

# 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

April 19, 2009 . 2nd Sunday of Easter

**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, April 19**

**Saturday, April 18**  
 5:00 pm Antoinette & Anthony Lubertazza - Daughter

**Sunday, April 19**

7:30 am Mary L. Brasseur (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) - Husband  
 9:00 am For the People of the Parish  
 10:30 am Joseph Marafiote - Wife  
 12:00 pm Agnes McDonald - Family

**Monday, April 20**

7:30 am Harry Scardilli - Daughter  
 11:30 am Florence & Nicholas Sottolano - Daughter

**Tuesday, April 21**

7:30 am Bill Soine - Family  
 11:30 am Teresa & Varick Maggiolo - Daughter

**Wednesday, April 22**

7:30 am Arthur Pozar - Family  
 11:30 am Louis Berto - In-laws

**Thursday, April 23**

7:30 pm Louis & Lucy DeFalco - Bequest  
 11:30 am Rosuccia & Antonio DeRogaitis - Family

**Friday, April 24**

7:30 am Helen McGarry - Bequest  
 11:30 am Louis & Lucy DeFalco - Bequest

**Saturday, April 25**

8:30 am Helen Prawdzik - Friend

**Sunday, April 26**

**Saturday, April 25**  
 5:00 pm Raffaella Candido - Son

**Sunday, April 26**

7:30 am John & Mary Gordon - Family  
 9:00 am Patrick G. Russillo - Friend  
 10:30 am For the People of the Parish  
 12:00 pm Liz & Uncle Attles - Family

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**

Harry Shaw, Alex Wessell, Franco & Fasone Families  
 Cosmo Cocchini, Mildren Catona, Paul Strickland,  
 Michael Giuliano, Frank Korec

**REST IN PEACE:**

**CANDLE INTENTIONS:**

**Church:** Anthony Del Tufo  
**Rectory:** Brian Mescall

*Second Sunday of Easter*



*Divine Mercy Sunday*

There are many names for today's celebration. In Rome it was called *Dominica in Albis* ("Sunday in Albs"), because it was on this day that the neophytes removed the white garments they had received at their Baptism at the Easter Vigil and put on their necks an *Agnus Dei*, made of white wax, and blessed by the Pope, to remind them of the innocence they received in Baptism and also of the meekness of Christ, the Lamb of God. It is the Sunday within the octave of Easter, the Second Sunday of Easter, and, since the year 2000, Divine Mercy Sunday. The liturgy completes the accounts of the appearances of the risen Lord which we have heard throughout the octave, and it also continues to emphasize Baptism, the foundational sacrament.

Divine Mercy Sunday was established by Pope John Paul II. This day recognizes the abundant mercy of God offered to us through Christ. With great faith and joy, John Paul II understood the Resurrection as a "miracle of mercy," which "radically changed humanity's destiny" (Homily of John Paul II on the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday, 2001).

**LECTIONARY**

**FIRST READING:** Today's reading from Acts gives us a vision of the early Church, a community filled with the risen Christ. These first Christians are of "one heart and mind" (Acts 4:32), and they share everything in common, claiming nothing for themselves. The apostles (who, before the Resurrection, were often found arguing among themselves about who was the greatest) now preach the Resurrection with "great power" and "great favor" (4:33), and the results are marvelous: "there was no needy person among them" (4:34). The reading gives us a glimpse of what happens when a Christian community is totally open to the presence of the Risen Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** We sing the same psalm today that we sang on Easter Sunday: "this is the day the Lord has made;/let us be glad and rejoice in it!" (118:24).

**SECOND READING:** Our Second Reading is from the first letter of St. John. The three letters attributed to John could hardly be more different from Paul's letters. They might be described as "love letters," for they are imbued with a sense of God's love for us in Jesus Christ. In the first few lines of today's reading, the word *love* appears five times. For John, everything starts with faith in Jesus Christ. If we believe in him, we are "begotten by God" (1 John 5:1); if we love God, we keep his commandments; and if we keep his commandments, we "conquer the world" (5:4) with Jesus Christ, for he came "through water and blood" (5:6). Again, contemplation of the Resurrection of the Lord leads us to the sacramental life of the Church, where the risen Lord is present and active among his people.

