 1972 and helped thousands of mothers and babies. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Birthright of Meriden at 203-237-9887. Training is provided. Donations of clothing for pregnant women and babies, new or gently worn are gratefully accepted. Thank you for helping babies and their families.

Readings for the Week of March 25, 2018

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1--15:47 or 15:1-39
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a,b5,6,15,17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13--53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42
Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1--2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15--15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mk 16:1-7
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

PASSION PLAY TICKETS

Listed below are the contact names and phone numbers to obtain tickets for the 40th Annual Saint Thomas Passion Play.

Diane 860-628-4197 Lois 860-621-0411
 Joan 860-426-3841 Janet 860-621-6347

Performances

Monday March 26th 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday March 27th 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday March 28th 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday March 30th 7:30 p.m.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Julia Manware**, requested by her family. The Chapel Sanctuary Candles is offered in memory of **Louise Sieruta, Anniversary**, requested by LouAnn Sieruta.

CURSILLO

The Cursillo community of the Archdiocese is looking to reconnect with all who have attended a three day Cursillo Weekend. We are interested in keeping you informed of the revitalization efforts in the Archdiocese. Contact Jim Brzezinski, 203-888-8615 or jbz41west@yahoo.com.

Retrouvaille—Marriage help is available. If your marriage has become troubled, unloving or uncaring, the Retrouvaille program can help. It provides tools to communicate better, resolve conflicts, and rediscover why you fell in love. The next weekend is April 20-22. For information, call 1-800-470-2230, email cherylandsteve@cox.net, or visit www.helpourmarriage.com.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Join women of the parish on the weekend of April 13-15 at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington. Reflect on the theme "**Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace**" Enjoy delicious meals by Chef Bill. Come away to the quiet. For more info call Barbara Dahlgren 860-276-0758.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

We extend our thanks and appreciation to Ed Baker and BJ Raby for serving 6 years on the Pastoral Council and to Mike Casey for having filled a vacancy on the Council. We must now fill those positions for 3 year terms. Mike Casey may run again, since he was filling an unexpired term. According to the By-Laws, candidates must be nominated by a parishioner of St. Thomas Church. 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 outline in Canon Law. If you know of someone who may be interested in serving on the Council to advise and assist the Pastor in the administration and development of the spiritual and material matters of the parish you may submit their name and return it to the collection basket or by email, stthomassouthington@gmail.com by March 30th.

Nominee Name: _____ phone _____

Nominator Name: _____ phone _____

CONFESSIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Monday Evenings 6-7PM—NONE SATURDAY



Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.” That is the antiphon, the opening chant, for our solemn procession Palm Sunday. We begin Holy Week with a joyous song hailing Jesus as our Messiah, the long awaited Savior! What starts so triumphantly will go so bad so quickly. The priests will look to kill Jesus as a heretic; the Romans will see him as an agitator who needs to be eliminated; one of the Twelve will become disillusioned and give him to the authorities. This festival atmosphere of a great king entering his city will become vicious in just a few days. Today, we come waving palm branches, but leave aware of the sacrifice to come. Thus begins our most sacred week.

As we journey through this Holy Week, make the most of the opportunities. Come to the Last Supper. See the Lord institute the awesome gift of the Eucharist and give witness as servant washing the feet of his disciples. Keep watch with him in garden as he prays. Seek the strength to remain faithful so we do not abandon him. Come to the foot of the cross on Friday. See our Lord suffer the humiliating and agonizing death. Know that you are loved that much. Come to the joyous conquering of the tomb. Enter the vigil in solemn restraint and leave with the Easter proclamation that the Lord is Risen! Come, share in the great mystery of our salvation in the celebrations during Holy Triduum.

Holy Week is a time to truly join with the Lord. It's not just a reminded of events in the ancient past; the mystery of this week is that we enter the experience anew. We stand with Jesus as he faces what is to come. We are fed by Christ at the Eucharistic banquet, and empowered to bring that gift of him to the world. We commit to walking with him on the path to Calvary. This is taking place now. Bring the joys and the sorrows of your life on the path. See the power of God who chose to share in the human experience, with all its beauty and misery, to bind himself to us. Let the liturgies touch your life and know the power they bring. My prayer is that we all find in these mysteries the healing grace, the joyous commission, and strength to live in peace and joy that we need.

Happy Palm Sunday! Have an amazing Holy Week!

Hopefully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

TRIDUUM AND EASTER SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:30PM in church
 Reposed of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight in chapel
 Night Prayer—10:00PM in chapel

GOOD FRIDAY

Service of the Passion of the Lord—3:00PM in church
 Stations of the Cross—7:00 PM in church

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil Mass—8:00PM in church

EASTER SUNDAY

7:30 & 10:00AM Mass in church