

# 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](http://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

**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, November 23**

**Saturday, November 22**

5:00 pm Anthony Zoppi - Friends

**Sunday, November 23**

7:30 am Arrigoni & Montuori Families - Family

9:00 am Harry & Frances Scardilli - Daughter

10:30 am Deceased Members of Klenk Family - Bequest

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

**Monday, November 24**

7:30 am Special Intention

11:30 am Lepore Family - Family

**Tuesday, November 25**

7:30 am Kenneth Sharry - Family

11:30 am Anthony Russo - Daughter

**Wednesday, November 26**

7:30 am Gloria and Pat Clark - Family

11:30 am Josephine Raimo (43<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.) - Daughter

**Thursday, November 27**

9:00 am Sydney Freeman - Daughter

**Friday, November 28**

8:30 am Frank Barclay - Family

**Saturday, November 29**

8:30 am Anthony Simone - Friend

**Sunday, November 30**

**Saturday, November 29**

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

**Sunday, November 30**

7:30 am Janet A. McGuire - Friend

9:00 am Jerome T. Mulvaney - Friend

10:30 am Anna Lorenzo - Friend

12:00 pm Candida Rodriguez - Friend

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**

Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, John McCue, Alex Wessel  
Harry Shaw, Lillian Donatello, Eleanor McKeon  
Franco & Fasone Families

**REST IN PEACE:**

Adelino Frade

**CANDLE INTENTIONS:**

**Church:** Rosemarie Salvo  
**Rectory:** David Kossack  
**Convent:** Jerry Mazzarella

**Christ the King**



When Pius XI established this feast (1925), the rise of totalitarianism all over the world must have made it seem that apocalyptic forces had been unleashed on the world. Bolshevism reigned in Russia, Fascism in Italy, the blood of civil war flowed in many places, and from every quarter came ominous forebodings of new dictatorships. So the pope proclaimed: *Pax Christi in regno Christi*: "The peace of Christ in the reign of Christ!" At century's end, is the world very different?

