

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

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Philip A. Sanders, S.T.B. • Rev. Andrew N. Onyemaobi, M.Div., M.A.
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 & 7:30pm

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:
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
Michael Pasquale, 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

February 28, 2010 . 2nd Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Week

Sunday, February 28

Saturday, February 27

5:00 pm Joseph & Florence Kane (Anniv.) – Family

Sunday, February 28

7:30 am Mary Shelesky – Daughter

9:00 am Anthony Meola, Jr. – Family

10:30 am Thomas Bennett – Friend

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Monday, March 1

7:30 am Nikolas Karsos – Friends

11:30 am Louis & Lucy De Falco – Bequest

Tuesday, March 2

7:30 am Thomas P. Mahon, Jr. – Mother

11:30 am The Brady Family – Family

Wednesday, March 3

7:30 am Joseph Foti – Friends

11:30 am Susan Ferris – Aunt

Thursday, March 4

7:30 am Vincent & Ginnie Ricigliano – Sister

11:30 am Joseph Pietrowski – Daughter

Friday, March 5

7:30 am Helen Reed – Husband

11:30 am Louis & Lucy De Falco – Bequest

Saturday, March 6

8:30 am Catherine King – Son

Sunday, March 7

Saturday, March 6

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, March 7

7:30 am Douglas Myers – Family

9:00 am Anna & Carlo Granata – Children

10:30 am Cathy Russo – Niece

12:00 pm Ozzie R. Siconolfi – Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Mark Catona, Ryan Joseph, Joanne & Jim Cox,

REST IN PEACE:

Adrienne Wardell, Nicholas J. Pieroni, Vincent S. Doherty,
Anita Kay, Barbara Schwab, John Joseph Flannery

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Robert Lutz

Convent: Geraldine Halpin

Second Sunday of Lent

The appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.



The account of the Transfiguration of the Lord is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent, giving us a glimpse into the glorious destiny that awaits the faithful followers of Christ. The custom of reading today's Gospel near the beginning of Lent may come from an ancient tradition that held that the Transfiguration took place 40 days before Good Friday.

Moses and Elijah, who appear at the side of Jesus, also prepared for their life's work with a 40-day fast and a 40-day sojourn.

FIRST READING: The book of Genesis relates Abram's experience of God's covenanting and faithful love. In response to Abram's request for a sign from the Lord that God's promise would be fulfilled, Abram prepared a sacrifice; and as Abram waited in a terrifying darkness, God provided the fire that sealed Abram's sacrifice. In God's covenanting with his people, he provides what we cannot, the fire of love that consumes our hearts, uniting us with the Lord forever.

RESPONSORIAL: In Psalm 27 the Church acclaim her trust in God's responsive love to her call for light and salvation. Like Abram, we are called to set aside any fear and to trust completely in God's providential care for us.

SECOND READING: Paul exhorts the Philippians to imitate his example of focusing attention on the things of heaven, not earthly desires. The glorified Christ will make our bodies like his own, for all things are subject to him. The true fulfillment of every human longing is to be found in our citizenship in heaven.

GOSPEL: In Luke's presentation of the transfiguration, Moses and Elijah converse with Jesus, concerning the exodus that he is about to accomplish in Jerusalem, and a voice from heaven declares Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The cross, a symbol of sin, defect, suffering, and death, will be transformed into a symbol of holiness, victory, exaltation, and life, for by it the beloved Son leads us out of death into life. As we walk the way of the cross, may the Holy Spirit sustain us in an awareness of this truth.

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

Lent 2010 at Saint Thomas the Apostle

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening throughout Lent up until Good Friday when the St. Thomas Senior High Youth Group will present the **Living Stations of the Cross.** (see below)



Community Penance Service

Monday, March 22 at 7:30 PM
Sacred Heart Church, Bloomfield
The Catholic Parishes of Bloomfield (Sacred Heart, St. Valentine's, and St. Thomas the Apostle) will have a Communal Penance Service with individual confessions.



Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 27
Mass at 5PM
Solemn Blessing of Palms and Procession
Sunday, March 28
Masses at 7:30, 9, 10:30, & 12 Noon.
(Palms will be distributed at all Masses.)



Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Masses at 7:30 and 11:30 AM

Sacred Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 1

7:30 PM **Mass of the Lord's Supper**
Followed by Bread and Wine Fellowship in the Parish Center
11 PM **Night Prayer**



Good Friday, April 2

The Church will be open from 8 AM to 9 PM
8:30 AM **Morning Prayer**
3:00 PM **Celebration of the Lord's Passion**
7:30 PM Living Stations of the Cross Presented by the STA Youth Group



Holy Saturday, April 3

8:30 AM **Morning Prayer**
8:15 PM **The Great Easter Vigil**

Easter Sunday, April 4

Masses at 7:30, 9, 10:30, and 12 Noon.



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK 2010 LENTEN REGULATIONS

- The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between ages 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those age 14 and over are obliged by the law of abstinence.
- The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
- The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
- The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2010 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, May 30, 2010.**

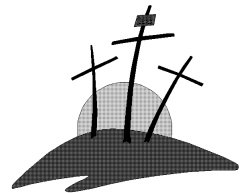
*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.

LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS

Women's and Men's

Lenten Reflection Groups

will be held all Tuesdays during Lent. Both groups will read, pray, and reflect on the following Sunday's Readings.



~ **Men will meet Tuesdays from 6am to 7am.**

Contact: Frank Mescall (973) 893-8186

~ **Women will meet Tuesdays 12:45pm to 2pm**

Contact: Sister Arleen (973) 338-9190

Journey Through Lent Series

7:30pm – 9:30pm March 3, 10, 17, 24
in the parish center

Guest Speakers Include: Fr. Tom Blind, Fr Andrew Onyemaobi, Deacon Tom Coyle, Fr. Gerald McIntyre, SJ of Loyola House of Retreats, Fr. Gerald Greaves of St Raphael Parish, and Fr. Al Berner from Caldwell College

To Register: Anna (973) 338-9190

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS MARCH 9, 2010

Please call the School Office at 973-338-8505 to schedule a tour

- Pre K3 through 7th grades
- Middle States Accredited
- Full-Day or Half-Day Pre K 3 & 4
- Full-Day or Half-Day Kindergarten
- BeforeCare & AfterCare programs
- Advanced Technology
- Jr. High Science / Synergistics Program
- Physical Education for all grades
- Spanish & Italian Classes
- Art & Music Classes
- Wide Variety of Extra-Curricular Activities

**St. Thomas the Apostle School
2010 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!**

FEB		
22	\$75	Andrew A. Santangelo
23	\$50	Maria & John DiMilia
24	\$150	E. Guy Kooman
25	\$200	T. Hannigan (Donating 50% to STA)
26	\$50	Marylou Dowse
27	\$75	Anthony Carroll
28	\$50	Frank & Roseann Helmstetter

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!!!

**Confirmation Classes Begin
March 13th and 14th, 2010!!!**

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

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.

**LEARNING TO LIVE
WITH YOUR LOSS
We will gather
T-O-D-A-Y**

Sunday, Feb 28, 2010 – 1:00-2:15 p.m.
in the Parish Center

Our theme will be:
The Choice Is the Difference

Questions? Please call Sister Arleen at 973-338-9190

Saint Thomas the Apostle Rosary Confraternity's



ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS DINNER

catered by
Argyle Restaurant

Friday, March 5th, 2010

5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Herron Hall

Adults: \$12 Children*: \$7

*Chicken available for children only

- Dessert & Beverage Included
- Bring your own beer or wine
- Eat In or Take Out (indicate on reservation form)

**RESERVATIONS DUE TUESDAY, March 2nd
PLEASE NO WALK-INS**

Baked goods are needed for the dessert table. Please drop off baked items in Herron Hall on Friday, March 5th after 2pm.

