

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

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Rev. Charles J. Miller, M. Div., Pastor
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Antonio T. Sarento, M.Div.
In Residence: Rev. John F. Gordon, M.Div., V.F.

PERMANENT DEACONS:

Deacon Albert H. Tizzano • Deacon Thomas J. Coyle • Deacon Brian J. Murphy
Deacon Dennis J. Besida, Retired

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 Hann

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
Mr. Michael Petrillo

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

FINANCE CHAIRMEN:
James McKittrick, 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

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May 7, 2017 • Fourth Sunday of Easter

Masses for the Week

Sunday, May 7

- 7:30 am Michela Capozzoli – Friend
- 9:00 am Anna & Joseph Stevens – Family
- 10:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Stella – Family
- 12:00 pm For The People

Monday, May 8

- 7:30 am Esterina & Silvester Fusco – Family
- 11:30 am Pasquale G. Fazzi – Bequest

Tuesday, May 9

- 7:30 am Maria Melograno – Family
- 11:30 am Brendan Boyle – Bequest

Wednesday, May 10

- 7:30 am Fred & Catherine Winters – Bequest
- 11:30 am Gina Safonte – Family

Thursday, May 11

- 7:30 am John Eugene Kelly – Friend
- 11:30 am Daniel Bloomer – Friend

Friday, May 12

- 7:30 am McIntyre Family – Bequest
- 11:30 am Edmund McGuire – Family

Saturday, May 13

- 8:30 am Tim Rogalcheck – Brother

Sunday, May 14

Saturday, May 13

- 5:00 pm For The People

Sunday, May 14

- 7:30 am For All Mothers Living & Deceased
- 9:00 am For All Mothers Living & Deceased
- 10:30 am For All Mothers Living & Deceased
- 12:00 pm For All Mothers Living & Deceased



This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Albert Ostering, Nancy Salerno,
Diane Guagliarda, Virginia Fallan

REST IN PEACE

Anna McGroarty, Antoinette Morici,
Edward A. Dudas III

SANCTUARY CANDLES

Church: Victims of Terrorism
Convent: Marie Higgins Racine

View this bulletin online at:

<http://stachurchbloomfield.com/bulletin>



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

The main source of operating funds for St. Thomas is our weekly / holyday offertory collections. The information below will show where the Parish is as of April 30 compared to the budget amount for the year. The break even date is June 30, 2017. The amount needed each week is \$17,630 and the amount collected last weekend was \$15,771.



Budget Amount	Year to Date	Remaining Amount
\$881,500	\$702,057	\$179,443

The year to date amount is negative by \$38,403 as of week number 42 in our budget year.

Men's Scripture Reading and Reflection

**ALL MEN are invited Monday, May 8
at 7:30pm in St. James room**

Join a group of ordinary men and spend 90 minutes reflecting on Sunday Scripture and Readings of the coming week.

We are also reading *The Didache*, probably the oldest surviving non-canon literature. Essentially a handbook for new Christians derived directly from the teachings of Jesus.

We'll discuss Church teaching within the readings and learn something of what was going on at that time.

Share the extraordinary Word of God and together we can learn more about our beautiful Catholic faith.

THE WELLNESS MINISTRY ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Invites you to a health lecture

DIABETES

(Prevention and Management)

By **DR. UZMA SHAFQAT**

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American Board of Internal Medicine,
affiliate Mountainside Medical Group**

Thursday, MAY 11 at 7pm

St Thomas Parish Center

Light refreshments will be served

Call or text:

Loida Togonon 201-618-7590

Milette Padilla 973-487-0843



St Thomas September Club 2017 Sponsored Trips

**The Club is really looking forward to
Spring and getting on the road again.
We think we have a great line-up of fun
Trips, and we invite you to join us.**

**Contact Fran Gardella to book. Phone:
848-448-4335 Email:
fgardella@hotmail.com**

"Cruzin' on a Saturday Night" Jersey

Dreamers/Joe Zisa Rock & Roll Band:

May 18th at 11am The Mansion in Mountain Lakes. \$68 Per Person includes Lunch & Gratuity, Entertainment, Bus Transportation, & Driver Tip. \$20 due upon Sign-Up & balance due by May 8th.

Sands Casino in Bethlehem Pennsylvania:

July 19th. \$32 per person. Includes Bus, Driver Tip, and Bus Snacks. \$20 Free Slot Money & \$5 Food Coupon. Bus will leave at 9:30am & Return at 5pm. \$10 Upon Sign-Up and balance due by June 19th.

Reeves Reed Arboretum, Lunch at Basilico Restaurant, Greenwood Gardens:

Millburn 9:30am August 15th. \$76 Per Person includes Entrance Fees & Tours of Aboretum and Gardens, Lunch & Gratuity at Restaurant, Bus, & Driver Tip. \$20 Upon Sign-Up and balance due August 7th.

Finger Lakes New York:

October 3rd thru October 5th \$388 per person (Based on Double Occupancy) Includes 2 Nights Lodging, Dinner & Gratuity at Belhurst Castle, 2 Breakfasts, Winery Tour & Tasting, Lake Cruise, Finger Lakes Casino & Racetrack, Corning Museum of Glass, Willard Memorial Chapel, Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion, Wegman's Marketplace, Bus, & Driver Tip. \$20 Due upon Sign-Up, \$108 by July 3rd, & balance of \$260 by August 17th.

Are You or a Loved One Going Into 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.

You are invited to join the Ushers & Greeters

Saint Thomas is still in need of Ushers & Greeters.

