

# 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

Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 • Website: [www.stachurchbloomfield.com](http://www.stachurchbloomfield.com)

Facebook: Saint Thomas the Apostle Church Twitter: @stachurchnj

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 Thomas J. Coyle • Deacon Brian J. Murphy

Deacon Dennis J. Besida, Retired • Deacon Albert H. Tizzano, 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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August 19, 2018 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, August 19**

- 7:30 am For The People
- 9:00 am Teresa O'Connell – Friend
- 10:30 am Robert A. Critides – Friends
- 12:00 am Vera Esposito – Friends

**Monday, August 20**

- 7:30 am Rose Marie Wesner – Family
- 11:30 am Teresa O'Connell – Friend

**Tuesday, August 21**

- 7:30 am Rose Wesner – Family
- 11:30 am Gerald Zoppi – Friend

**Wednesday, August 22**

- 7:30 am Vera Esposito – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. – Daughter
- 11:30 am Mary Margaret Tizzano – Husband

**Thursday, August 23**

- 7:30 am Genoveva Lunasco – Friend
- 11:30 am Thomas Gonzalez – Friend

**Friday, August 24**

- 7:30 am Sam & Marie Lataro – Family
- 11:30 am Pauline Cooney – Family

**Saturday, August 25**

- 8:30 am John Mescall – Family

**Sunday, August 26**

**Saturday, August 25**

- 5:00 pm Brendan Boyle – Bequest

**Sunday, August 26**

- 7:30 am John Fagan – Family
- 9:00 am For The People
- 10:30 am Peter Teti – Family
- 12:00 am Most Rev. Thomas Donato – Friend



On this Sunday, we continue to read from the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel elaborates further on the teaching that Jesus began in our liturgy last week. In that reading, the crowds wondered about how Jesus could say that he had come down from heaven because they knew Jesus to be the son of Joseph. In this Gospel, some have difficulty with Jesus' teaching that he is the living bread sent from God. Recall that Jesus had told them that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life.

Among the stumbling blocks for those who heard but did not understand Jesus is the teaching that the bread that Jesus will give is his own flesh. In response to the people who quarreled over his words, Jesus teaches with even greater emphasis that salvation comes to those who eat his Body and Blood. Jesus doesn't seem to answer the question posed about how salvation will come about, perhaps because this reality can only be understood after his death and Resurrection. Instead, Jesus teaches about the life that he will give to the world.

To many ears, Jesus' words are jarring and difficult to hear. Many who heard Jesus could not accept what he said. Many today continue to struggle to accept these words. But they are important words because they reveal our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are made truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's body for the life of the world.

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Victoria Rooney, Virginia Fallan,  
Nancy Salerno, William Braun

**SANCTUARY CANDLES**

**Church:** Steven J. Pekar, Jr.



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 August 12<sup>th</sup> compared to the budget amount for the year. The break-even date is June 30, 2019. The amount needed each week is \$17,242 and the amount collected last weekend was \$15,301.

Budget Amount	Year to Date	Remaining Amount
\$896,600	\$111,745	\$784,855

The year to date amount is negative by \$8,949 as of week number 07 in our current budget year.

## WELLNESS MINISTRY

### Blood Pressure Screening

Sunday, September 16

St Peter Room

Parish Center

8 am - noon

All are invited!

*Please feel free to ask for nurse advice during your meeting with one of our nurses.*

## St. Thomas the Apostle Mission Statement

The Roman Catholic faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle recognizes God's call to be a sign of His Kingdom in the communities we serve. We respond to this call by:

- † Leading people to a deeper relationship with Christ by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, renewal, education, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the worship of God in the sacred liturgy;
- † Encouraging a commitment to justice and to service of those in need;
- † Promoting good stewardship of our time, talent and treasure;
- † Building a community of hospitality and support in the daily living out of Christian ideals by nourishing mutual respect and understanding within our Church, our families, our community, and other faith traditions.

## Community Blood Drive

Sponsored by

**Saint Thomas the Apostle Church**

**Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 AM – 1 PM**

**(Inside School Cafeteria)**

*Complimentary cholesterol screening to all donors!*

**To Sign up to donate please call  
(201) 251-3703 or visit the link below.**

[donor.cbsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/46873](http://donor.cbsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/46873)

**Select a desired time slot, click there  
and follow the instructions**

For Medical questions please contact:  
Ms. Joanne Cherishian

## Beyond Cornerstone Service Ministry

Throughout the summer months we have continued to serve hearty, attractive meals to the homeless at St. Augustine's soup kitchen.