Please contact Mary Ellen DeCotiis 973-893-9625 or Bernadette Lipoma 973-893-0114 with questions.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

(check only one): _____ EAT-IN _____ TAKE-OUT

OF ADULT DINNERS ____ @ \$12

OF CHILD DINNERS (FISH) ____ @ \$7

OF CHILD DINNERS (CHICKEN) ____ @ \$7

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please Seat me with: _____

Make checks payable to: STA Rosary Confraternity

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 3/1

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

Friday – 3/5

Tax Preparations – 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter Stations of the Cross

JOB SEEKERS GROUP

Looking for a job? Come to a meeting of the St. Thomas the Apostle Job Seekers on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center where you will get a chance to network, get some advice, and pray with other members of the parish who are searching for a job. If you're not looking for work, but are looking for a good worker, come to one of our meetings and you'll meet plenty of them! For information, send an email to: workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FREE FEDERAL AND NJ STATE INCOME TAX PREPARATION FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED MEMBERS OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SERVICE, YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED MEMBER OF ST. THOMAS, AT LEAST 62 YEARS OF AGE OR DISABLED, NOT ACTIVELY EMPLOYED AND REQUIRE NO MORE FORMS AND SCHEDULES THAN THOSE LISTED BELOW.

INCOME TAX RETURNS WILL BE PREPARED BY EXPERIENCED TAX PREPARERS WHO ARE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY, VOLUNTEERING THEIR TIME AND TALENT IN THE SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP.

INCOME TAX RETURNS WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING FORMS AND SCHEDULES:

- FEDERAL FORMS 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ
- FEDERAL SCHEDULES A, B, D, E (RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ONLY), AND R.
- NJ STATE FORMS 1040NJ AND 1040NJHR
- NJ SCHEDULES B, C, AND HR-A

THE TAX PREPARATION PROCESS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL OR MARRIED COUPLE WILL INCLUDE AN INTERVIEW, REVIEW OF YOUR 2008 TAX RETURN AND TURNOVER OF YOUR TAX DOCUMENTS (1099's). COMPLETED RETURNS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN ABOUT ONE WEEK.

TAX PREPARERS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER EVERY FRIDAY FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND.

IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT. COME IN TO THE PARISH CENTER TO GET YOUR TAXES DONE OR TO SPEAK TO A TAX PREPARER.

18th Annual Holy Name Society's



Saturday, March 6, 2010,
7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

St. Thomas the Apostle School
Herron Hall

FEATURING

Jimmy Byrne



*Traditional Irish Music,
Irish Step Dancing, Bag Piper,
Sing-Along and Raffle*

• Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner •
Irish Soda Bread • Beer • Wine • Soda
"BYOB"

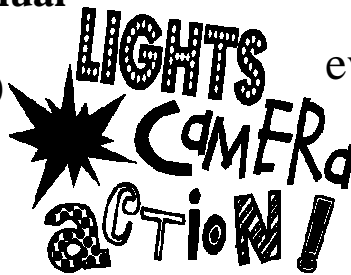
Tickets: \$25.00 Per Person
(Not available at door)

Deadline: February 27, 2010

For information, call Frank Helmstetter 973-338-5872
or Rich Bevere at 973-338-6444

**You're Invited to the 33rd Annual
STA Tricky Tray!
Thursday, March 18, 2010**

All proceeds to support the children of
St. Thomas the Apostle School.



Join us for an
evening of fun and prizes!

THE BETHWOOD, TOTOWA, NJ
Doors open at 6:30 pm

Dinner includes salad, chicken française, dessert and coffee/tea (**cash bar**). Each ticket is \$35 per person. This event is open to adults only. Please indicate below how many tickets you would like. If you would like to sit with certain people, indicate who and we will take this into consideration when making the final seating arrangements. **Admission tickets will not be sold at the door!** Your tickets will be mailed to your home.

