



ST. THOMAS *the* APOSTLE

733 Oxford Road
Oxford, CT 06478

Website: www.stthomasoxford.org

Email: office@stthomasoxford.org

www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostleoxfordct

July 20, 2025



16th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. - Lk 10:38-39

Parish Office Hours

9:30AM - 2PM (Mon-Fri)

Parish Office Phone 203-888-2382

Staff

Rev. Joshua R. Wilbur
Pastor

Anna Jedd
Director of Music Ministry

Wanda Mascola
Director of Faith Formation

Mary Jane Calladio
Pastoral Care Coordinator

Debbie Benham
Senior Office Coordinator

Michelle Albino
Massucci & Associates
Bookkeeper

Mary Lefebvre
Administrative Assistant

George Blake
John Collins
Custodians

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil - 4PM

Sunday Mass - 7:30AM, 9AM and 11AM

DAILY MASS

Tuesday - 6PM

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

8AM and 5:30PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday - 6:30-7:30PM

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday - 6:30-7:30PM

Saturday 3PM-3:45PM or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact Fr. Josh 6 months in advance

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 20, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 20

4:00 PM ☩ Danny Edwards, Jr. (10th Anniversary)
(requested by Mom, Carol and Family)

7:30 AM ☩ John Kalenauskas
(requested by Anna Jedd)

9:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

11:00 AM ☩ Sandina Maccarella (10th Anniversary)
(requested by the Maccarella Family)

12:15 PM **BAPTISMS:**
Lukka, Louie and Lyle Babian

Monday, July 21

No Liturgy Today

Tuesday, July 22

6:00 PM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, July 23

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Thursday, July 24

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Friday, July 25

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Thomas

Saturday, July 26

4:00 PM ☩ Raymond Boufford
(requested by Mary Debish)

Sunday, July 27

7:30 AM ☩ Mark Bosik
(requested by the Bosik Family)

9:00 AM Roseanne Fox (Happy Birthday!)
(requested by Mel Turner)

11:00 AM ☩ Pauline Lemire
(requested by Carol and Vince Laurino)

☩ = Deceased

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Coffee And... (hosted by the Social Justice)
After ALL Masses

Blood Pressure Checks by Parish Nurses Church
After 7:30AM and 11:00AM Mass

MONDAY, JULY 21

Social Justice Meeting
7:00 PM Lower Parish Center - Large Room

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Adoration and Confessions 6:30 - 7:30 PM Church

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Parish Council Meeting
7:00 PM Lower Parish Center - Large Room

FRIDAY, JULY 25

Women of Grace
1:30 - 3:00 PM Lower Parish Center - Large Room

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Confessions: 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM



In Our Prayers

If you would like to be prayed for or have a loved one who would like to be prayed for, please call the Parish Office at 203-888-2382. This week, please pray for all those who are ill in mind, body or spirit.

Catherine Baber	Lexie Howe	Mike Mazzeo
Susan Benham	Emily Inzitari	Robert Orlando
Ines Davino	Judy Jablonski	Susan Patchkofsky
Kathy Davino	Julia Kallogjeri	Mark Purington
Joe Flach	Michael Korsko	Mary Ann Struble



Pray For The Recent Deceased

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace – Amen

Mildred Magda, Donald Tymosko



The Sanctuary Lamp, signifying the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus Christ, burns this week (7/19/25 – 7/25/25) for Danny Edwards, Jr. as requested by Jeff and Deborah Giovacchino.

When submitting your weekly envelopes, please remember to mark the \$ amount on the envelope. We want to make sure you receive the proper credit for your donations. Thank you!



BRINGING UP THE GIFTS AT MASS

If the Mass Intention is for your loved one and you and your family members would like to bring up the gifts, please see the ushers in the vestibule before Mass.



PARISH COLLECTIONS

July 12-13, 2025

Weekly Collection \$ 6,441.00

Online Giving \$ 1,105.00

Thank you for your support!



St. Thomas the Apostle Faith Formation (Religious Education)

Learning and Living our Faith Together

**2025-2026 Registration
NOW OPEN**

Program
Begins
SEPT 7

See website for details.
Registration forms available in back of church or website.

