

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

March 21, 2010 . 5th Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Week

Sunday, March 21

Saturday, March 20

5:00 pm Veronica Kievit – Husband

Sunday, March 21

7:30 am Paul W. McDonald – Family

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:30 am John Janiec – Friends

12:00 pm John M. Janiec (1st Anniv.) – Friend

Monday, March 22

7:30 am Sr. Joan Amelia Ferrugiarro, S.S.J. – Friend

11:30 am John Janiec – Friends

Tuesday, March 23

7:30 am Deceased Members of Klenk Family - Bequest

11:30 am Frank McLaughlin – Family

Wednesday, March 24

7:30 am John M. Janiec (Anniversary) – Wife & Son

11:30 am Joseph Belcaro – Friends

Thursday, March 25

7:30 am Mrs. Roberta Smigelsky – Friend

11:30 am Deceased Members of McIntyre Family – Bequest

Friday, March 26

7:30 am Thomas, Lena & Catherine Caputo - Daughters

11:30 am Susan Ferris – Friend

Saturday, March 27

8:30 am Helen McGarry – Bequest

Sunday, March 28

Saturday, March 27

5:00 pm Lena Grillo – Daughter & Son-in-Law

Sunday, March 28

7:30 am Ernest & Philomena Cordasco & Joseph Bianchi – Family

9:00 am Joseph Foti – Friends

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Deceased Members of the Guerra & Calzon Families – Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Dorothy Sacarro, Esmie Atkinson

REST IN PEACE:

Stefanie Castellano, Albert Rodriguez, Anne Peters

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: James McArthur

Rectory: Dr. Alex Goldman

GOSPEL – JOHN 8:1-11 – but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple; all the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such. What do you say about her?" This they said to test him that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "**Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.**" And once more he bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the eldest, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus looked up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again."

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

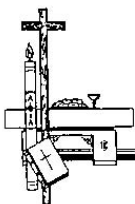
The main source of operating funds for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is our weekly offertory contribution. To assist us in being good stewards of God's gift of treasure, our contribution from last weekend is compared below to the amount we need this week to meet our budget.



MARCH 14TH COLLECTION: \$15,133
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: \$20,500

2011 MASS BOOK OPENING
Tuesday, March 23rd 9am-1pm in the parish Center.

Masses from January through December of 2011 will be scheduled. We will be taking intentions for 7:30 and 11:30 a.m. daily and weekend Masses. We ask that you please limit the number of Masses you reserve. For this reason we are limiting Mass reservations on opening day to a maximum of two weekend Masses or four weekday Masses. For example, one can reserve four weekday Masses *or* two weekday and two weekend Masses. Perhaps a birthday or anniversary might be an initial date – thus giving all Parishioners the opportunity to reserve the dates and times they may wish. Another way to remember your deceased loved ones would be to make donations to our Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund allows us to purchase needed Vestments, Altar Linens, Vessels, etc. to be used at the celebration of Mass. Also available are Sanctuary Offerings which include the Sanctuary Candles in Church, the Rectory and the Convent. They burn weekly in memory of your loved ones as well as for special intentions: birthdays, anniversaries, improved health, etc. Cards are available announcing your donation to both the Memorial Fund and the Sanctuary Candles.



Visit our website at:
www.stachurchbloomfield.com

Lent 2010 at St. Thomas the Apostle

Stations of the Cross

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



Communal 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 & Procession
Sunday, March 28 Masses at 7:30, 9:00,
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.

Journey Through Lent Series

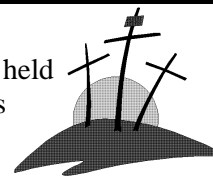
7:30pm – 9:30pm March 24 in the parish center
Guest Speaker: Fr. Al Berner from Caldwell College
To Register: Anna (973) 338-9190

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.**

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

GET THE TRUE MEANING OF LENT.

FEEL WHAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN LIKE TO WITNESS AND EXPERIENCE CHRIST'S LIFE EXTINGUISHED BEFORE YOU.

Tenebrae service will be celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Church on Tuesday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m.