GREETERS welcome parishioners at the doors to help create a warm, joy filled and welcoming community here at St Thomas the Apostle. We want people to feel the same goodness that you feel when you get a warm cordial greeting from family and friends.

USHERS coordinate much of the logistical duties needed to conduct a Mass. In addition to greeting as described above, ushers seat parishioners, handle the collection, distribute materials including the weekly Bulletin and help with whatever is needed.

Being a part of the Ushers and Greeters Ministry gives you the opportunity to help do God's work here on earth. We know that all of us have busy lives, but please consider participating. Serving others is a good feeling and we need you.

Thanks & Blessings

Debbie ... Debbie Walsifer ... 862-307-5250 cell
Jeff ... Jeff Monacelli ... 973-568-3826 cell

To join in, cut-out & complete the information below and put it in the collection basket.

We will contact you shortly thereafter. Any questions, contact either of us.

First and Last Name ... _____

Email ...

Home Phone .. _____, Cell Phone ...

Usher () Greeter () ... check either or both

Beyond Cornerstone Service



Thanks to everyone who participated through prayer, donation and work our April visit to St. Augustine's soup kitchen was a great success. The menu of meatballs and ravioli was enthusiastically received.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of Chef Kevin Gilbert and the kitchen staff at the Cloverleaf Restaurant in helping to coordinate the menu and absorbing the costs with the sales representatives Wilson Espinoza from Sysco Metro and Brant Cherny of US Foods.

We plan a visit each month, which will include a camp day in July. These are major projects. Depending on the day, we serve eighty to one hundred meals – costing between \$500 and \$600.

If you wish, you may donate toward the meal by writing a check to St. Thomas Parish---please note on the check that it is for the SOUP KITCHEN. Mark the envelope "Beyond Cornerstone soup kitchen--- attention Alicia . Your donation may be dropped off at the Parish center or placed in the Sunday collection basket.

Upcoming Training Session
Protecting God's Children for Adults

The May 10 session
 for St. Thomas
 is currently **full**.

*Any future sessions will be advertised
 in the bulletin.*

STA "300 Club"

St. Thomas the Apostle and your Finance
 Committee invite you and your friends to
 participate in our 300 Club. You will find this
 Club is better than Lotteries, Casino Slots, or
 Bingo. Here is how it works...

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Prizes are as follows:

1st Prize: \$10,500 or 35% of tickets sold

2nd Prize: \$ 3,000 or 10% of tickets sold

3rd Prize: \$ 1,500 or 5% of tickets sold

Application form

Raffle held on Thursday, May 25, 2017.

_____ **Ticket(s) for 300 Club @ \$ 100.00**

Name or Names (please print)

Address.....

Telephone ()

**Make checks payable to St. Thomas the Apostle
 Church. Winner need not be present to win. Send
 this form along with your check to:**

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church,
 60 Byrd Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003**

Attention: 300 Club

Church ID # 41-1-16464

Raffle License # RA 3373

Eucharistic Adoration
Monday May 22 & June 26

In church

**After the 11:30 AM Mass until
 after the Respect Life Service in the
 evening.**

**Why not stop by for a few minutes and say
 "thank you" for all your blessings?**



"St. John Paul II's Encyclical letter, "On the Eucharist and its Relationship to the Church" (2003), Paragraph 25, states: 'The worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass is of inestimable value for the life of the Church. This worship is strictly linked to the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The presence of Christ under the sacred species reserved after Mass - a presence which lasts A LONG As the species of bread and of wine remain - derives from the celebration of the sacrifice and is directed towards communion, both sacramental and spiritual. It is the responsibility of Pastors to encourage, also by their personal witness, the practice of Eucharistic adoration, and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in particular, as well as prayer of adoration before Christ present under the Eucharistic species.'"

PARISH INFORMATION

Did you know

FOR ST. THOMAS PARISH

Registration

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.

How Do I Arrange a Wedding?

Archdiocesan policy requires that arrangements be made with a Parish Priest at least one year before the wedding date. Arrangements can be made by calling the Parish Center, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You should be a registered parishioner of St. Thomas in order to be married here.

"Time of Marriage"

Well in advance of making other arrangements for your wedding, the time of your marriage should be arranged with one of the Parish Priests.

'Directives'

You should consult one of the parish priests concerning the current Church law when a Catholic is marrying a person of another faith. All procedures for Marriage Preparation must still be followed,

In preparation for Marriage here at Saint Thomas, you would ask you to be willing to follow the norms set by Canon (Church) Law, Archdiocesan and Parish Policy.

Baptisms

We remind you to contact the parish at least three months prior to the Baptism of your child.

We have scheduled various dates for Baptisms during the year. These schedules are published in the Bulletin and are available at the Parish Center.

Baptism is a community celebration. Individual

Baptisms are normally performed only in case of necessity.

Calendar Raffle Winners

Week 12

50	Karen Jacobus	Cliffton
50	Rena Torraca	Nutley
75	German Magpily	Bloomfield
75	Angelina Barro	Bloomfield
50	Noreen Lennox	Bloomfield
100	Mary Gencarelli	Bloomfield
200	Francesca Mescall	Bloomfield

Godly Goods



Gift Shop

Open Sundays

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Located in the Parish Center

PLANNED GIVING

Here are some ways You can help St. Thomas the Apostle Church continue its mission of serving God's people. Give a gift of cash or check for general use or a specific purpose. Give a gift of stocks or bonds. There could be a significant tax advantage to you if there has been appreciation in their value and they are transferred to St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

A bequest in your will assures that your possessions are distributed as you desire. When making a bequest, use the full legal name and address: Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003



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