

Saint Luke Church
141 Maple Street, P.O. Box 246
Ellington, CT 06029-0246
(860) 875 - 8552

Father Thomas Plathottam Memorial Scholarship

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

Attached is the application for the Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship. All sections must be completed and submitted by the deadline of **7 PM - Sunday, May 17th, 2026.**

Scholarship Application: The St. Luke Parish of Ellington, CT, will be giving multiple scholarships, one *per family per year* to qualifying candidates who will be attending college in the upcoming academic year. Priority is given to high school seniors followed by college applicants who have not previously received a scholarship from St. Luke Parish. ***Scholarships will be awarded at Mass only.*** **All recipients should plan to attend the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, June 14th, 2026.**

All applications must be dropped off at the rectory at the address below or handed to Father George or Father Bijoy before or after Mass.

Saint Luke Parish
141 Maple Street
PO Box 246
Ellington, CT 06029

Scholarship Application Deadline is no later than 7 PM - Sunday, May 17th, 2026

Incomplete applications or applications received **after Sunday, May 17th, 2026 at 7 PM** will **not** be considered. Applicants must be a contributing member of St. Luke Parish, (e.g., *time, talent, treasure*). **All of the following must be included with your completed application form in a sealed envelope:**

- Recent photo of yourself
- For high school students mid-year transcript (including 3rd quarter of this year) and for college students college transcript
- College acceptance letter (high school students only)
- College Financial Aid Statement which includes the total annual cost of attendance and financial aid received including: grants and scholarships awarded.
- One page typewritten essay on why you should be considered to be a recipient of the *Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship*. See page 4 for essay prompts.
- If there are extenuating circumstances for financial need, please include with your application

Each scholarship selection will be primarily based on the following criteria:

- Mass attendance
- Parish involvement
- Community service
- Essay
- Academics

Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship Application

Applicant's Name _____ Date of Birth ___/___/___

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone (____) ____ - ____

Email address _____

Parents/Guardian Information

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address (if different from student) _____

City/Zip _____ Phone (____) ____ - ____

Email Address _____

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address (if different from student) _____

City/Zip _____ Phone (____) ____ - ____

Email Address _____

Number of children in family who will be attending school next year _____

Please list their names and where they attend school:

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

How long have you been a member of St. Luke Parish? _____

If less than 3 years, provide previous parish information _____

Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship Application, page 2

Applicant's name _____

What College will you be attending? _____

What year will you be entering? _____

In what *St. Luke Parish* or *Catholic Campus Ministry* activities have you participated:

In what *school* related activities have you participated:

In what *community service* activities have you participated:

If applicable, any other activities you have participated in, not listed above:

Please list any accomplishments or awards you have received. (Include scholarships/grants and the amount awarded.)

Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship Application, page 3

I hereby certify that all information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Please check off all items below and include them in your sealed envelope:

_____ Completed application form (pages 1-3)

_____ Essay

_____ Recent photo of applicant

_____ For high school students mid-year transcript (including 3rd quarter of this year)
and for college students end of year college transcript

_____ College acceptance letter (high school students only)

_____ College Financial Aid Statement which includes the total annual cost of
attendance and financial aid received including; grants and scholarships awarded.

_____ If there are extenuating circumstances for financial need, please include
with your application

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Father Thomas Plathottam Scholarship Application page 4

Father Thomas Plathottam (Fr Tom) was at St Luke Church from 1999 to 2011. When he arrived the Parish Community was hurt and broken, needing the care and healing of a special Pastor and he was the priest sent by God for the job. He lived and shared his faith daily, encouraging everyone to become involved in the parish community. Through his persistent encouragement he helped parishioners to discover and develop the unique gifts and talents they had and how they would help the parish to grow. "I can't do that" and "no" were answers he had a hard time accepting knowing that the parishioners were capable of doing far more than they thought they could. He treated each person with respect and dignity, taking the time to listen and understand no matter what else was going on. Through his faith and trust in God, and the people he was asked to pastor, Fr Tom restored St Luke to be a special and welcoming community growing in love of God and each other. While he accomplished many things like getting the Parish Center funded and built, he embodied the words of Saint Mother Teresa; "Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love."

High School Essay:

Please include a one-page typewritten essay on why you should be considered a recipient of the *Father Thomas Plathottam Memorial Scholarship*. Explain how your faith has helped you in your life. Please include your involvement in parish activities. ***Include some of the values, traits, characteristics and accomplishments of Father Tom that relate or are important to you.***

College Essay:

Please include a one-page typewritten essay on why you should be considered a recipient of the *Father Thomas Plathottam Memorial Scholarship*. Explain how you are living your faith and growing your faith in your college years. Please include your involvement in Catholic Ministry and other Catholic Campus activities. ***Include some of the values, traits, characteristics and accomplishments of Father Tom that relate or are important to you.***