

St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

Rectory/Parish Center: (973) 338-9190 . Fax: (973) 338-4224 . Religious Education: (973) 338-7400
School: (973) 338-8505 . Convent: (973) 338-9118
Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 . Website: www.stachurchbloomfield.com

Rev. Charles J. Miller, M. Div., Pastor

Rev. Philip A. Sanders, S.T.B., Parochial Vicar • Rev. Thomas F. Blind, M. Div., In Residence

PERMANENT DEACONS:

Deacon Albert H. Tizzano • Deacon Dennis J. Besida • Deacon Thomas J. Coyle

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY

Saturday Eve: 5:00pm

Sundays: 7:30, 9:00,
10:30am & 12:00 Noon

Weekdays: 7:30, & 11:30am

Saturday Mornings: 8:30am Only

Holy Days:
7:30, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Holidays: 8:30am Only

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR
ELEMENTARY CATECHETICS:
Tracey Rennie

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
FOR PARISH MINISTRY:
Sister Arleen Crimmins, O.P.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
Ms. Joan Ferraer

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL
MUSIC MINISTRIES:
Nancy A. Cardone

ASSISTANT LITURGICAL
MUSIC MINISTERS:
Paul DiBianca
Kimberley Mesiti

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR FAMILY
& ADULT FORMATION MINISTRIES:
Robert P. Miller

COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY:
Mr. Timothy Dennin

PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Tom Rossano, Chairperson
Vincent Lipoma, Vice Chairperson
Michele Sweetman, Secretary

FINANCE CHAIRMEN:
Peter Maulbeck, Finance Council
Patrick DeCotiis, Finance Committee

SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION:
(Penance/Confessions)
Saturday: 11:00am

MARIAN
DEVOTIONS:
Mondays
Novena Prayer
11:30am Mass

LITURGY OF
THE WORD
WITH CHILDREN:
Sundays: 10:30am Mass
September - June

CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
SERVICES
OFFERING SOCIAL
SERVICE ASSISTANCE
1(800) CCS-7413
Fax: 596-3735

September 21, 2008 . 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, September 21

Saturday, September 20

5:00 pm Ann DiLaura - Granddaughter

Sunday, September 21

7:30 am James & Janet Fearon (45th Wedding Anniv.)

9:00 am Mamie & Louis DeCicco - Family

10:30 am Frank Veloce - Family

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Monday, September 22

7:30 am Jerry Mulvaney - Friend

11:30 am John H. Flaherty - Friend

Tuesday, September 23

7:30 am Deceased Members of Klenk Family - Bequest

11:30 am Jerome T. Mulvaney - Friend

Wednesday, September 24

7:30 am Barbara Ellmer (11th Anniv.) - Husband

11:30 am Mary Singer - Friend

Thursday, September 25

7:30 am Jerome Mulvaney - Friend

11:30 am John & Mary Walters - Children & Family

Friday, September 26

7:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Dante N. Albanese - Children

11:30 am Jacqueline Sefjack - Family

Saturday, September 27

8:30 am Genevive Muller - Son

Sunday, September 28

Saturday, September 27

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, September 28

7:30 am Maria DeRogatis - Daughter

9:00 am Edwin May - Friend

10:30 am Alfred Trotola - Wife

12:00 pm Luciano Bosso (1st Anniv) - Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, Eleanor McKeon
Cathy McAlvanah, Domenic Mattia, Alex Wessel
John Kearney, Franco & Fasone Families

REST IN PEACE:

Judy Sabatino, John Downey, Jr., Henry E. Dwyer

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: John & Mary Walters



**Twenty-fifth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time**

Matthew takes us into the last of the five discourses and narratives at the center of the Gospel. The life of discipleship, which leads unwaveringly to the cross, is Jesus' focus.

Lectionary

■ THE GOSPEL: Jesus tells the parable of the workers and the vineyard. Throughout the day the foreman hires workers. All of them, even those hired late in the day, receive a full day's wage. Such is the kingdom of God, says Jesus.

■ FIRST READING: In Isaiah, the Lord asserts that his thoughts are not ours. His view of life is not ours. These are powerful words to help prepare us for the message of today's Gospel account.

■ PSALM 145: The psalmist proclaims that the Lord is kind and merciful, and in the response we affirm that the Lord is near to all who call out to him.