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

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

**Coffee and Conversation**

Everyone is invited downstairs to the Parish Center after the 9 or 10:30 a.m. Mass today, Sunday, April 19, for some good coffee and conversation. The Home and School Association will be our hosts. Pick up some Shop Rite cards while you're there!



**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, our contribution from last weekend is compared below to the amount we need this week to meet our budget. You may have noticed this amount will vary. This is because our budget varies by season, just as yours does.

**PALMSUNDAY'S COLLECTION:** \$24,166  
**AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK:** \$22,000

**SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Just a reminder to all parishioners that First Communion will be celebrated at all Masses next weekend and the following weekend. We ask that you keep our First Communicants in your prayers at this exciting time.

If you wish to send a greeting to your First Communion Prayer Partner there are boxes located at the entrances of the church.

**FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICES**

Every child making First Holy Communion **MUST** attend practice. All practices for children receiving First Communion are from 3:45-5:00PM in the church as scheduled below:



COMMUNION DATE & TIME	PRACTICE DATE
April 25 5:00 Mass	April 20
April 26 9:00 Mass	April 20
April 26 10:30 Mass	April 22
April 26 12:00 Mass	April 23
May 2 8:30 Mass	April 28
May 2 5:00 Mass	April 27
May 3 9:00 Mass	April 27
May 3 10:30 Mass	April 29
May 3 12:00 Mass	April 30

*\*\*All Banners due on the day of your child's practice\*\**

**St. Thomas the Apostle School  
2009 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!**

**APRIL**

6	\$75	Thomas Mesce
7	\$200	Dan Freeman
8	\$100	Grace & Denny Bella
9	\$100	Patricia Hopkins
10	\$75	Patrick Keating
11	\$50	Al DeMayo
12	\$1000	Dina McCabe
13	\$250	Michael J. Haven
14	\$50	Jane Re
15	\$100	Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Grosso
16	\$75	Cinzia O'Neill
17	\$250	George Daudelin
18	\$75	Cinzia O'Neill
19	\$50	Anthony R. Nole

*Session Dates for Baptism  
2009*

**CATECHESIS PREPARATION**

St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center

May 3	1:00 p.m.
June 14	1:00 p.m.
August 16	1:00 p.m.

**BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS**

May 17	1:30 p.m.
June 7	1:30 p.m.
July 5	1:30 p.m.
July 19	1:30 p.m.
August 9	1:30 p.m.
August 30	1:30 p.m.



**STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS**

**"THIS WEEK"**

**Monday – 4/20**

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

**Thursday – 4/23**

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

**Friday – 4/24**

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



*Alleluia!!!  
The Lord is Risen!*

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

4/19 SENIOR NIGHT I

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

4/26 SENIOR NIGHT II

5/3 SENIOR NIGHT III

THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE YOUTH GROUP IS ONCE AGAIN PROUD TO PRESENT TO YOU FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW...

An Evening of Praise and Worship

Pentecost Sunday

May 31st, 2009, at all Masses

and in concert at 7:00 p.m. in Church



JOHN ANGOTTI

Returns to St. Thomas the Apostle!

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

## Sixth Annual Faith and Family Conference



St. Thomas the Apostle will hold its sixth annual Faith and Family Conference on Saturday, May 2, in the Parish Center from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This year's theme is:

*The Mission of Marriage: Heaven on Earth.*

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Bill Donaghy. Bill has done missionary work in Haiti, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic, as well as parish and young adult ministry in the United States. He has a Masters in Systematic Theology and teaches at Malvern Prep in Philadelphia and is an adjunct professor at Immaculata University. For more information about Bill and his work go to his website [www.missionmoment.org](http://www.missionmoment.org).