What is a Tenebrae Service?

The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows and dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. There are candles lit and a Christ Candle. As we pray, our voices rise to God like incense and the candles are extinguished one at a time until all that is left is the Christ Candle. The Christ Candle is then hidden for a time, thought not extinguished, to signify that death could not really obtain dominion over Christ even though it appeared to do so. The congregation is left in near total darkness—and near total devastation. At this point, the service ends. There is no benediction and the people leave in silence. (The lights are turned up but remain dim so that people can see their way out.)

The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. Everyone exits in silence. **All are welcome.**

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

St. Thomas the Apostle School 2010 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!

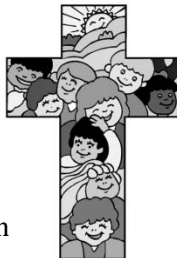
MARCH

| | | |
|----|-------|-----------------|
| 15 | \$50 | Diane Dorsey |
| 16 | \$75 | Maria Hughes |
| 17 | \$500 | Kara Hofsaes |
| 18 | \$75 | Liz Cunningham |
| 19 | \$50 | Gloria Zahorian |
| 20 | \$75 | Renee Miscione |
| 21 | \$100 | Karen Vogt |

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!!!

Religious Education News

As you walk in each of the entrances of the church you will notice colorful sheep which were made by the First Communicants on their retreat day. We ask that when you see these sheep you remember our First Communicants in your prayers. They have been working diligently to prepare for their big day and it will soon be here. The children, in turn, pray for each of us that we may remember how blessed we are to be able to receive Jesus each week. Thank you.



IMPORTANT REMINDER:

There is NO CCD the week of April 4th (Easter Week.)
Classes will resume the week of April 11th.
Happy Easter to all!

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 3/22

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

Wednesday – 3/24

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 3/26

Tax Preparations – 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter
SCC Friday – 6:30pm in St. Peter
Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm in Church

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.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING – THIS SUNDAY

Blood pressure screenings will be held this Sunday, March 21st, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

STA Respect Life and Good Counsel Homes



The Church proposes prayer, fasting and almsgiving as the three means of perfecting our Christian Charity. In that Lenten spirit, the St. Thomas Respect Life Committee is sponsoring an opportunity to help unwed mothers and their children through the auspices of Good Counsel. Good Counsel operates Catholic pro-life homes for unwed mothers and children as well as a national toll-free crisis pregnancy hotline at 800-723-8331. After all Masses this weekend, we will have Good Counsel Baby Bottles for you to take home, if you would like to participate, fill it with your pocket change during the next month. The bottles will be collected the weekend of April 18. Thank you for saying YES to life!

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.

WELLNESS MINISTRY OFFERS CENSUS HELP

THE WELLNESS MINISTRY IS OFFERING HELP, TO THOSE WHO NEED IT, FILLING OUT CENSUS FORMS. SIMPLY CALL 973-338-9190 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE AT EXT. 20, AND SOMEONE WILL CONTACT YOU.

JOIN THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH IN CELEBRATION OF 150 YEARS AT APRIL GALA

THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM AT THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY GALA ON APRIL 17, 2010 AT THE HANOVER MARRIOTT, WHIPPANY, NJ.

THE EVENT BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M. TICKETS ARE \$350.⁰⁰ EACH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 973-290-5454 OR VISIT WWW.SCNJ.ORG.

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~

Upcoming 2010 Day Trips

FOR INFORMATION: CALL JEAN AT 973-777-2278

STATUE OF LIBERTY & ELLIS ISLAND

June 24, 2010

INCLUDES:

- ROUNDTRIP MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
- ADMISSION TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY
- LUNCHEON SPECIAL INCLUDING: SOUP OR SALAD, RICE OR CHOCOLATE PUDDING, POTATO AND VEGETABLE WITH ENTRÉE.