■ SECOND READING: We begin to hear from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians. He writes to them with the firmest conviction that whatever his life holds in the near future - life or death - he knows that he remains in Christ Jesus. He is willing to die at this point, because it will unite him with his savior. However, he is willing to stay and continue the mission if it is God's will.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Ezekiel 18:25-28

Philippians 2; 1-11 or 2: 1-5

Matthew 21: 28-32



PLEASE NOTE

**our Sunday afternoon Mass has been
PERMANENTLY CHANGED
to 12:00 Noon and the Saturday afternoon
Mass begins at 5:00 p.m. sharp.**

**Visit our website at
www.stachurchbloomfield.com**

A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States

A series of excerpts that we will share with you on the weekends between now and Election Day.

The following is an excerpt from *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*. This document, issued by the bishops in November, 2007, suggests key issues for our prayerful reflection as we prepare to fulfill our responsibilities as voters in the national election this November 4. The full text of the document can be found at www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/FCStatement.pdf. Additional resources for families, groups and individuals are available at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

46. The human person is not only sacred but also social. Full human development takes place in relationship with others. The family—based on marriage between a man and a woman—is the first and fundamental unit of society and is a sanctuary for the creation and nurturing of children. It should be defended and strengthened, not redefined or undermined by permitting same-sex unions or other distortions of marriage. Respect for the family should be reflected in every policy and program. It is important to uphold parents' rights and responsibilities to care for their children, including the right to choose their children's education.

47. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects the common good and the capacity of individuals to develop their full potential. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate actively in shaping society and to promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

48. The principle of subsidiarity reminds us that larger institutions in society should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local institutions, yet larger institutions have essential responsibilities when the more local institutions cannot adequately protect human dignity, meet human needs, and advance the common good.

American Bishops Respond to US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's Misrepresentation of Catholic Teaching on Abortion

DENVER ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT

Archbishop Chaput's statement said, among other things, that "ardent, practicing Catholics will quickly learn from the historical record that from apostolic times, the Christian tradition overwhelmingly held that abortion was grievously evil. In the absence of modern medical knowledge, some of the Early Fathers held that abortion was homicide; others that it was tantamount to homicide; and various scholars theorized about when and how the unborn child might be animated or 'ensouled.' But none diminished the unique evil of abortion as an attack on life itself, and the early Church closely associated abortion with infanticide. In short, from the beginning, the believing Christian community held that abortion was always, gravely wrong."

Stewardship Prayer

S. Marie Schwan

*Lord God,
You alone are the source of every good gift,*



*of the vast array of the universe,
and the mystery of each human life.
We praise You and we thank You
for Your great power
and Your tender, faithful love.*

*Everything we are and everything we have
is Your gift,*



*and after having created us
You have given us
into the keeping of Your Son, Jesus Christ.*

*Fill our minds with His truth
and our hearts with His love,
that in His Spirit we may be bonded together
into a community of faith,*



a parish family, a caring people.

*In the Name and Spirit of Jesus,
we commit ourselves to be good stewards
of the gifts entrusted to us,*



*to share our time, our talent,
our material gifts as an outward sign
of the Treasure we hold in Jesus.*

Amen.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



**USE SHOPRITE
GIFT CARDS!!**



**Help St. Thomas the Apostle School
earn 5% of your Shoprite purchase.**

If you already do your grocery shopping at Shoprite use Shoprite gift cards instead of cash.

When you purchase Shoprite gifts cards from a member of the Home & School, St. Thomas the Apostle School will get 5% of the total amount you purchase at no cost to you!

The Home & School will have a booth at the Parish Picnic where you may purchase your gift cards.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY
Prayer / Blessing



Lord our God,
You sent us your Son Jesus
To teach us by word and example
that true wisdom comes from you alone.

Send Your Spirit upon students, their teachers
and their catechists and fill them with Your wisdom.
Grant that during this academic year
they may devote themselves to their studies
and share what they have learned from others.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Religious Education News

CCD classes will begin the week of Sept 22nd. Grades 5-8 will meet on Mondays and grades 1-4 will meet on Tuesdays from 3:40 – 5:00 each week. We need two teachers for Monday afternoons. We will provide training and guidance – no experience necessary. Please consider sharing your faith with a child. Call Tracey or Maria in the Religious Education office at 973-338-7400.



