

Saint Thomas the Apostle

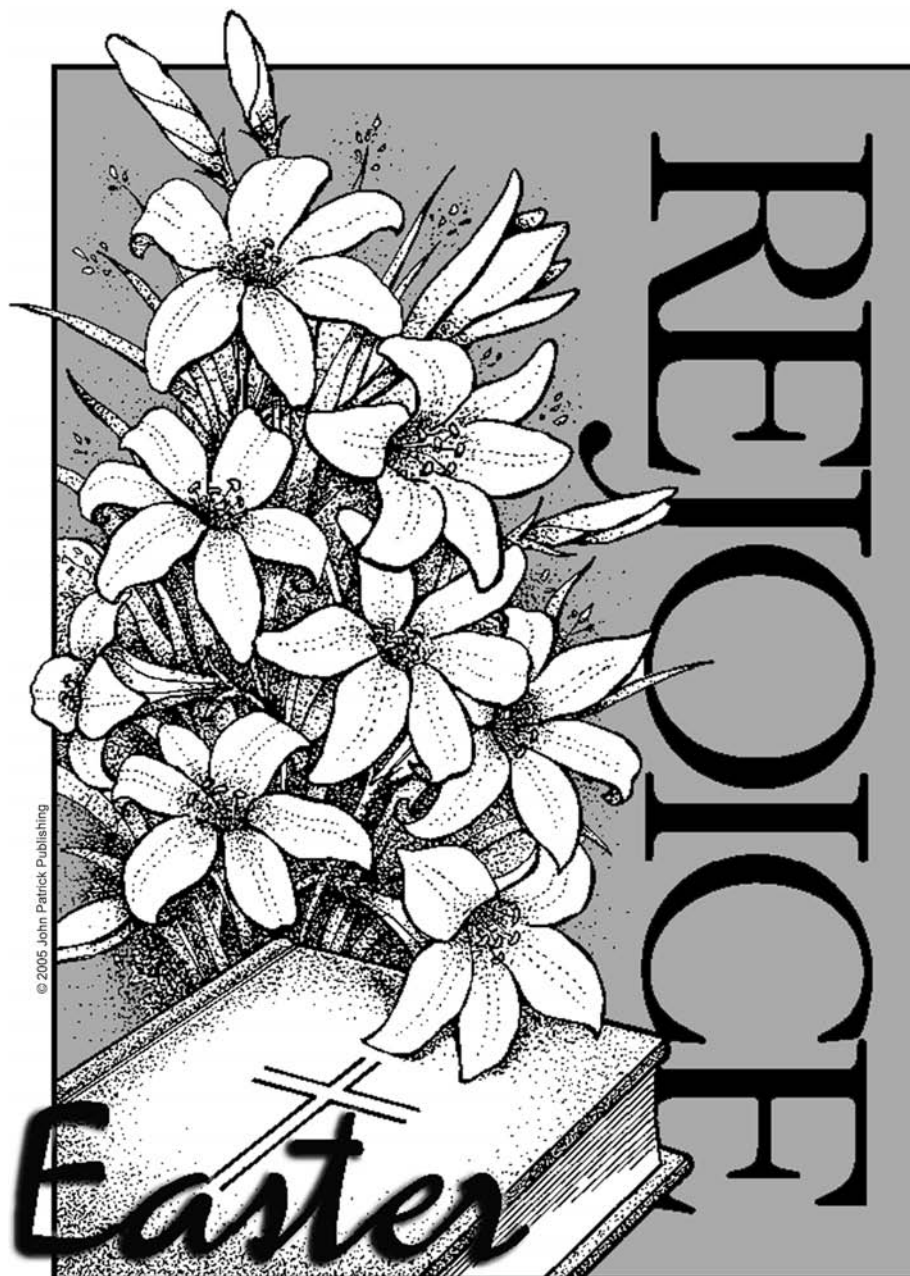
Roman Catholic Church

Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey

Rectory/Parish Center: (973) 338-9190 • Fax: (973) 338-4224

Religious Education: (973) 338-7400 • School: (973) 338-8505 • Convent: (973) 338-9118

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.stachurchbloomfield.com



2010

Masses for the Week

Sunday, April 4 **Easter Sunday**
Saturday, April 3 **EASTER VIGIL MASS**
8:15 pm **Peter Dambrowsky – Family**
 Peter Rohan, Jr. – Family
 Robert Imfeld – Family

Sunday, April 4
7:30 am **Ernest & Philomena Cordasco & Joseph Bianchi – Family**
9:00 am **Veronica Kievit – Family**
10:30 am **Thomas Brady – Family**
12:00 pm **For the People of the Parish**

Monday, April 5
7:30 am **Thomas P. Mahon, Jr. – Mother**
11:30 am **Joseph Belcaro – Friends**

Tuesday, April 6
7:30 am **Manuel Caneira – Family**
11:30 am **Joseph Markus – Friend**