QUESTIONS: please contact Wanda Mascola at

Email: faithformation@stthomasoxford.org

Phone: 203-888-2382, Ext. 102.



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

journey woman listening Martha chosen
village Mary serving anxious better

j n r e y o u j o u r n e y

v a g e l l i _ _ _ _ _

w a m n o _ _ _ _ _

r a y M _ _ _ _ _

l e n t s i n g i _ _ _ _ _

s i g v e r n _ _ _ _ _

h a r t M a _ _ _ _ _

a x i n o s u _ _ _ _ _

c e s h o n _ _ _ _ _

b r e t e t _ _ _ _ _

"What kinds of photos does St. James take?"



"Shell-fies!"



St. James was one of Jesus' best friends. In art, he's often shown with a shell, a symbol of Baptism. Tradition says St. James traveled to Spain to share the Gospel. Today, you can still follow his path on the famous Camino de Santiago, marked by shells along the way!

OLPI

Come join St. Thomas' Ladies Guild

ROSARY FOR WORLD Peace

AUGUST 2 | 10AM

(Location: Church)

We will be praying the Rosary the first Saturday of every month.

Faith Formation LEMONADE STAND

**Saturday
8/2
1-5PM**

**St. Thomas Front Lawn
733 Oxford Road, Oxford CT**

Also selling Outside Vestibule
after 4PM Mass!

All Proceeds go to the Church Capital Campaign!

- ✓ \$3 - Lemonade in To-Go Cup
- ✓ \$2 - Rice Krispie Treats
- ✓ \$1 - kids cups

For more info or to volunteer
Contact Holly:
quinn.hollyann@gmail.com



Social Justice Committee

The mission is to educate parishioners and promote the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, through works of charity, in response to the immediate needs of individuals or groups, as well as advocating for social changes that alleviate suffering or address inequalities.

Current activities in support of mission:

- **Lenten Soup Suppers...** (educate parishioners about injustices with regard to inequities of human rights, lack of access to necessities such as healthcare, housing, and food, safe environment, etc.)
- **Community Coffee And...** (inform parish about our ministry)
- **Tekakwitha Center...** (provide resources to support Catholic teaching in needy parish)
- **HomeFront Day** in May... (educate participants and take action to help a local family with home repairs)
- **Diaper Drive** in May-June/ **Outerwear and Clothing Collection** in Oct-Nov... (support needy children and families via Connecticut Partnership for Children, Inc.)

We invite you to join us at a meeting (generally the 3rd Monday of the month) or as a participant in any activity.



NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM

at St. Thomas Church Parish Center
Registration Required

Those who are grieving the death of a loved one need to proactively work through their grief. One way that may be helpful is to participate in the bereavement support group called the New Day Program. This program consists of ten two-hour weekly meetings. During each meeting, participants work through one component of the grieving process, guided by the New Day Journal. The program is free.

We will be offering the **ten week** New Day Bereavement Program beginning on:

Friday, August 1
(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Must RSVP by July 28

Please contact Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104 or email pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org.

Care for the Caregivers Support Group



In-Person
Sunday, August 3rd
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Reservations Required. No walk-ins accepted.

RSVP by 7/30/25

Contact: Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104 or email pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org.



Spooner House is a homeless shelter in Shelton that serves the valley. St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners prepare a meal for them on the fourth Sunday evening of every month. We just drop the meal off and the staff serves the residents. The time commitment is 3-4 times per year. If you would like to help out, please contact Maryjane at 203-888-2382 ext 104.



BEREAVEMENT Ministry

Date	Time	RSVP by
Mon., 8/11/25	1:30-3:00pm	8/6/25

*Reservations Required for ALL Sessions.
No walk-ins accepted.*

Minimum of 4 people for group to take place

Please email Maryjane at
pastoralcare@stthomasoxford.org



Protect Your Hearing

Some advice you should listen to, now and in the future.



NOW

Invest in high-quality earplugs. High-fidelity earplugs, like the ones musicians wear, block out loud noises but allow you to hear others. Loop, Decibullz, and Eargasm are popular brands.

