St. Thomas the Apostle
Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Charles J. Miller, M. Div., Pastor
Rev. Thomas F. Blind, M. Div., In Residence
PERMANENT DEACONS:
Deacon Albert H. Tizzano • Deacon Dennis J. Besida • Deacon Thomas J. Coyle

EUCARISTIC 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 & 7:30pm
Holidays: 8:30am Only

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

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:
Eileen Conte, Chairperson
Jean Barbetta, Vice Chairperson
Mark Pasquale, Secretary
Finance Chairmen:
Peter Maulbeck, Finance Council
Patrick DeCotiis, Finance Committee

August 2, 2009 . 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Masses for the Week

**Sunday, August 2**
Saturday, August 1
5:00 pm Thomas, James, & John Muir - Sister

Sunday, August 2
7:30 am For the People of the Parish
9:00 am Tess Ruffino - Friend
10:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Armas Niemi - Family
12:00 pm Bridget Ryan - Friend

Monday, August 3
7:30 am Gail K. Pilsbury - Husband

Tuesday, August 4
7:30 am George McGarry - Bequest
11:30 am Scott Family - Family

Wednesday, August 5
7:30 am Joseph Michalek - Wife
11:30 am Vito Michael Capio - Family

Thursday, August 6
7:30 am Michael Dobransky - Family
11:30 am Thomas J. McGarry - Bequest

Friday, August 7
7:30 am Marie Forcier (1st Anniversary) - Friend
11:30 am Jennie Ciampi - Family

Saturday, August 8
8:30 am Stephen Fritz - Cousins-in-law

**Sunday, August 9**
Saturday, August 8
5:00 pm Ricky Rosetti - Friend

Sunday, August 9
7:30 am Bernardino Lepore - Friend
9:00 am For the People of the Parish
10:30 am Deceased members of the Vincent Connolly Family - Friend
12:00 pm Vincent A. Scaringello - Friend

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**
Cosmo Bocchini, Barbara Palek,
Frank Korec, Paul Strickland, Franco & Fasone Families

**REST IN PEACE:**
Ralph Smorra, Helen Mooney

**CANDLE INTENTIONS:**
Church: James Moran

Visit our website at:
www.stachurchbloomfield.com

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the church of St. Etienne du Mont in Paris, there is a stained glass window depicting today’s First Reading. Moses and Aaron stand in prayer while God rains down manna, which looks like little round hosts scattered over the ground, and which the Israelites-men, women, and children-gather into containers that look a lot like modern-day ciboria. The window reflects a traditional interpretation of the manna as a prefiguring of the Eucharist, an interpretation reflected in the liturgy today.

**FIRST READING:** The Israelites are grumbling. It has been just 15 days since they left Egypt, but already they are beginning to idealize the old times of slavery and oppression: “we sat by our fleshspots and ate our fill of bread” (Exodus 16:3). God is faithful to his promise, though, and provides for their needs in order to draw them closer to himself. When they wake in the morning, they find the desert covered with something like frost, something they have never seen before. This is the bread God gives to his people: a totally new kind of food.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 78** exclaims in wonder over this heavenly food, “the bread of angels” (78:24), which would nourish God’s people until they reached the Promised Land.

**THE SECOND READING** reminds us that in Christ, something new has taken place; those who belong to Christ must also be renewed in every aspect of their lives, putting sin behind them, and letting go of old ways of thinking. In the Gospel, too, Jesus’ listeners must stretch their thinking and see things in startling new ways.

**GOSPEL:** Both Jesus and those who question him refer to this story of the manna from heaven-the crown had witnessed his feeding of the five thousand and tried to make him king. Some of the same people now follow Jesus and his disciples to Capernaum. Surprisingly enough, these witnesses of one of Jesus’ greatest miracles ask him to work some sign, so that they can believe that he is sent by God. In the old times, they tell him, Moses gave their ancestors bread from heaven; what can Jesus give them? Jesus replies that God has a new kind of bread to offer them, a true bread. It will not fill their stomachs, but it “gives life to the world” (John 6:33). When the people ask for some of this bread, Jesus responds, “I am the bread of life” (6:35). When Jesus says, “I am,” we recall that Yahweh, the name of God, also means “I am.” This time, God does not give manna, God gives himself. Jesus will become food and drink for his people in the Eucharist.
Travel to “The Treasures of France!”

