



Pastor

Rev. Joseph R. Cronin
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Deacon

Angelo J. Coppola

St. Thomas Convent

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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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 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 Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 P.M. EASTER VIGIL

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

7:30 Mary Cronin

10:00 Eugene Cronin

MONDAY, APRIL 2

7:30 In honor of Our Lady of the Angels, req. by Maria and Luigi Picone

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

7:30 Jennie and Jack D'Angelo, 40th Anniversary, req. by their family

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

7:30 Richard Manfield, req. by Cathy and Joe Miceli

FRIDAY, APRIL 6 — Mass in church

12:10 Addolorada and Benedetto Luciano, req. by Giovanna Perone and family

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

4:00 Louis Avitabile, Sr., Birthday, req. by his daughter, Karen

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

7:30 Patricia Scricca, req. by her husband and children

10:00 Robert J. Burke, req. by his family

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

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.

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.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study class with Father Joe continues! The same session is offered twice on Thursdays, at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel in the rectory basement and at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Fr. Joe will introduce the Letter of James on April 5th. Invite your friends. All are welcome.

VOCATIONS

The Lord has risen; it is true! Proclaim it to the world! Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. If you are considering a vocation priesthood or religious life, 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

Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge commitment to the 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please consider prayerfully supporting the many Good Works, of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated.

LADIES GUILD

St. Thomas Ladies Guild will meet on Monday, April 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. A general meeting, followed by refreshments and discussions is on the agenda. Please join us.

ITALIAN ROSARY SOCIETY

The Italian Rosary Society will meet in the parish center on Tuesday, April 3rd at 7:30 p.m. We invite anyone who would like to pray the Rosary in Italian to join us. For further information contact Antoinette Barbato, 860-302-0228.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Southington Knights of Columbus Council #15 is hold a membership social for perspective new members at Mary Our Queen church hall on April 7th at noon. Lunch will be served. Come and learn about your local K of C and all the things we do to support the Catholic Church and the Southington community. Give us an hour of your time, it will be worth a life of good works. Check us out at www.facebook.com/koc16southington.

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. Birth right 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.

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.

Readings for the Week of April 1, 2018


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 16:1-7or Lk 24:13-35
 Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
 Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18
 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48
 Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27 [22]/Jn 21:1-14
 Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15,16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
 Next Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next week, we will take the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

ADULT EDUCATION PRESENTATION

The Sacrament of Baptism and its Relationship to St. Paul and the Easter Mysteries, April 7th, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Caritas Christi Center, Hamden. Presented by Dr. Joan Kelly. All are welcome! No fee. Register by 4/1 at www.oeconline.org.



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of **Mary Labrie**, requested by her family.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered in memory of **Louis Avitable, Sr., Birthday**, requested by Barbara Avitable.

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.

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

Cemeteries, like homes and neighborhoods, can be beautiful and attractive, or cluttered and untidy. This appearance depends in part on the cemetery regulations. **Only by your cooperation and adherence to these rules and by our strict enforcement can we attain our common goal.**

Knowing of our mutual desire to have a well kept cemetery, listed are some of the applicable regulations.

1. **Upright Monument Lots:** When burials are in front of the upright monument, the **planting of annual flowers is permitted only in the 10 inch area directly in front of the monument**, not to exceed the length of the monument base. When burials are both in the front and rear of the monument, the planting of annual flowers is permitted in the front and rear of the monument within the 10 inch area, not to exceed the length of the monument.
2. **Flush Marker Lots:** Planting of flowers is prohibited.
3. **Artificial Decorations** of any kind are not permitted between April 15 and November 20.
4. **Potted Plants** and flower boxes on both monument and non-monument lots are allowed only during the ten day period following Palm and Easter Sunday, Mothers and Fathers Day and Memorial Day. Potted plants dug into the soil will be immediately removed.
5. **New Shrubbery** is not permitted on individual lots. Existing shrubs will be removed by the cemetery at such time as they become overgrown.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL ALLOWABLE GRAVE DECORATIONS ARE STATED ABOVE. NO OTHER ITEMS ARE TO BE PLACED ON GRAVES.



Father Joe's Notes



My dear friends,

Alleluia! The Lord has truly risen! The tomb is empty! We have finally come to Easter after our long Lenten journey. Today, we celebrate the gift of our salvation. On this day, we rejoice at the great gift given to us. We give thanks that our God has triumphed over death. Alleluia!

Easter is the holiest day of the year for Christians. Because of Easter, our sacred day each week is Sunday, not Saturday (the ancient Sabbath). It's from this day that we calculate so many other significant feasts on our calendar. This day demonstrates the immensity of God's love for us. Christ does not conquer death for himself; he does it for us. We are given the hope of eternal life where we will share in the power of the Resurrection. We are given joy in the face of grief, knowing that our dearly departed brothers and sisters are not gone forever. We rise with the Lord to love and serve our God and our brothers and sister.

On this Easter, I thank God for my time here in Southington. The change of parishes can be a difficult time, but these eight months have been wonderful. While I had to adjust to leaving my home of fourteen years and finding my way around in a new place, the love and support of so many parishioners here has made that transition easy. I thank you all for that. It has given me the chance to rise up to a new life in a new ministry. I appreciate the newness of life this great day celebrates. I rejoice in the chance to love and serve my God as I love and serve you.

I hope and pray that you all have a glorious Easter with family and friends around you. For those who mourn the loss of a loved one, take comfort from the message of salvation from the feast. As we gather at the altar, we hear the words of the prayer over the offerings: "Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished." We know that Christ has opened the path to heaven for all of us, and in Him, we are united with all the saints in heaven. Today, let's all renew ourselves in commitment to love and serve each other in our Risen Lord. Alleluia!

Joyfully yours in Christ, Fr. Joe

You are cordially invited...

We are having a reception for our Business Manager, Jean Moriarty, next Sunday afternoon. Jean is retiring after more than three decades of faithful service to St. Thomas Parish. The party will be an open house in the rectory between 1:30 and 4:30PM. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. We hope to see you there. Come, thank her for all she has done and