Wednesday, April 7
7:30 am **Armas Niemi – Children**
11:30 am **Charlotte Maher – Friend**

Thursday, April 8
7:30 am **Olga Pasquale – Friends**
11:30 am **Alice Tomaselli (3rd Anniversary) – Cousin**

Friday, April 9
7:30 am **Thomas Lorenzo – Daughters**
11:30 am **Ferris Family – Family**

Saturday, April 10
8:30 am **Frank & Linda Martorelli – Daughter**

Sunday, April 11
Saturday, April 10
5:00 pm **For the People of the Parish**

Sunday, April 11
7:30 am **Agnes McDonald – Family**
9:00 am **Elmer Andersen – Friend**
10:30 am **Andrew Triano – Family**
12:00 pm **Thomas F. Wardell (34th Anniv.) – Daughter**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Dorothy Saccarro, Esmie Atkinson,
Diane Guagliardo, Mark Catona

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Elizabeth Jane Dennin
Convent: Mildred Ferrara

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**Which Three Days
Are The
Three Days?**

There's a lot of talk in church now about "the Three Days," or in Latin, the "Triduum." These are our most holy of days. They make up our most important single celebration of the year: Easter. But exactly *which* three days make up the Triduum?

At first this sounds like a stupid question such as, "What color was Napoleon's white horse?" or "Who's buried in Grant's tomb?" Actually, it's a trick question. Most would say that the Three Days are Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. And that's wrong! (How could Easter Sunday *not* be one of the Three Days?!)

The three days of the Triduum are counted using the Jewish way of keeping time: from sunset to sunset. So the first day of the Triduum is from sunset on Holy Thursday until sunset on Good Friday. The second day is from sunset on Good Friday until sunset on Holy Saturday. The third day is from sunset Holy Saturday (the great Easter Vigil) to sunset Easter Sunday (Paschal Vespers).

Does this make any difference—or is it only good Catholic trivia? Here's the difference that it makes. We tend to think of the Three Days as commemorating separate, distinct events: On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper, on Good Friday we recall the passion and on Holy Saturday the resurrection. But in our liturgy, the church thinks about the Last Supper not as the last thing that happened on Holy Thursday, but as the *first* thing to happen on Good Friday. What new insights into the eucharist do you have when you think of it as the first act of Christ's passion? What new understanding of Sabbath—the day of rest—do you have when you reflect on the fact that Jesus slept in death from sunset Friday and all through the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday? And how might we spend our Saturday nights if we understood them to truly be the beginning of Sunday—not just during the Triduum, but year round? What does it mean when the deacon or cantor sings at the Vigil that because of the resurrection, this night is brighter than any day?

These Three Days are a single moment. We walk into this moment on Thursday night and walk out on Easter day. In between, there's a flood of stories and songs, rites and rest, fasting and feasting. The Three Days are time out of time, the center of our year and of our life.

From the Pastor's Desk...



Dear Parishioners,

A Happy and Holy Easter from all the priests, deacons, sisters and staff of Saint Thomas the Apostle. Our prayer is that the Lord, whose Resurrection we celebrate today, may dwell in your hearts and in your homes throughout this season of joy.

A special “thank you” goes to all those who helped to decorate our Church; as well as to Nancy Cardone, our choir and the members of our music ministry for helping to make our Holy Week celebrations so moving, prayerful and faith-filled.

We also offer our words of affirmation and encouragement to the adults in our R.C.I.A. process, who are preparing for full membership in the Catholic Church and to celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. We pray that you may continue to experience in us a community of love and true concern.

May the Lord bless you and those you love!

In the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Charles J. Miller".

Rev. Charles J. Miller,
Pastor

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### **EASTER - THE 50 DAY LONG FEAST**

The fifty-day feast of Easter developed from the harvest feast of ancient Israel known as “Shavuot,” or the “Feast of Weeks.” It was a period of seven weeks (a “week of weeks”) plus one day, beginning with Passover and concluding with the fiftieth day, the day of Pentecost. The fiftieth day marked the end of the barley harvest and included an offering of the first fruits. By the time of Jesus, this festival also had become a celebration of the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai.

The themes of harvest, Exodus and the Law also became part of the Christian celebration. Christians celebrated the Passover of Jesus through death to new life and the Covenant that was established in him. Images of Christ as paschal Lamb and as first fruits are the earliest Easter images used by St. Paul.

Easter was the first of our feasts to develop beyond the weekly Sunday celebration. This fifty-day period of rejoicing seems to have been adopted by all Christian communities by the second century. Within a few centuries, however, the unity of the feast began to weaken, and the resurrection, the ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit began to be celebrated separately. Easter and Pentecost became two separate days rather than the two names for the same fifty-day period. Only in our own time has the unity of this celebration been reestablished, at least in the liturgical books. The pastoral challenge is to reestablish it in the minds and hearts of the parish, and the best way to do that is by celebrating the whole feast well.

## SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

**HAPPY EASTER!**

*From the Students, Faculty &  
Staff of St. Thomas the  
Apostle School*



**CURRENTLY ACCEPTING  
REGISTRATION FOR THE  
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

*(WAIT LIST FOR GRADES 3 & 7)*

**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**

## STA Respect Life and Good Counsel Homes



Don't forget to keep filling up your baby bottles with loose change to help to help Good Counsel homes. Good Counsel has four pro-life homes for mothers and operates a national crisis pregnancy hotline (800-723-8331). Baby bottles will be collected the weekend of April 18 in church's main vestibule. Thank you for saying YES to life!



### RIGHT TO LIFE

For all who are dying in poverty, loneliness and pain, that we might help bear their cross, and that in death, God might reward them with new life in his heavenly kingdom;

*We pray to the Lord*

### Religious Education News

**REMINDER:** NO CCD the week of April 4<sup>th</sup> (Easter Week.)  
Classes will resume the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Happy Easter to all!



## 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.

### Wellness Ministry Offers CENSUS Help

The Wellness Ministry is offering help, to those who need help filling out Census Forms. Simply call the parish center at 973-338-9190 and leave a message at ext. 20, and someone will contact you.

**Women's Cornerstone Team V will gather this Monday evening, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the parish center. Please make every effort to attend.**

**Thank you, Sister Arleen**

### 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 are available in the Parish Center this last Friday before the tax deadline from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

It is not necessary to make an appointment. Come to the Parish Center to get your taxes done or to speak to a tax preparer.

St. Thomas the Apostle's 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 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.

Rosary Society Meeting

The praying of the Rosary will take place on Monday, April 5th 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.



~ ~ 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

"THIS WEEK"

Monday - 4/5

September Club - 11:30am in St. Peter

Wednesday - 4/7

SCC Thursday - 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday - 4/9

Tax Preparations - 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter

SCC Friday - 6:30pm in St. Peter

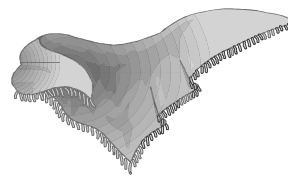
Parish Ministry Chairpersons

Please submit room requests for next year's meetings, September 1, 2010 until August 31, 2011, to the parish center by April 15, 2010.

True Love Waits 1

For all those interested in teaching youth about the beauty of true love and chastity, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Newark, will offer a True Love Waits training program on Saturday, April 10, from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. You can be trained to give a five-session program for middle and high school students. The program includes skits, videos discussions and role plays. Subjects include: achieving life's goals; what the church and bible teach about sex; consequences of premarital sex; resisting peer pressure. Cost is \$50 per person if registered by April 3rd or \$65 after April 3rd. For more information, call 201.804.8331.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



We will be resuming our Wednesday evening meetings starting April 7th from 7:30 to 9:00PM

Our spring meetings are Sunday April 18th and May 16th from 11:30AM to 2PM and Wednesday evenings April 7th, May 5th and June 2nd. We need light prayer shawls for the summer. Shawls should be long and wide enough to cover the shoulders (at least 22 inches by 60 inches). Lapghans should be approximately 36" wide and 40" in length. All are welcome to work and pray with us. If you have any questions or you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact the Ministry Bernadette @ 973-893-0114 Alicia @ 973-473-6633 Sister Arleen @ 973-338-9190

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

## EASTER WATER

Blessed Easter Water will be available for each parish family to take home this weekend. The water, in small containers, will be near the Baptismal Font. It is suggested that you bless your Easter food or your home.

### *Blessing of House with Easter Water*

*Lord, we rejoice in the victory of your Son over death.*

*By rising from the tomb to new life,*

*He gives us new hope and promise*

*Bless all the members of this household  
and surround them with your protection,  
that they may find comfort and peace in Jesus Christ,  
the paschal lamb, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

*Amen*

### **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. For information, send an email to: [workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com](mailto:workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com)

#### **April 15**

Our speaker will be Linda Quirolo. Linda will discuss: How to Create an Effective Resume, Interviewing Tips and 2 Before/After Resumes – (if you would like your resume considered for a before and after, please submit to [workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com](mailto:workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com)).

### **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 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA ON APRIL 17, 2010 AT THE HANOVER MARRIOTT, WHIPPANY.

THE EVENT BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M. TICKETS ARE \$350.<sup>00</sup> EACH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 973-290-5454 OR VISIT [WWW.SCNJ.ORG](http://WWW.SCNJ.ORG).

### **ARE YOU GOING INTO THE HOSPITAL? DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER IN THE HOSPITAL?**

We would like to visit our parishioners who are homebound, in the hospital or other health care facility. Because of patient confidentiality laws, however, the only way we can know is if someone informs us. Call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190, leaving your name and number so we may return your call, or you may leave the information at the Parish Desk on Sunday mornings.

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