Download a decibel meter app, and use it to monitor sound levels (measured in decibels, or dB) around you. Try Decibel X, NIOSH Sound Level Meter or Sound Meter. Sound at 85 dB (lawn mower) can damage your hearing after eight hours. Every additional 3 dBs cuts your safe listening time in half.



DAILY

Check your phone's volume settings.

Set it to no more than 60 percent of the maximum levels. You can also download one of several apps that allow you to set volume limits on your phone.



Block the sirens.

You're not being paranoid plugging your ears when a police car, fire truck or other emergency vehicles go by. A siren can expose you to 110-129 dB and cause damage in less than a minute.

Take snoring seriously. Snoring can reach up to 100 cB. If your partner saws logs, they may be harming their own hearing—and yours. Urge them to see a sleep specialist.



Know when you're at risk. If you have to raise your voice to be heard at arm's length away from somebody, that's a situation where you're going to want to protect your ears.



Eat a Mediterranean diet. One study found that adults 50 and up who reported eating a diet high in produce, nuts and beans had a 36 percent lower risk of high-frequency hearing loss. A diet rich in lean protein may also help ward off tinnitus.

Watch for side effects. Some common drugs, including loop diuretics for high blood pressure, antibiotics and some NSAIDs, can cause hearing loss. Talk with your doctor if you're concerned. If you notice changes in hearing or balance, tell your doctor right away.



Use noise-canceling earbuds or headphones. They can be more expensive, but they allow you to listen to music or podcasts in a noisy environment without having to crank the volume. Apple, Samsung and Bose all offer them.

WEEKLY

Take up a meditation practice.

In one study, 50 percent of participants who engaged in an eight-week mindfulness meditation program noted reduced stress from tinnitus. (Stress can worsen symptoms.)



Establish an aerobic fitness plan.

Research has shown that those with high cardiovascular fitness delayed the onset of noticeable hearing loss by approximately five years.

YEARLY

Keep up with hearing tests so you're aware of how things are progressing. Visit an audiologist if you experience a noticeable decline.



God calls you to seek Him, to know Him, and to love Him.

Can you hear Him calling you?

- CCC 1



If so, it is time to join the New England Catholic Biblical School.

Call us 860-242-5573 x 2651

In-person and online classes begin September 6, 2025. Tentative locations for Fall classes:

1. St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield, Monday 10-12 PM
2. Sacred Heart, Bloomfield Monday, 6:30-8:30pm
3. St. Francis, New Haven (Spanish) Monday 8-9:30 PM
4. St. Aloysius, Plantsville, Monday 10-12 PM
5. Prince of Peace, Woodbury Monday 10-12
6. Online (Virtual), Woodbury Monday 10-12 PM
7. O.L. of Fatima, Wallingford Tuesday 10-12
8. Online (Virtual), Thursday 6:30-8:30pm

For more information visit:

www.NewEnglandCatholicBiblicalSchool.com

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

Branches on the Vine

JULY 19-25, 2025



PUBLIC INVITED TO VENERATE RELICS OF ST. PIO IN EAST HAVEN

- Story by Joe Pisani

On Jul 26, several first-and-second-class relics from the Saint Pio Foundation in New York will be on display at St. Vincent de Paul Church in East Haven for veneration. This is an image of the crust of St. Pio's wounds up close.
COURTESY OF SAINT PIO FOUNDATION, TUCKAHOE, NY

For five years, Richard Ruyack Jr., a retired police lieutenant from Yonkers, has taken the relics of St. Padre Pio all over the world for thousands to venerate.

This year, he has already been to Montreal and Ireland, and on July 26, the first-and-second class relics of St. Padre Pio will be at St. Vincent de Paul Church in East Haven for a day of veneration and Mass. Ruyack, supervisor of tours for the St. Pio Foundation of Tuckahoe, N.Y., says the relics he will bring for veneration are crusts of St. Pio's wounds, a handkerchief used during Mass to wipe his tears, a lock of hair, a piece of his mantle and his white glove. Over the years, he has witnessed healings, favors and "moral miracles" through the saint's intercession.