11 Exciting and Fun-Filled Days
October 26 to November 5, 2009

INCLUDES

• Round Trip Bus Transportation
• Round Trip Scheduled Airline Flights
• First Class Hotel Accommodations
• Porterage & Baggage Handling at Hotels
• Breakfast Daily
• Dinners as Indicated in the Full Itinerary
• Professional Drivers / Guides
• Orientation before Departure

$2479 per/dbl. occ.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Paris City Tour
• Notre Dame - Arc de Triomphe - Eiffel Tower - Montmartre Artists - Sacré Coeur - River Boat Cruise on the Seine - Optional Tour of Palace of Versailles
• Shrine of the Cure of Ars - Lyon the Gastronomical Capital of France - Lourdes - the Grotto of Massabielle
Visit Avignon - The Palace of the Popes
See Provence - Beaux-de-Provence
Optional Tour of Coast of Normandy
• Beaune - Capital of the Burgundy Wine Region
Aries - Walk in Vincent Van Gogh’s Footsteps

For Details & Color Brochure
Call: St. Thomas Church
973-338-9190
SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

Session Dates for Baptism 2009

CATECHESIS PREPARATION
St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center
August 16   10:30 a.m.
October 25   1:00 p.m.
December 6   1:00 p.m.

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS
August 9   1:30 p.m.
August 30   1:30 p.m.
September 19   during 5:00 p.m. Mass
September 20   1:30 p.m.
October 11   1:30 p.m.
November 1   1:30 p.m.

Religious Education News
Important reminder for parents of children going into first grade...our sacramental program is a two year program which means that children must attend religious education in the first grade if they wish to receive the sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion in second grade. Please call the Religious Education Office at 338-7400 to get a registration package.

CCD classes begin the week of September 21st. Grades 5-8 meet on Mondays at 3:40 p.m. and grades 1-4 meet on Tuesdays at 3:40 p.m.

We are currently in need of first grade teachers. Please consider sharing your faith with a child, it will be an experience you will never forget. If interested call the Religious Education Office at 973-338-7400.

All CCD teachers mark your calendars for our Fall Teachers’ Meeting on September 15th at 7:00 p.m. in Herron Hall. Books and other important information will be distributed at that time.

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.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION: $17,837
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: $22,000

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Want to skip writing checks to St. Thomas each week? Sign up for our electronic giving program. Once a month your gift to the parish is automatically charged to your designated credit or debit card. It’s convenient and totally secure. Call the parish center for more info.

Going Fishing
Monday, August 31, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.
On the Mi – Jo II    Atlantic Highlands, NJ

Cost: $50 per person - includes bait, rod and reel
Send your check payable to St. Thomas the Apostle with your name and phone number and drop off at Parish Center.

Get your deposit in now as space is limited
For further info, call Parish Center 973-338-9190, Frank Diveny 973-748-0519 or Jim McKittrick 973-338-3145.

“THIS WEEK”

Monday – 8/3
September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

Thursday – 7/23
SCC Friday – 6:30pm in St. Peter
SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew
Prayer Shawl Meeting – 7:00pm in St. Thomas
Bereavement Session
SUNDAY, August 2, 2009
at 10:30 a.m. in the St. Thomas Room
in the parish center
THEME: VOICES OF GRIEF
VOICES OF HEALING
Please call Sister Arleen with any questions
at 973-338-9190

Right to Life
For all who promote the culture of death:
That through Jesus Christ the law of the
spirit of life may set them free from sin
and death;
We pray to the Lord

MORNING OF REFLECTION
For Women of Wisdom of our Parish
THEME: A Listening Heart
WHEN: Saturday, October 24, 2009
WHERE: St. Thomas Parish Center
TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lunch is included
Suggested Donation: $6.00
Please call Sister Arleen with any questions at
973.338.9190 ext. 34

HOLY NAME SOCIETY ANNUAL RETREAT
THE MEN’S RETREAT AT SAN ALFONSO RETREAT HOUSE,
WHERE GOD AND SEA COME TOGETHER, IS SET FOR
SEPTEMBER 25-27.

