

# St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Lawrence J. Fama, 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:  
Kimberley Mesiti.

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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July 7, 2019 • Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, July 7**

**Saturday, July 6**

5:00 pm For the People

**Sunday, July 7**

7:30 am Patrick & Laudano Families – Family

9:00 am Al Giordano – Friend

10:30 am Anthony Cavaleri

12:00 pm Deceased Members of Lee & Carlton Families

**Monday, July 8**

7:30 am Grace Seber – Friends

11:30 am Marguerite Hicks – Family

**Tuesday, July 9**

7:30 am Sue Giglio – Friends

11:30 am Brendan Boiyle – Bequest

**Wednesday, July 10**

7:30 am Josephine Zimmerman – Friend

11:30 am Ann Emfeld – Family

**Thursday, July 11**

7:30 am Marie Ward – Daughter

11:30 am Fred Tomasik - Friend

**Friday, July 12**

7:30 am Licille Watkins – Family

11:30 am Jerry Stoia – Friend

**Saturday, July 13**

8:30 am Carmine & Virginia Ricciardi – Sister

**Sunday, July 14**

**Saturday, July 13**

5:00 pm Joseph Powers – Family

**Sunday, July 14**

7:30 am For the People

9:00 am James Nutile – Friend

10:30 am Badyal Family – Friend

12:00 pm Deceased Members of McGovern Family – Family

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Barbara Lorenzo

Jean Mazza

**CANDLE INTENTIONS**

**CHURCH:** Joyce Pekalski



View this bulletin online at:  
<http://stachurchbloomfield.com/bulletin>

**Background on the Gospel Reading** *Luke 10:1-12,17-20*

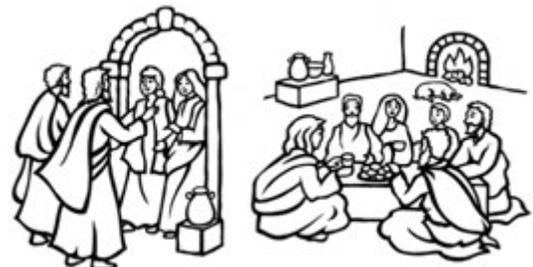


Today's Gospel begins immediately after the final verse in last Sunday's Gospel. After strong language about the difficulties of discipleship, Jesus immediately appoints 72 people to go ahead of him to every town and place he plans to visit, proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is at hand. He sends them in pairs. In the Law of Moses two witnesses were needed for a testimony to be credible. It was probably also a safer way to travel.

Jesus admits it will be difficult, that he is sending them out like lambs among wolves. Yet they are to bring nothing with them, not even a money bag or sandals. They are to greet no one on the way so as not to be distracted from their mission. When they enter a house, their message is simply "peace." The response they will receive may be positive or negative. Either way, they are to know that the Kingdom of God is at hand. They are not to demand special treatment but eat and drink whatever is given them. They are to stay in one house and are not to look around for one that provides better accommodations. They are to heal the sick as a sign that the Kingdom of God is at hand for them. Like Jesus' miracles, healing is a sign of the coming of the kingdom. If the town will not receive them, they are to shake the dust from their feet and move on. Even in the case of such rejection they should know that the Kingdom of God is at hand.

When they return from their journeys, they are rejoicing because their mission has been successful. Demons were under their power because of Jesus' name. Jesus may have sent them out as lambs among wolves, but at the conclusion of this passage he assures them that they have been given power over the enemy and nothing will harm them, not even serpents and scorpions.

A key theme of today's Gospel and last Sunday's Gospel is discipleship—its challenges, its difficulties, and its rewards. Sharing in the mission of Jesus is difficult, but everyone is called to do it, not just some professionals trained for ministry. Even for us today, the harvest is plentiful. We should pray to the master of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest.



## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

Hello! My name is Fr. Larry Fama and I am so happy to introduce myself as your new Pastor!