"I remember a disabled young girl, who came up with her mother, and she felt there had been a healing," he recalls. "Another woman said she saw Padre Pio's face behind the altar."

Father Thomas J. Walsh, pastor of St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish which includes St. Vincent de Paul Church, says, "Padre Pio was one of those recognized as saintly by the people before the official canonization process, and once he was canonized, he became very popular.

He reminds people of St. Francis of Assisi, the founder of his religious order.

Both were stigmatics and mystics, and Padre Pio had a great intimacy with our Lord in prayer and was recognized for his miraculous attributes, including being able to read people's souls when they went to confession."

Considered one of the Church's notable saints, St. Pio was born May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina in Southern Italy, and at age 15 he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars. Despite his weak health, St. Pio studied hard and in 1910 was ordained a priest.

From 1916 until his death in 1968, he lived in the Capuchin monastery in San Giovanni Rotondo. Countless faithful went to him for confession and to receive spiritual guidance.

St. Pio's life was characterized by suffering, both physical and spiritual, and on Sept. 20, 1918, the five wounds of Christ's Passion appeared on his body. He was declared venerable by Pope John Paul II on Dec. 18, 1997, and canonized on June 16, 2002, when the pope proclaimed him "St. Pio of Pietrelcina" to 500,000 people who attended the ceremony.

Sally Mucka, director of Adult Faith Formation for St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish,

who organized the event with Jennie Llanos, hopes the relics will help people get in touch with the Holy Spirit.

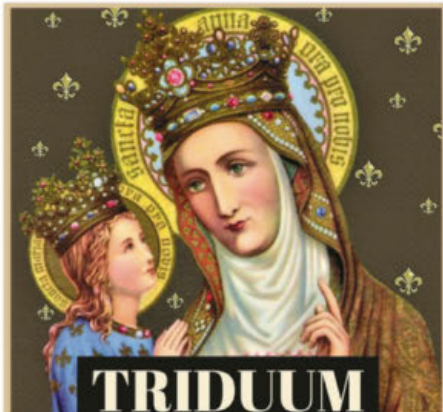
"I am really excited," she says. "I still remember the first time St. Pio's glove came to the church. It was so moving and touching that I was filled with the Spirit. Today, the Holy Spirit is moving in a special way. People are searching, especially young people and I believe this will bring them in so they can decide how to connect with God."

Father Walsh says he is optimistic that "Padre Pio can call people again to an appreciation of the mysteries of our faith."

(The relics of St. Padre Pio will be on display at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 80 Taylor Ave., East Haven, on July 26. Veneration will take place from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., with Mass in honor of St. Pio at 5:30 p.m. By touching an item, such as a rosary or a medal, to a first- or second-class relic, it becomes a third-class relic, which can be venerated and used for personal devotion. For additional information, contact the parish office, 203.469.0764 ext. 8 or email saintpio.rcia@gmail.com.)



Upcoming Events



TRIDUUM OF SAINT ANN

July 24-26, 7 PM
St. Michael Church, New Haven

The St. Ann Society would like to cordially invite you to the annual Triduum in honor of Good Saint Ann on July 24th, 25th, and 26th (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) at 7PM at St. Michael Church. The Triduum begins with two nights of rosary and prayers invoking the intercession of St. Ann. The third and concluding night is a Mass with a reception afterwards. Please extend this invitation to anyone who would like to join us. We are also always actively seeking women who may want to become new members of the St. Ann Society.

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AUG. 1 **AUG. 2** **AUG. 3**
5PM-11PM 5PM-11PM 5PM-10PM



07/22 MONDAY 6:30PM-8:00PM

**JOHN F. KENNEDY, THE KENNEDY
FAMILY, AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**
St. Timothy School Library, 225 King
Philip Dr, West Hartford

Join Thomas Carty, PhD, Professor of History at Springfield College, as he explores the life of John F. Kennedy, the Kennedy family, and their deep ties to the Catholic Church. Dr. Carty's book *A White House? Religion, Politics, and John F. Kennedy's Presidential Campaign* inspired an eight-part docuseries on The History Channel in 2023. This is an enriching historical evening you won't want to miss. All are welcome.

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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