**Confirmation dates
to remember:**

Sept. 23rd - Penance Service at 7pm

Sacrament of Confirmation (A thru M) Oct. 19th
Sacrament of Confirmation (M thru Z) Oct. 26th

**Adult Enrichment
LECTURE SERIES ON ST. PAUL**

Guest Lecturer: Dr. Chris Carr
Topic: The Mystical Body of Christ
Next Lecture: Oct. 14th, 7:30 p.m. in Parish Center

For more information
call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

“THIS WEEK”

Monday – 9/22

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter
Women’s Cornerstone - 7:30pm in Parish Center
Respect Life - 7:30pm in Church
Men’s prayer and Bible Study – 7:30pm in St. Matthew

Thursday – 9/18

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 9/19

SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter
Separated Divorced Widowed - 8:00pm in St. Thomas

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION 9/22

There will be Eucharistic Adoration this Monday, Sept. 22nd, from Noon to 7:30 PM followed immediately by the Life-Awareness Holy Hour.



Wellness Ministry Cares... Assistance Program

The Wellness Ministry phone line is available Mon-Fri, 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Call the Parish Center at 973-338-9190 ext. 20. A return call will be made within 24 hours. A Parish Nurse will provide limited confidential health counseling & referrals to Community health resources & services. Volunteers are available for errands, home visits and phone contacts.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING THIS WEEKEND

Blood pressure screenings this weekend, Saturday, Sept 20th, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass and Sunday, Sept 21st, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

BULLETINS ARE STORED ONLINE

If you seek a link to a web page in the bulletin, you can open the bulletin online. Click the link and your computer will open a web browser to that website.

Women’s Cornerstone

Be Still...

The Women’s Cornerstone Retreat Team will be meeting on Monday, September 22nd at 7:30 p.m.



SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

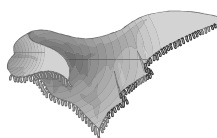
MEETINGS EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT IN THE PARISH CENTER FROM 7-9PM. ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ARE WELCOME

9/21 COMMUNITY NIGHT
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

9/23 CONFIRMATION PENANCE 7PM
9/26 STEVE ANGRISANO CONCERT IN RIDGEFIELD PARK.
50-IN-15 TUNA FISH

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT TIM DENNIN AT tdennin@att.net

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



Evening meetings will be held in the Parish Center Oct 1st and Nov 5th from 7 to 9 PM. Sunday meetings will be held Sept. 21st and Oct. 19th 1-3PM. We have simple patterns for

shawls, lap robes, scarves, hats and gloves. If you are interested in participating but do not know how to knit or crochet, there are members willing to help you get started. If you have questions or wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact Bernadette 973-893-0114 Alicia 973-473-6633 or Sister Arleen 973-338-9190.

Let us continue to pray for those making shawls and those who receive them.

Blessing of Animals



St. Thomas' Annual Blessing of Pets will be held Sunday, Oct. 5th at 2pm in the side parking lot of the School.

Bring your winged, four legged, belly crawling, and finned pets to receive this special blessing. We look forward to seeing you there!



Feel good about yourself ...Give blood

St. Thomas' Annual Blood Drive
Next Sunday, September 28, 2008
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Herron Hall

Our blood banks are in need of all types of blood. Please consider this as your gift for life. Come to our blood drive and donate. We welcome our "regulars" and those of you who will be "first timer donors".

Complimentary Cholesterol screening for all blood donors. **Also, \$15 BP gas card for all donors compliments of the Blood Center.** For more info call the blood center of New Jersey at 973-676-4700.



Right to Life

For all medical researchers and ethicists: that the lives of all human beings, including those conceived as embryos might be valued and safeguarded in their research;

We pray to the Lord

There will be a...

Morning of Remembrance

Saturday October 4th, 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon



St. Valentine's Parish is joining St. Thomas to provide a Morning of Remembrance on Saturday October 4th at 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon at St. Valentines Parish. This Morning of Remembrance will be for all those who have experienced loss in their lives.

If you have any question, please call Sr. Arleen at 973-338-9190 ext. 34.



CUB SCOUTS - PACK 22 SIGN-UPS

All 1st - 5th grade boys are invited to our Pack meeting Sept. 25th, 2008. The meeting will be at Herron Hall in St. Thomas school at 7:00 p.m.

ROSARY CONFRATERNITY SOCIETY

"Hail Mary full of grace..."