Some totalitarianism walls have crumbled, but in many places new forces of oppression have rushed in, no longer enslaving bodies and minds but hearts and souls in the bondage of consumerism. Thus, the feast is appropriate here at the turning point of the church's year of worship and witness. All Western Christian churches share it now - sometimes under different titles, but with the same scriptures, proclaiming in every cycle of the lectionary the unique kingship of Jesus the Lord.

~~~~~ **Looking Ahead** ~~~~~  
**Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008, begins the ADVENT SEASON.**

The First Sunday of Advent is the start of the New Liturgical Year.

**Happy Thanksgiving**

November 27, 2008



On this day may we give thanks to God for earth and its bounty, its harvest and promise. May we care for all his gifts, especially our family and friends.

**Thanksgiving Mass is at a special time: 9:00 a.m.**

Friday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> there will be one Mass  
Mass on Friday is at 8:30 a.m.

The parish center will be closed on  
Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27-28<sup>th</sup>.

**Visit our website at [www.stachurchbloomfield.com](http://www.stachurchbloomfield.com)**

**SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS**

**St. Thomas the Apostle School  
Home and School Association**

presents

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**



**Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>,  
at 9:30 a.m. in St. Thomas School.**

**MENU:**

- Scrambled eggs
- Bacon
- Sausage
- Hash Browns
- French Toast
- Bagels
- Fruit salad
- Desserts
- Coffee
- Tea

Games, gifts, magician, and fun for children of all ages!

No phone reservations

Seats will be assigned when money is received

**Reserve by Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**

Christine Licciardello  
973-303-2112

Tricia Polizzi  
973-202-7334

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TICKETS:    \$11.00 Adults    \$6.00 Children

# ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_                      # CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to sit with someone, please note:

Please seat with \_\_\_\_\_

*Session Dates for Baptism for 2008*

**CATECHESIS PREPARATION**

In the St. James Room in the Parish Center

|          |        |
|----------|--------|
| Jan 25   | 1:00pm |
| March 29 | 1:00pm |
| May 17   | 1:00pm |

**BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS FOR 2008**

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| Dec 7    | 1:30pm                |
| Jan 11   | 1:30pm                |
| Feb 1    | 1:30pm                |
| Feb 22   | 1:30pm                |
| April 18 | During Mass at 5:00pm |
| April 19 | 1:30pm                |

*We welcome into our Community of Faith  
With our prayers and good wishes,  
Our newly Baptized...*



**Michael Alexander Cassata**

Parents: Nicole (Chhabria) & Michael A. Cassata

**Nolan Daniel Cook**

Parents: Mary (Nevile) & Michael Cook

**Kayleen Mary Dechert**

Parents: Linsey (Ward) & Robert Dechert

**Michael Daniel Fazio**

Parents: Lauren (Vitiello) & Michael A. Fazio

**Kaiden Michael Cerniglia Rapavi**

Parents: Kelli (Cerniglia) & Philip Rapavi

**Jacob Luis Serrano**

Parents: Lizette (Hernandez) & Antonio Serrano

**Sabrina Rose Stuber**

Parents: Gretchen (Forbes) & Walter Stuber

**STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS**



**Right to Life**

For those who await their execution on death row: that God might teach us how to love and protect them;

*We pray to the Lord*

**REGISTRATION    Did you know  
FOR ST. THOMAS PARISH**

If you are presently not on our mailing list, receiving envelopes and the various parish mailings, the chances are that you are not a registered member of our parish. You are not automatically a registered member because you were married here or even if you were brought up here and lived in the parish with your parents—or went to school here. Membership is by formal registration only. Just call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190 and let us know that you wish to register and the registration form will be mailed to you. Thank you.

**MEN'S CORNERSTONE – MARCH 27 & 28**

“The men who were there, familiar faces I have seen for many years, instantly became my close friends. An incredibly moving experience.”

– Orly Trias

**Wellness Ministry Cares... Assistance Program**

The Wellness Ministry phone line is available Mon-Fri, 9am to 8pm. Call the Parish Center 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.

**“THIS WEEK”**

**Monday - 11/24**

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter  
Men’s prayer and Bible Study – 7:30pm in St. Matthew

**Tuesday - 11/25**

Advent Prayer Reflection Group - 1:00pm in St. James

**Thursday - 11/27**

**THANKSGIVING DAY!**  
**MASS AT 9:00AM**  
Parish Center Closed

**Friday - 11/28**

**MASS AT 8:30AM**  
Parish Center Closed

**SIGN UP for the...**

**Children’s Christmas Event  
Epiphany Pageant**


OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH  
Ages Pre-K4 – Grade 3

Plan now for your children to participate!

As always, we will be looking for Angels and Shepherds to join our Nativity and Epiphany scene.

Shepherds and Angel costumes will be provided if needed.

If interested please complete the form below and return to the Parish Center by November 30<sup>th</sup> attention: “Children’s Pageant”.



Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

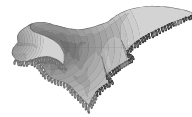
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help with costumes.

I would like to help with the Three Kings Reception.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Our heartfelt thanks to all who participated in our recent project. Our hand made items will be distributed throughout our community during the next few weeks. They are in great demand and will surely be appreciated. We have kept some items for our own parishioners. During the upcoming holidays, if you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact the Ministry. Our next meeting is Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7PM Bernadette - 973-893-0114 Sister Arleen - 973-338-9190 Alicia - 973-473-6633 *Let us continue to pray for those making shawls and those who receive them.*

**Next Sunday’s Readings:**

Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7  
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9  
Mark 13: 33-37



**THANKSGIVING OUTREACH!**

Are you planning to donate a turkey or a ham for a family less fortunate than yours this Thanksgiving? If so, we need to have the donations **on or before Sunday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>** at the Parish Center. Defrosting and deliveries need to take place *before* Thanksgiving Day, which is Thursday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your concern and compassion for others.