I take this opportunity to thank Fr. Charles Miller for not only his many years of being your Pastor here at St. Thomas the Apostle, but also for his 47 years of priestly ministry. Fr. Miller taught me and my classmates how to celebrate the sacraments during various liturgies. As he begins a new chapter in his life and priestly ministry I assure him of my prayers and support. May this time of retirement be for him one of refreshment and renewal.

Let us all keep Fr. Miller in our prayers during this time of change in his life and his ministry.

In the weeks and months ahead I look forward to getting to know each of you. In this column, I am writing my story so you can get to know me a little better and how I came to be writing this Pastor's column.

I was born on April 5, 1963, in Columbus Hospital in Newark to my parents Marie and Larry. I am an only child and lived in North Newark until I entered the Seminary in 1987 (along with St. Thomas' own Fr. Michael Saporito, who is my classmate). I remember that we, as a family, moved three times (all three houses were on the same street), and we settled in a house right across from the hospital in which I was born. I know this area of Bloomfield well as I would frequently go to Friendly's, shop at Brookdale Shop Rite, get my hair cut (for decades) at Who Cut Your Hair (all on Broad Street), and periodically attend Saturday evening Mass here at St. Thomas.

Every 6 months I still go to the Brookdale Dental where my grammar school mate, Dr. Vincent DeVincentis, is my dentist!

I attended First Avenue School in Newark and went to CCD at my parish church, St. Francis Xavier (the same parish as that of Msgr. Franklyn Casale). I then attended Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair, then majored in Political Science and Urban Studies at Rutgers University in Newark (where I changed my major at least seven times). For as long as I could remember, I always wanted to be a priest, but I was shy (and in many ways I still am) so I didn't tell anyone about this.

It wasn't until I was a junior in college that the Lord let me know His plans for me. During this time in my academic career, my friends and classmates were talking about the jobs and internships they were getting. I kept feeling that this was not the direction that He wanted me to take.

I remember asking the Lord to give me a sign if the priesthood was the path He wanted me to take. I didn't feel comfortable talking to anyone about "my calling" at this time. I asked Him to put someone in my life that I could talk to. A short time later my aunt was killed in an accident and at the Funeral Mass was one of my classmates from grammar school. Sam Stoia was in the seminary at the time, heard about my aunt's funeral, and wanted to serve at it. A few days later we had dinner and during that time I told him I was considering entering the seminary.

A few weeks later while working at Pathmark in Silver Lake, Belleville (where I worked for eleven years) Tom Colucci was hired as a cart person. Tom was in St. Andrew's College Seminary at the time and he, too, was another person I spoke to about my desire to enter the seminary. A year or so later they both left the seminary, but I believe God put these two "stepping stones" into my life to help me answer His call.

As I said I entered Immaculate Conception Seminary in 1987 and was ordained on May 30, 1992, at the age of 29, to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

(To be continued in next week's column)

Thank you for your Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure, and for all you do for our parish.

Love,



Fr. Larry

## PARISH CENTER SUMMER HOURS



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

Mondays – Thursdays 9 am – 5pm

Fridays 9 am – 1pm

Saturday 9 am – 1pm

## Summer Safety Tip:

Stay well hydrated and cool

Increase fluid intake during hot weather. If you have a condition sensitive to fluid balance or you are on medication that causes dehydration, consult with your Health Care Provider regarding fluid intake.

Air conditioning is the most effective protection during extreme heat. Use home air conditioners or go to air-conditioned places during hot weather, especially during heat waves. Most heat stroke victims are overcome by heat in their own homes and do not have fully working air conditioners; fans do not provide sufficient cooling during extremely hot weather. Fans should only be used when the air conditioning is on or windows are open, and at night to bring in cooler air from outside.

While outside, protect your skin with sunscreen, wear a hat and shirt and stay in the shade as much as possible. Sunglasses protect your eyes from sun damage.