*Ladies of the parish,
you are invited to become a rosarian!
Our induction ceremony will be on Monday,
October 6th 7 p.m.
in the St. Peter room of the parish center. Please contact Mary Lou Klenner before Oct. 4 at 973-338-1882 and leave your name and phone number.*

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COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 26th following 9:00 a.m. Mass
Glen Ridge Country Club
555 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ
Tickets - \$27.00
All parishioners are welcome
Reservations by October 19th

Please call Shirley Drexler 973-338-5938 or Grace Matturri 973-338-8953

Or complete and return this form to the parish center
Attn: SHIRLEY DREXLER or GRACE MATTURRI

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Attending: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

St. Thomas Parish Center



Retreat in Everyday Life

The Nineteenth Annotated Retreat The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius

In these "Spiritual Exercises" the retreatant prays with the life, passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ using designated scriptures journaling. Retreatant meets with a spiritual director each week to process their prayer.

Retreat extends from October to May. It is important to call as soon as possible for preparation & instruction.

For further information call Anna (973) 338-9538



St. Thomas Jubilatz Chinzrs Bell Choir

GRADES 5 – 8

All St. Thomas the Apostle students, grades 5-8 (CCD and STA School) are invited to join our Bell Choir. If interested, please call Nancy Cardone in the music office at (973) 338-9190 x42 and leave the student's name and phone number. Those who leave a message will be contacted by Mrs. Anne Bellotti, our Bell Choir Director.

MINISTRY OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

ST THOMAS PARISH CENTER

DAY RETREAT -- SAT., OCT. 4 9AM – 3PM

HEALTH & WHOLENESS HEALING: BODY, MIND, SPIRIT

SICK & TIRED OF BEING SICK & TIRED?

Coffee & bagels, etc. Please bag a Lunch.

Presentations include prayer, quiet reflection, group sharing, healing prayer service. Anna - (973) 338-9538

Registration Helpful by Oct 2

God, Creator of the Seasons

*The greens of summer are shifting
into autumnal hues, Lord God,
as the earth prepares for winter sleep.*

And what a production

*You have planned -
bright yellows, burnt oranges,
shocking scarlets, russet browns -
a veritable feast for the eyes.*

*Thank you for this lasting reminder
of the great gift of life
with which you have imbued your world.*

The earth is shouting its praise.

Let us join in!

Peter Mead

► Catholic High School Open Houses ◀

Bergen Catholic High School

1040 Oradell Avenue, Oradell, NJ, (201) 261-1844

www.bergencatholic.org

Thursday, September 25th, from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Queen of Peace High School

191 Rutherford Ave., N. Arlington, NJ (201) 998-8227

www.qphs.org

Sunday, September 21st, 1:00 p.m. Timed Program

Oratory Preparatory School

One Beverly Rd., Summit, NJ, (908) 273-5771

www.oratoryprep.org

Sunday, September 28th, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Paramus Catholic High School

425 Paramus Rd., Paramus, NJ (201) 445-4466

www.paramuscatholic.org

Sunday, September 21st, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

St. Mary High School

64 Chestnut St., Rutherford, NJ, (201) 933-5220

www.stmaryhs.org

September 21st, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

October 14th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

THE BLOOMFIELD DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVCS.

ANNOUNCES THAT A REPRESENTATIVE FROM NJ FAMILYCARE WILL BE IN THE NURSING DIVISION FROM 9:30AM-11:30AM WEDNESDAYS IN SEPTEMBER DURING CHILD HEALTH CLINIC.

THEY WILL BE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR UNINSURED BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS WITH CHILDREN.

Bloomfield Nursing Division - 973-680-4058

FLU SHOTS

The Nursing Division of Bloomfield will be administering Flu Shots to Bloomfield residents at the following locations:

- **Civic Center - 84 Broad St., Bloomfield**
Thurs., Sept. 25, 1-3pm
- **Fire Station #3 - E. Passaic Ave.** (across from St. Valentine's Church) **Thurs., Oct. 9, 11am-1pm**
- **Fire Headquarters** (Franklin & Montgomery Sts.)
Sat., Oct. 18, 11am-2pm

NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY

Cost is \$35.00

Free with traditional Medicare card.
Medicare HMO/PPO (Aetna, Oxford, Horizon) Not Accepted

**Call the Nursing Division at (973) 680-4058
with any questions.**