*You are invited*

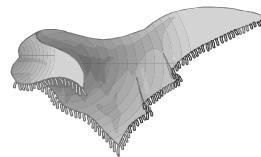
## Cornerstone Women Mark your Calendars!

An invitation goes out to all who have taken part in the Women's Cornerstone retreats in the past,

- Cornerstone I "Windows of Hope"
- Cornerstone II "Imagine"
- Cornerstone III "Journey Together"
- Cornerstone IV "Be Still and know that I am your God"

We are having a wine and cheese gathering Friday evening, May 15<sup>th</sup> in Herron Hall at St. Thomas the Apostle School. More information will follow.

## The Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our next meetings are scheduled for Wednesday evenings May 6<sup>th</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7 PM to 9 PM and Sunday afternoon, April 19<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup> and July 19<sup>th</sup> from 1PM. to 3 PM We wish to thank

all of our members who have continually supported us by prayerfully using their talent. Our project to make baby items suitable for children up to 2 years old is very successful. We now have some lovely laps and shawls. Keep them coming. If you wish to give someone a shawl, please contact the Ministry. All are welcome to work and pray with us. If you have any questions call Bernadette 973 893-0114, Sister Arleen 973-338-9190 or Alicia 973-473-6633.

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

## Women and Heart Disease

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for all women in NJ and our country. In fact, more women than men die of heart disease. The good news is that 80% of heart disease can be prevented if women know their risks and take steps to reduce these risks.

The Wellness Ministry and the St. Thomas Home and School Assoc. invite all women, but especially pre-menopausal women in their 30's, 40's and 50's to attend.

Women and Heart Disease presented by St. Joseph's Women's Heart Center April 23, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at STA School in Herron Hall



## Right to Life

For all who are tempted to sin against life, that they might turn from darkness and embrace the infinite love and light of God;

*We pray to the Lord*

## Did you know

### REGISTRATION FOR

### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 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.



## Moving?

**Please let us know.**

Within the parish –  
to update new address  
Out of parish –  
to discontinue mailings

Please call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.

## THE GIFT OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

**A Spiritual Director Helps You:**

- grow in intimacy with God
- when struggling with your faith, God, the Church
- express life's struggles, pains, joys, and gratitude to God
- notice God's response and desire to you deeper into God's heart
- face and work through decisions, transitions and challenges
- bring those secrets often held in our heart to healing
- through the pain of abortion issues, grieving, sadness, confusion
- Spiritual Direction can help another in finding other ways to pray when prayer has become difficult or dry.

**Spiritual Direction affirms God's unconditional love and acceptance of all people regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status.**

Call: Anna Graziano, cSD (973) 338-9538  
All calls and appointments confidential

## For the Earth

Creator God,

help us to harness the wind, the water, the sun, and all the ready and renewable sources of power.

Teach us to conserve, preserve, and use wisely the blessed treasures of our wealth-stored earth.

Help us to share Your bounty, not to waste it or pervert it into peril, for our children and our global neighbors.

You, who are life and energy and blessing, teach us to revere and respect Your tender world.

*By Thomas John Carlisle from The Fire of Peace Edited by Kownacki*

## Archdiocese of Newark Anniversary Masses

It is an annual tradition to honor the couples in the Archdiocese who are celebrating five, twenty-five, fifty or more years of marriage. These liturgies are celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

- May 31 50 Anniv. (Essex & Union Counties)
- June 7 50 Anniv. (Bergen & Hudson Counties)
- June 14 25<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries (All 4 Counties)

All Masses will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m.

**To register, call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190**

## DR. ROBERT MOE

### HOLY NAME MAN OF THE YEAR

**On Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, The Essex-West Hudson Federation of Holy Name Societies will honor Dr. Bob Moe as St. Thomas the Apostle's 2009 Man of the Year. This honor is very deserving in view of what Bob Moe has meant to our Parish Community and our Holy Name Society for all these many years. His contributions are so extensive and cannot be enumerated in this message without giving Dr. Moe his proper due.**

**Anyone interested in coming to the Mass at St. Valentine's at 7pm and the dinner immediately following at the Essex Manor, please contact Paul Alongi at 973-338-4665 or the Parish Center 973-338-9190. The cost of the dinner is \$35 per person. Please make all reservations before May 14, 2009. Make all checks out to St. Thomas.**

## Parish Ministry Chairpersons

Please submit room requests for next year's meetings, from September 1, 2009 through August 31st, 2010, to the parish center as soon as possible. Thank you.

### BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS

Bloomfield Nursing Division is offering the following. Appointments required, please call 973-680-4058.

#### **PAP SMEAR & MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING**

TUES., MAY 19, 9:00 A.M.-12 NOON  
FREE TO UNINSURED WOMEN AGE 40 AND OVER.

#### **BONE DENSITY SCREENING**

FOR WOMEN AND MEN  
TUESDAYS, APRIL 28, MAY 26, JUNE 30  
10:00 A.M. - 12 NOON  
BONE DENSITY - \$10 (\$8 FOR THOSE OVER AGE 55)

#### **SKIN CANCER SCREENING**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 12 NOON - 2:00 P.M.  
Free confidential skin cancer exam  
for those without a dermatologist.

#### **BODY FAT/ BODY MASS INDEX SCREENING**

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 10:00 A.M. - 12 NOON  
Learn your body fat percentage & BMI score  
NO CHARGE / NO REGISTRATION



Queen of Peace High School Theater Presents:



Fri, April 24  
Sat, April 25  
Fri, May 1  
Sat, May 2

Professional Orchestra and Costumes at  
Queen of Peace High School  
191 Rutherford Place, North Arlington, NJ

Tickets \$10 - Curtain 8:00 p.m.

For tickets, call 201-998-8227 x39

Order forms and playbill ad forms available at  
[www.qphs.org](http://www.qphs.org)

### Mount St. Dominic

#### **Spring Open House**

**Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

Open House for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls and their families. Call 973.226.0660 ext. 1122 with questions.

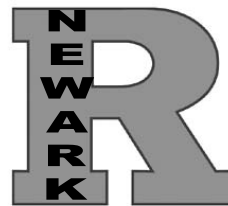
### **Bergen Catholic High School**

1040 Oradell Ave. - Oradell, NJ 07649

The following Summer Camp Programs will be held at Bergen Catholic High School in Oradell, NJ:

- The **Crusader Basketball School**: 3 sessions - July 6-10, July 13-17, and July 20-24. For boys ages 8-15. For information: BC Basketball Office 201-634-2204
- 2009 **Championship Football Camp**: 2 sessions - July 27-July 30, and Aug. 3-6. For boys grades 5-9. For information: BC Football Office 201-634-4127
- The **Central Bergen Lacrosse Camp**: 3 sessions - July 6-10, July 13-17, and July 20-24. For boys ages 8-15. For information: BC Lacrosse Office 201-634-4141.
- **Soccer's Edge**: 1 session - June 29-July 3. For boys entering Grades 6, 7, and 8. For information: please call 201-847-2500.
- **Wrestling**: Open Mats - Monday and Wednesday evenings 7-8:30 p.m., March 30 - July 29 Ages 8 and up. For information: dbell@bergencatholic.org

All camp applications are available at  
[www.bergencatholic.org](http://www.bergencatholic.org)



Rutgers University - Newark will be running its 8th annual **Summer Basketball Program** for children ages 7-17. The program is July 13-17, July 27-July 31, and August 3-7, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The cost for one week is only \$150. Discount rates if you attend two or three weeks. For more info or a brochure, call Joe Loughran at 973-353-1483.



From early times, the egg was for many people a symbol of re-birth. The exchange of eggs was a springtime custom in some cultures. The eggs that were given to others were sometimes wrapped in gold leaf or were colored by boiling them with leaves or flower petals.

Allegedly St. Augustine was the first Christian who associated the egg with Easter. He compared the egg with the virtue of hope because the egg, like hope, has not yet come to fruition.