Check on family members, friends and neighbors living alone, especially those who cannot care for themselves, to assist them in staying cool and well hydrated before and during hot weather.

Be alert to the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness or exacerbation of chronic medical conditions—headache, nausea, dizziness, fast heart rate, confusion and fainting.

## Thanks! from the WELLNESS MINISTRY

The Wellness Ministry would like to thank everyone who participated in the Valerie fund walk last week in Verona Park. It was a big success, the weather was perfect, we exceeded our goal and most importantly we made a positive impact in the lives of children with cancer and blood disorder. We are extremely grateful and we hope to see everyone join the walk again next year. Have a safe, fun filled summer. The Wellness Ministry will see you back in September for BP screening.



## 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.

## 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.**

**Living the 3 T's**  
**By sharing your Time, Talent, & Treasure**

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life," (John 3:16)*

Through the Sacraments of the Church, God continues to give us His Son. Each time we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus is a good time to thank Him for the gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure that He has given to us, and to look back at what we have done thus far with these gifts. It is also a good time to ask Him how we may be more generous going forward.

**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 9th (always the Monday after Labor Day Monday).**

**Informal  
Summer Meeting Dates:**

**July 8th**  **July 22nd**  
**August 12th** **August 26th**

**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](mailto:rozybabe1@aol.com).**

**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.

# Praying with Children

## Blessings and Family Prayers

In ways large and small, parents seek what is best for their children. This desire is expressed in a variety of practical ways every day; such as preparing healthy foods, ensuring adequate opportunity for sleep, teaching good manners, and sharing enriching activities as a family.

Incorporating prayers of blessing into your family's daily routine is another way to express this desire for the very best for your children. When we pray for God's blessing, we acknowledge that God is the source of all that is good. In prayer, we ask God to bless us, to bless others, and to bless our activities. We do so with confidence and trust in God, who also seeks what is best for each of us. To pray in blessing for our children is to join our desires for them with God's own desire for them. Daily life provides parents with many opportunities to offer prayers of blessing with and for their children.

### Bedtime Blessings

As part of bedtime prayers, invite your child to name the people he or she would like to pray for. This can take the form of a simple litany, praying, "God bless . . ." as your child names family and friends. As your child grows older, you might offer a simple prayer intention for each person as you pray. For example, if a sibling is sick, you might ask for God's healing presence, praying, "God bless [name] and help her [him] feel better soon." Later, you might suggest that your child offer the prayer intention. Conclude by praying your own prayer of blessing for your child as you trace the Sign of the Cross on your child's forehead.

### Morning Blessings

Even in the most organized households, mornings can become a frenzy of activity as family members prepare to leave for work, day care, school, and daily errands. Establishing a morning routine that includes a prayer of blessing for family members as they leave the home can help to strengthen and encourage each person to live faithfully as a follower of Jesus. Ask each family member to name particular challenges or activities he or she may face during the day, and pray together, asking God to bless each person and his or her activities. Parents can trace the Sign of the Cross on each child's forehead in blessing before leaving the house each day.

*Family Connection for today's Gospel Reading*  
*Luke 10:1-12,17-20*

*Jesus sends out 72 people to announce the coming kingdom.*



Families teach a sense of togetherness and community. It is in the family that we learn that we are dependent on one another and where we learn to work together and live together. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus sends out the 72 disciples in pairs, a sign that we are to work together to serve the mission of the Kingdom of God.

Talk about all the ways that your family works together. Talk about the various chores and tasks that family members work on together to accomplish in order to keep the household running smoothly.

Read aloud Luke 10:1-12,17-20. Talk about why it was important that Jesus sent his disciples out in pairs. Discuss ways that your family can work more closely together to support one another and to make the household run more smoothly. Pray for the strength to overcome the temptation to be too individualistic and to recognize the need for working together as a family....

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**What's My Name?**

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

**#WHATSMYNAME**

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