SINCE THE CHURCH IS CELEBRATING THE 2000TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE,
THE THEME FOR THE 2009 RETREAT IS THE LIFE,
MINISTRY AND LETTERS OF ST. PAUL.
ANYONE INTERESTED IN SPENDING THIS MOST
ENJOYABLE AND SPIRITUALLY SIGNIFICANT WEEKEND AT
THE NEW JERSEY SHORE SHOULD CONTACT FRANK
HELMSTETTER AT 973-339-5872.

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.

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~
The September Club is planning a trip to Villa Roma,
Why not join us for some fun.
If interested, please call for particulars.
V. Jean Molinaro, 973-777-2278.

The September Club is planning a bus trip to the Sands
Casino in Bethlehem, PA for August 19, 2009. Cost is
$19 per person.
Please call Jean for details at 973.777.2278

KEEP CHRIST IN YOUR VACATION
During the summer months, let us re-
member to keep the Lord in our lives. The
opportunity to witness His message
through Scripture and to be strengthened
by the Eucharist is a necessity in our rela-
tionship with God and with each other.
As you travel on vacation, take time to visit and worship
the Lord in a nearby Church. For those remaining at home
in your Parish, and to all visitors, the invitation for
continued worship at St. Thomas’s is extended and will
certainly serve to enrich your summer. For Nationwide
Mass Times & Locations, call 1-410-676-6000.
Ministry of Spiritual Direction

Can’t get away for Retreat?
Consider an...

At Home Summer Retreat

Monday, August 24 - Thursday, August 27

Many people cannot get away for a weekend for a variety of reasons yet desire to experience a weekend Retreat. This “At Home Retreat” provides you with being guided in the same manner as being away at a retreat house. Each day you will meet privately with your spiritual director, be given specific prayer exercises and “surprises” from our Generous God.

For information call: Anna Graziano-973-338-9538

Adult Ed Events

Join Damon Owens on Sunday, September 20th, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., for full-day training in the Theology of the Body for Teens curriculum. Learn how this new program based on the teachings of John Paul II can provide your teens with the knowledge and understanding they desire concerning the meaning and purpose of human sexuality. This training is intended for Parents, High School teachers, DRE’s, Clergy, Catechists, Youth Ministers, and anyone who works with teens or wants to learn more. The meeting will be held in the St. Peter’s room in the Parish Center at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Bloomfield. For more information contact Liliana Soto-Cabrera at 973.497.4353. Cost includes lunch and leaders guide.

Cost/Registration:
Before September 4th $45
After September 4th $55
Outside the Archdiocese $55

Men’s Day

A Men’s Conference titled Jesus the Man: The Call, The Crisis, and the Challenge of Living as Jesus Today will be held on Saturday, October 10th from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle. Presenters include Allan Wright who will speak on Living our Vocation as Priest, Prophet, and King and Robert Miller who will speak on The Image of Christ’s Manhood. Cost is $15 per person. For more information call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.

Prayer for The Year for Priests

O Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests; for Your unfaithful and tepid priests; for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Your tempted priests; for Your lonely and desolate priests; for Your young priests; for Your dying priests; for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to You the priests dearest to me; the priest who baptized me; the priest who absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way. O Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.

Amen.

St. John Vianney, pray for us; obtain for us many and holy priests.

HELP US LAUNCH GABRIEL 2

Calling all High School Musicians

We are giving a new sound and voice to our Youth Music Ministry! Gabriel 2 has begun rehearsing - two guitarists and about 6 singers. We also have percussion. But we need YOUR voice and/OR YOUR instrument [proficiency required but you know that!] to help make a joyful [and rockin’] noise to the Lord! Please try us out at our next rehearsal. You will be welcomed!

► REHEARSAL: THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH ◄
7:00 p.m. in the Music Room - Parish Center.

If you plan to attend rehearsal, please email Mr. Dennin at tdennin@att.net or call the music office at 973-338-9190 x-42, and leave a message for Nancy. Walk-ins are okay but not preferred! We need to prepare books for everyone who plans to join. No commitment required [yet].

We will be leading the singing for the first time as a new ensemble at 12:00 noon Mass on SUNDAY, AUGUST 16! Please mark your calendars. Plan to attend Mass even if you are not interested in participating in the ensemble/choir!