

Mass  for the  
Intentions  Week

**SATURDAY, MARCH 6**

4:00 The deceased members of the Angelo and Antonio  
Valentino Family, req. by Jerry and Victoria Altieri

**SUNDAY, MARCH 7**

7:30 Mary and Bruno Brunalli, req. by their family  
9:30 Ludwine Ceuch, req. by Joe and Kathy Miceli  
11:00 Michael Casale, req. by Susan Bourret and Brandon  
Becker

**MONDAY, MARCH 8****St. John of God**

7:30 Lisa Angelone – Birthday, req. by Anthony Longo

**TUESDAY, MARCH 9****St. Frances of Rome**

7:30 Mr & Mrs Albert Coppola, Sr., req. by their family

**THURSDAY, MARCH 11**

12:10 Michael Volpe, req. by his daughter, Louisa Renzi

**FRIDAY, MARCH 12**

12:10 John LaRose, Sr. – Birthday, req. by his wife and family

**SATURDAY, MARCH 13**

8:00 Giuseppe Secondo, req. by his wife and family  
4:00 Ralph and Maria Parlapiano – Birthday, req. by their  
family

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14**

7:30 The deceased members of the DiBenedetto Family, req.  
by Carmella DiBenedetto and family  
9:30 Stephen and Helen Keltonic – 29<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversaries,  
req. by Genevieve Maigarie  
11:00 Thomas Tedesco, Jr., req. by his daughters

**WELCOME 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 by Tuesday for publication in the next weekend's bulletin.

**MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND**

St. Thomas Parish offers Ministry to the homebound and shut-ins. If you know of someone who would like to receive the Eucharist on a monthly or weekly basis please contact Carmel at 628-6751.

**SACRAMENTAL SCHEDULE**

<b>First Reconciliation</b>	<b>March 20</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Confirmation</b>	<b>April 23</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
	<b>Bishop Christie Macaluso</b>	
<b>First Communion</b>	<b>May 2</b>	<b>9:30 and 11:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>May 16</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>

**THE MYSTERY OF FAITH****A Study of the Structural Elements of the Mass**

**Distribution of the Eucharist** In early Christianity both Bishop and people simply consumed the consecrated elements in silence. However, the need to verbalize the meaning of this action soon resulted in various formulas to accompany the distribution of the Eucharist. Today the presiding priest, as leader of the celebration remains the first to receive the consecrated bread and wine. And just as Christ at the Last Supper "gave" his Body and Blood to the Apostles, so it has been traditional that a minister present the Eucharist to the faithful. Before distributing the Lord's body to each communicant, the minister shows the host to each person by raising it a little above the paten and says, "The Body of Christ." The communicant answers "Amen" and receives the bread of life. A similar formula "The Blood of Christ" precedes the reception of the chalice.

The norm for the United States is that communicants are to receive Communion while standing. As a sign of reverence the communicant bows his or her head before receiving the Eucharistic bread. As soon as the communicant receives the host, he or she consumes it entirely.

Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it is distributed under both species. However, the Catholic faith teaches that Christ, whole and entire, and the true Sacrament, is received even under only one species and those who receive under only one species are not deprived of any of the grace necessary for salvation.

If extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are required, they approach the altar as the priest receives Communion. After the priest has concluded his own Communion, he distributes Communion to the extraordinary ministers, assisted by the deacon, and then hands the sacred vessels to them for distribution of Holy Communion to the people.

Holy Communion under the form of bread is offered to the communicant with the words, "The Body of Christ." The communicant may choose whether to receive the Body of Christ in the hand or on the tongue. When receiving in the hand, the communicant should be guided by the words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem: "When you approach, take care not to do so with your hand stretched out and your fingers open or apart, but rather place one hand as a throne beneath the other hand, as befits one who is about to receive the King. Then receive him, taking care that nothing is lost."

In the same way the chalice is offered to the communicant with the words, "The Blood of Christ," to which the communicant responds, "Amen." After each communicant has received the Blood of Christ, the minister carefully wipes both sides of the rim of the chalice with a purificator. This action is a matter of both reverence and hygiene. For the same reason, the minister turns the chalice slightly after each communicant has received the Precious Blood.