In July we provided a day of prayer, song, games, snacks, dinner, and take-home bags for the children attending the summer camp. It was a wonderful day for the children, Sisters, and volunteers. We are able to do this through the generosity of the St. Thomas parishioners.

A special thanks must be given to Tracey Hann, the summer CCD program children, and parents who gave of their time and donations. The Sisters have expressed their deep appreciation for our generosity. We are in their prayers and were asked that we remember them in ours.

**Our next meeting will be  
Wednesday,  
September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
in the St. Peter Room  
All are welcome!**

## PARISH CENTER SUMMER HOURS



July 1<sup>st</sup> through Labor Day

Mondays – Thursdays 9 am – 5pm  
Fridays 9 am – 2 pm  
Saturday 9 am – 1pm

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QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL  
Blanca DelRio-Munoz @ 973-634-2324

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## September Club News

During the summer months of July and August the September Club holds four informal Meetings. You bring your lunch, and the Club provides iced tea and lemonade.

We get together just to chat or play cards or board games. Meeting time is the usual 11:30 am until 2:30pm.

You're welcome to drop in if you're around. Formal Meetings resume on September 10th (always the Monday after Labor Day Monday).

**Informal Summer Meeting Dates:**

**Monday, August 27th**

The September Club is open to all seniors 55 years of age and older. In addition to regular meetings, we sponsor special events and trips.

Call Roz Frunzi at 973-785-0576 for more information or contact her via email at rozybabe1@aol.com.

*Godly Goods*



**Gift Shop**

Open Sundays  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Located in the Parish Center

## **St. Thomas the Apostle Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Our mission is to provide you with prayers, warmth, and comfort, to share your pain, your sorrow, or your joy. And to remind you that you are never alone.

Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry knit or crochet items, working either privately at home or with a group. Crafters begin each item with prayers for the recipient and continue their intentions throughout its' creation. A prayer may also be offered when the shawl is presented.

Over the past year our members have donated about sixty shawls and lap robes to parishioners and their loved ones who may be in special need of prayers. These are people who are confined to home, entering an extended care facility, entering Hospice, seriously ill, going through chemotherapy or has lost a loved one.

We have provided Villa Marie Claire hospice patients with nearly one hundred shawls and lap robes.

We welcomed over eighty babies in our parish as they receive one of our blankets. Several mothers of babies born with special needs have also received shawls and blankets as a reminder that they are continually in our prayers.

We made hats and scarves for local shelters and contributed many bags full of handmade gifts to the advent giving tree. We made chemo hats, premie blankets and premie hats too numerous to count and also provided shawls for Rachael's Vineyard

Our latest project is crocheting prayer squares. They are given to anyone you wish to remind that they are in your prayers. Small enough to slip into a pocket, the recipient can touch and be comforted throughout their day. We spent a wonderful evening introducing these to the youth group. They all tried their hand at making them. At their request, we provided prayer squares to give as Mother's Day gifts. A hospital Chaplain gifts them to patients to serve as a reminder that they are in his prayers.

All crafters are welcome to join us on the third Sunday of the month from September to June unless otherwise specified. We meet in the St. Peter's room at 11:30 until 1:30. These meetings give our members a chance to pray and work together—to exchange patterns and ideas. All are welcome to join us but you do not need to attend these meeting to be an active member.

Ask for any of our prayerfully made items by calling the parish center, by speaking to one of our members, dropping by during one of our meetings or by contacting Alicia @ 973-473-6633 or aliciaavons@ gmail.com You may support this Ministry by donating an ACMoore gift card. We also appreciate donations of your left over yarn.

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

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting Dates**

The Ministry meets in the St. Peter's room 11:30AM – 1:30 PM  
on the third Sunday of the month from September 2018 until June 2019  
**September 16, October 21, November 18, December 16, January 20, February 17,  
March 17, April 28** (fourth Sunday because of Easter) **May 19, and June 23.**

**Our next meeting is Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 in the St. Peter's Room**

## Moving?



### Please let us know.

Within the parish – to update new address  
Out of parish – to discontinue mailings

Please call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.



## Food Pantry

There is a Food Pantry at St. Thomas, established to serve the needs of parishioners and others in need. The goal of the program is to provide sustenance to individuals and families who, for many reasons, do not have enough to eat. If you are in this situation simply contact the Parish Center and we'll do our best to assist you. If you know of a parishioner that you feel may have this need, please make them aware of the program and have them contact us.

**Food Collection Sunday** is usually the third Sunday of each month, when our parishioners generously drop off Grocery store gift cards in the collection basket in an envelope marked "food pantry" and leave food at the church doors for those in need.

## 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.

## 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.



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