I would like # _____ admission tickets @ \$35 each for a total cost of \$ _____ (check included payable to STA Home and School Association)

I prefer to sit with: _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

**** Return this form to St. Thomas the Apostle School by dropping off or mailing to 50 Byrd Avenue in Bloomfield attention Tricky Tray reservations. Any questions or for more information please call our tricky tray chair Shana Polak at 974-771-1760. ****

Women's Cornerstone March 19 & 20, 2010

"You search me... and you know me"

Psalm 139

Women's Cornerstone Retreat is coming next month!

All women of the parish are invited to enter the silence, be touched by quiet stillness, and become aware of God's presence in ordinary moments.

If you have any questions, please contact one of our team members:

Sr. Arleen Crimmins	973-338-9190
Joyce Cupoli	973-785-1840
Susanne Harnett	973-338-6371
Marty Levine	973-566-0416

We need all women who are seriously thinking about participating this year's Women's Cornerstone Retreat, March 19th & 20th to say "YES!" and sign up today!

 **Registration Form** 

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

NAME ON YOUR BADGE: _____

ANY DIET RESTRICTIONS OR ALLERGIES?

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary

Alliance of the Two Hearts

Communion of Reparation Vigil

First Friday – First Saturday

March 5-6, 2010 (8:30 p.m. – 3:30 a.m.)



Lent is a time of penance throughout the universal church. At this holiest season of the church year, let us truly prepare ourselves.



Come, let us adore the Great Healer, our Lord, Jesus Christ and give honor to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Vigil begins at 8:30 p.m. with the Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Mass for the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be at 3:30 a.m..

Join us as we intercede for our world, our parish, our families, friends and one another. Come to whatever part you can. There will be a break during the evening for refreshments in the Parish Center. For further information, please contact the St. Thomas the Apostle Friday Prayer Group at 973-338-1821 or 973-202-8431

***** Men's Cornerstone Retreat *****

(March 12th ~ March 13th)

All Saint Thomas Men are Invited

Our Men's Cornerstone 5th annual retreat will be on March 12th & 13th here in our parish. Please don't miss this life changing experience. Brochures are at all the doors of the parish. Please take one and sign-up ASAP!

Meetings

- **Thu., March 4** - AGAPE
- **Mon., March 8** - Organizational Meeting

If you have any questions please contact our Cornerstone Welcoming Team:

John Barbetta (973) 338-5086 jbarbetta2@verizon.net
 Pat DeCotiis (973) 896-5739 pdecotiis@att.com
 Dan Leon (862) 596-3589 dleon@oritani.com

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- 2/28 STATIONS PRACTICE 4:30 P.M.
 3/7 REGULAR MEETING
 3/13 CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN
 FOR MORE INFO CONTACT TIM DENNIN AT tdennin@att.net



Rosary Society Meeting

The praying of the Rosary will take place on Monday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m. in Church with our meeting immediately after. Please join us at this time. Any questions, please call Rosalie Mescall at 973-893-8186.

Pornography Kills the Family, Soul, and Nation

There are many internet pornography filters on the market, but these are not without their problems. Some filters fail to block all pornographic and other inappropriate sites, while sometimes blocking innocent material. However, there is a product on the market, called CovenantEyes, that is more than a filter. It holds one accountable to another person for every web page visited. While we can not officially endorse a particular product, we do know this to be helpful and a step beyond ordinary filters. As we become familiar with other products like this we will keep you informed. In the meantime, you can find information on CovenantEyes at each entrance to the church.

As Catholics we can see the terrible irony that porn glorifies the body to the point that it destroys the dignity of the person. Once our sexuality is separated from who we are as God's children, as persons created in His image and likeness, then we become less like our heavenly Father, and distort our image of ourselves and those around us.