---

**Thanksgiving Day Prayer**

**Blessed and holy are You, great God;  
Blessed are You on this day of Thanksgiving!  
We thank You with all our hearts  
for Your many graces and blessings;  
For family and friends, for hearth and home,  
For food and drink, for jobs and co-workers,  
For all the gifts of nature,  
and for all the many small comforts  
that make our lives a joy.  
Thank You, above all, for our faith.  
Thank You for walking among us,  
For keeping Your living hand upon us,  
For giving us Jesus to guide and comfort us.  
Blessed and holy are You, great God;  
Blessed are You on this Thanksgiving Day.  
Amen.**

---



### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

The main source of operating funds for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is our weekly offertory contribution. To assist us in being good stewards of God's gift of treasure, here is what we contributed last weekend compared to what we need to meet our budget:

**Last's week collection: \$19,175**  
**Amount Needed: \$20,000**

### SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

11 / 23 A NIGHT WITH BISHOP DACUHNA  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

11 / 30 YOUR PLACE IN TIME  
12/5-7 FALL RETREAT

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT TIM DENNIN AT [tdennin@att.net](mailto:tdennin@att.net)

**GIVING TREE**  
At St. Thomas  
The Apostle



**December**  
**14<sup>th</sup>**  
**2008**

**'Tis the season for giving**

**Beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, next weekend, there will be two Christmas trees in the front of the church on either side of the altar. The trees will be adorned with gift tags. On the gift tags will be gift suggestions. If you choose to donate a gift for the giving tree, please be sure to bring your gifts - *unwrapped* - into the church *only the weekend of December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>*. PLEASE NOT BEFORE OR AFTER THESE DATES.**

**Gifts will be sorted and packed on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> after the 12 noon Mass and will be delivered on Monday December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Santa is in need of helpers to sort and pack on Sunday Dec. 14. If you can help, please call Maryann Carini at (973) 338-5394.**



### Support St. Thomas' Annual Christmas Concert



**Be a Sponsor for the St. Thomas the Apostle  
Annual Christmas Concert & Reception  
Saturday, December 13, 2008 – 7PM**

Featuring the **Garden State Concert Band**  
And guest narrator **Father Charles Miller**

How – Contribute to the Souvenir Program Journal

- Back Cover - \$400.00
- Inside Back Cover - \$200.00
- Gold Page - \$150.00
- Inside Front Cover - \$200.00
- Full Page - \$100.00
- Half Page - \$75.00
- Quarter Page - \$50.00
- Listing of Name Page - \$25.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

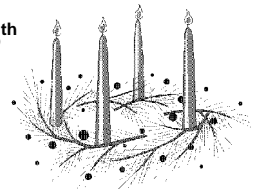
I want to contribute \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ page or \$25.00 for a name listing.

Make all returns with copy to:  
Paul Alongi, 21 Leo Terrace, Bloomfield, NJ 07003,  
973-338-4665 or Parish Center 973-338-9190.

### Women of St. Thomas parish

*You are invited!*

**Beginning Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 p.m., we will meet in the parish center for the next four Tuesdays during the Advent season. Come as we take the Sunday Readings and pray and reflect on God's Word.**



### Are you a Writer . . . Editor . . . Proof Reader . . . Web Developer? **We need you!**

*THE VOICE*, the St. Thomas the Apostle Newsletter, is published several times a year and we are looking to expand our ministry.

We are also looking for people to help update the website, keep it current and brainstorm ideas to advertise our parish.

You can be part of our committee, which meets a few times a year or you can choose to simply donate your particular talent as needed.

Please drop us a line in the Communication/Newsletter mailbox in the Parish Center or email us at [thevoice@stachurchbloomfield.com](mailto:thevoice@stachurchbloomfield.com).

You can visit us online by following the Newsletter link on our website.

After many years of effort, bereaved parents in The Compassionate Friends organization succeeded in having an official day set apart for families to remember their children who have died. By Senate resolution and a bill introduced to Congress, this day, the second Sunday in December, has received official designation.



On December 14th, candles will be lit by parents, grandparents and siblings at 7 pm in every time zone in memory of all children who have died, producing a wave of light that will encircle the earth. As the candles burn down in one time zone, it becomes 7 pm in another, creating a virtual 24-hour memorial. Memorial candles are inexpensive and can be obtained at local stores. Please observe safety precautions for the lighting of candles in the home.

**Organ Dedication concert to be held at  
St. Anthony of Padua Church**

**of Silver Lake / Belleville at 63 Franklin St.  
Sunday Evening, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

Featuring Guest Organist Frank J. Faro  
performing on the Beaty & Associates Pipe Organ  
with "hybrid" technology  
Reception to follow - Free-Will Offering

**A Christmas Concert with Michael Amante  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.**

St. Michael's Church located at 352 42<sup>nd</sup> St. at 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Brooklyn, NY is hosting a Christmas Gala Concert with the famous Italian Tenor Michael Amante. The Concert will be hosted by actor, Tony LoBianco. Please join us. Tickets for the concert are \$50. For reservations and information, please call (718) 768-6065.

**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE & BAKE SALE**

**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Nutley  
Saturday, November 29, 2008, 10am - 6pm**

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's Women's Auxiliary is having their annual sale! The ladies have been busy all year preparing for this boutique. There will be crocheted and knitted crafts, stocking stuffers and holiday decorations. Bake sale consists of homemade cakes, pies, bread and cookies. All proceeds go to the church.

**Thanksgiving Proclamation**

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God: to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon: and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by his divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven: we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last *Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving* and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

- Abraham Lincoln, 1863



*Let us give thanks  
to the Lord  
our God.*