Of special significance is the invitation to receive the Lord's Body and Blood since it highlights the importance of the gathered people as the body of Christ. St. Paul said "We, being many, are one body." This bread is the body of Christ, to which the Apostle refers when he addressed the Church: "Now you are the body of Christ and his members. That which you receive, that you yourselves are by the grace of the redemption, as you acknowledge when you respond *Amen*. What you witness here is the sacrament of unity."

Presented by members of the Liturgy Committee

**SAINT JOSEPH MEDAL OF APPRECIATION**

Mrs. Terry Bouchard has been selected to receive the Saint Joseph Archdiocesan Medal of Appreciation. Archbishop Henry Mansell will present the Saint Joseph Medals at a prayer service at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph today, Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

We wish to congratulate Terry for her many acts of kindness and assistance to Saint Thomas Parish. We appreciate the numerous times that she has shared her time, talent and treasure with our parish family. Congratulations!



The Church Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of Christine Ingriselli, requested by Pam Aldi.

The Chapel Sanctuary Candle is offered this week in memory of Rose Casale, requested by Carol Frawley and family.

**LENT**

- 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 at 11:00 a.m.
- Fridays** Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. will take place at area churches as follows:
  - March 12 St. Dominic
  - March 19 St. Dominic
  - March 26 St. Thomas (in the Church)

**FRIDAY LENTEN SUPPER**

Fridays during Lent, the Saint Thomas Home-School Association will be sponsoring a “**Pasta e Fagioli**” special from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The cost is \$6.00 per person for salad, Italian bread, beverage, and all the Pasta e Fagioli you can eat. Orders to go are also available. This is opened to the community and all proceeds will benefit St. Thomas School

**BREAD FOR LIFE**

St. Thomas Church has been assigned the week of March 15-19 for the Bread for Life Soup Kitchen at the Masonic Temple, 76 Main Street. We are being asked to help staff the kitchen – three people per day from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Also, **donations of milk and fruit are needed**. If you are able to assist in the kitchen or help with a donation, please call Marie, 621-7615.

**PASSION PLAY TICKETS**

Listed below are the contact names and phone numbers to obtain tickets for the St. Thomas’ Thirty Second Annual Passion Play.

- Diane 628-4197                      Jean 628-7913
- Lois 621-0411                      Ginny 628-4628
- Janet 621-6347

Saturday	March	27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Palm Sunday (limit of 5)	March	28 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 p.m.
Monday	March	29 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	March	30 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	March	31 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Good Friday (limit of 5)	April	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:30 p.m.

**150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Work as begun on an 80+ page full color book that will be available for purchase in 2011 after the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year concludes. This book will highlight who we are today as a parish community after 150 years of living the Catholic faith in Southington.

More information and photos are needed! We need information and photos from the last 25 years, specifically from EACH church group and/or ministry. A current photo of members, and a brief description of their work (1 page max) is essential. Older photos are welcome too! We also need photos and information from current or former Saint Thomas School teachers, staff, or students. If any parishioner can recommend a reliable professional photographer who would be willing to photograph events and some areas of the church, please contact Laura at 860-621-7053 as soon as possible. Please mail photos or information to Laura Larson at [lauralarson1@cox.net](mailto:lauralarson1@cox.net) or 65 Cowles Avenue, Plantsville 06479 Be a part of our parish history!

**MUSICIANS NEEDED**

Two trumpets and trombone players are needed for the Easter Sunday 11:00 Mass. Also, a drum set player is needed for one song to accompany the choir on Easter Sunday. Please contact Emil Kopcha, Music Director at 860-621-0637 if you are interested in sharing your talents at Easter.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

There will be a combined meeting of all members of Council 15 and 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly #122 on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at Saint Thomas School cafeteria. A supper will precede the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the combined business meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. Carry your membership card with you. Those interested in joining the K of C, please call Dan Valente at 384-5097.

**CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OFFICE**

A Life in the Spirit Seminar will be held at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary on Friday evening, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:- 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come and be empowered in the Holy Spirit. For registration please call the Charismatic Renewal Office, 860-243-8234.

**DOMINICAN ASSOCIATES**

The monthly meeting of the Dominican Associates of Peace will be held on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> in the church basement at 7:00 p.m. Associates are men and women seeking to grow in a spiritual life through prayer, study, community, and service. We welcome you to join us to see who we are and what we do. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month. For more information please contact Carmel at 860-628-6751.

Readings for the Week of March 7, 2010	
Sunday:	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32