PRICE

MEMBERS: \$43.00 --- NONMEMBERS: \$45.00

SIGHT & SOUND THEATERS

IN LANCASTER, PA - MAY 5, 2010

The Psalms of David

INCLUDES:

- ROUNDTRIP MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET
- ADMISSION TO THE SHOW

PRICE

MEMBERS: \$80.00 --- NONMEMBERS: 82.00

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

S.T.A. HISTORY



March 26, 1960: Marks the anniversary of the Cornerstone laying and the formal dedication and opening of the "New" Church.

March 31, 1940: Dedication of "Original" St. Thomas the Apostle Church by Archbishop Walsh.

Wellness Tips

Physical inactivity is one of several major risk factors for heart disease that you can control. Other major risk factors:

- **Smoking.** People who smoke are six times more likely to have a heart attack than nonsmokers.
- **High blood pressure increases your risk of heart disease, stroke, and other conditions.** It can be controlled by getting regular physical activity, losing excess weight, cutting down on alcohol, and using less salt. Some people will need medication.
- **Overweight.** If you are overweight or obese, you're more likely to develop heart disease, even if you have no other risk factors. Just losing 5-10 % of your current weight will help to lower your risk of heart disease.
- **High cholesterol** can lead to a build up of plaque in your arteries, increasing your risk for heart disease. Regular exercise, managing your weight and reducing saturated and trans fats in your diet can lower your levels.
- **Type 2 diabetes** greatly increases your risk for heart disease. Ask your health care provider whether you should be tested for diabetes.

National Institutes of Health

St. Lucy's Church

118 7th Ave., Newark, NJ

National Shrine of St. Gerard

All are invited to participate in the First Annual Mass in Celebration of St. Gerard's Birthday, April 11, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. at St. Lucy's Church, Newark, NJ.

Procession around the Plaza, rosary, and benediction immediately following mass.
Coffee and pastry to follow.

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church
Adult Enrichment**

Presents



Understanding the
Lord's Prayer
and
Hail Mary

Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center

**Cost: \$10.00 suggested donation
(payable at the door)**

Registration: Call 973.338.9190 x29 by April 19.

Speaker: Dr. Gregory Glazov is a professor of Biblical Studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology and coordinator of the Great Spiritual Books certificate program for the Institute for Christian Spirituality. Dr. Glazov is a graduate of Oxford University and the author of "The 'Bridling of the Tongue' and the 'Opening of the Mouth' in Biblical Prophecy." He is also the author of numerous articles and book reviews.



LACORDAIRE ACADEMY

**It's that time again!
Donate Used Books
for a Great Cause –
Educating Young People!**

Lacordaire Academy is accepting donations of gently-used hard-cover, paperback and audio books for its annual book sale. This year, proceeds benefit arts and sciences at the academy.

It's So Easy! Think of us during spring cleaning and drop off your books any time under the covered porch at the front door of the high school—155 Lorraine Ave. (entrance on Park Street.), Upper Montclair. Deadline for donations is May 10, 2010.

Lacordaire's Annual Used Book Sale will take place Thursday-Sunday, May 20-24, 2010. For more information, contact Suzanne or Teresa at LacoBookSale@msn.com.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
A CRUISE TO BERMUDA
Sailing on Holland America's *MS Veendam*
June 27, 2010

Only \$1599

Interested!
Call the Parish Center and ask for a
Full-Color Brochure
with all the details

973-338-9190

Mon – Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm / Sat 9:00am – 1:00pm

Included:

- Roundtrip Transport to Ship's Pier in NYC
- Seven Luxury Days and Nights
- in a beautiful Outside Stateroom
- All meals with Elegant Dining – Afternoon Tea – Midnight Buffet
- 24 Hour Room Service – In Room Movies
- 2 Days in Hamilton, Bermuda
- 2 Days in St. George, Bermuda
- Relaxing Days at Sea with Las Vegas Style Casino
- Nightly Broadway Style Entertainment – Dancing
- Meet the Captain & Tour Group Cocktail Receptions
- Gala Farewell Dinner Party
- Also Available:
 - Spa – Gym Fitness Center – Internet Café – Culinary Arts Center – Beauty Salon – Duty Free Shops – Cocktail Lounges – Indoor and Outdoor Pools –
 - Optional Land Tours with Guides