

St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

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Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 • Website: www.stachurchbloomfield.com

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Rev. Lawrence J. Fama, Pastor

Rev. Charles J. Miller, Pastor Emeritus

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Antonio T. Sarento, M.Div.

In Residence: Rev. John Gordon, V.F.

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Thomas Cembor

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

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 11, 2019 • Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, August 11

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 am Marina Vargas
- 9:00 am Joseph & Vera Shields – Daughters
- 10:30 am Deceased members of Stouch & Grimm Families – Family
- 12:00 pm Lawrence & Frances Nicolette – Parents

Monday, August 12

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

- 7:30 am Anna & Joseph Stevens – Daughter
- 11:30 am Vera Esposito – Daughter

Tuesday, August 13

SS. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

- 7:30 am Maria Nopia – Family
- 11:30 am Louis J. Monaco – Wife

Wednesday, August 14

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

- 7:30 am Hoyt Peavy – Family
- 11:30 am Brendan Boyle – Bequest

Thursday, August 15

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 7:30 am Hoyt Peavy – Family
- 11:30 am Hoyt Peavy – Family
- 7:30 pm Asuncion A. Flores – Mother

Friday, August 16

St. Stephen of Hungary

- 7:30 am Mike Salzarulo – Friend
- 11:30 am Stephen Dale – Friend

Saturday, August 17

Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8:30 am Thomas Greenfield – Family
- 5:00 pm Mary Stark - Friend

Sunday, August 18

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 am For the People
- 9:00 am Joseph Simeone – Family
- 10:30 am Josephine Guardabasco – Family
- 12:00 pm Cyril & Elizabeth Lee – Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Virginia Fallon, Phyllis Manion,
William Frunzi, Nancy Salerno

REST IN PEACE

Sebastian Crivelli

CANDLE INTENTIONS

CHURCH: Alexander Gargiulo

View this bulletin online at:

<http://stachurchbloomfield.com/bulletin>

Background on the Gospel Reading

Luke 12:32-48



Jesus' instructions on how to be ready for the coming judgment continue in the stories and sayings found in today's Gospel. We are not to be like the greedy rich man in last Sunday's Gospel who planned to store his great harvest in barns rather than share it. We are, rather, to share our wealth with those in need. The antidote for the anxiety brought on by the coming judgment is to relinquish our possessions and provide for the needs of others. Our treasure will be in heaven where it will not wear out or be destroyed.

The other major way to be ready for the coming judgment is to be watchful. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about watchfulness to begin making this point. We must be like servants waiting for the master's return from a wedding banquet, which, even now, can last for a few days in the Middle East. We must be watchful so that even if the master comes after midnight, we will be ready for him. This is what the coming of the Son of Man will be like.

Peter asks if this parable is meant for the apostles or for the large crowd that has gathered to listen to Jesus. Without answering Peter's question, Jesus responds with another parable about servants awaiting the return of their master. It begins with a question: "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time?" This parable adds to the theme of watchfulness; it explains how to wait and reminds us of the reward for the faithful follower at the heavenly banquet after the judgment. If it is addressed to the apostles, then it could also be addressed to leadership in the early Church. Either way, the parables reminds us that we should be found doing our jobs when the master arrives. If we are doing our jobs, our reward will be great. But if we relax, neglect our duties, and begin to act like the greedy rich man—eating, drinking, and making merry—we will not have a place in the kingdom. Watchfulness means living in such a consistently moral and obedient way that we are always ready to give an account to God of how we have lived.



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 4th compared to the budget amount for the year. The break-even date is June 30, 2020. The amount needed each week is \$17,241 and the amount collected last weekend was \$16,520.

Budget Amount	Year to Date	Remaining Amount
\$879,300	\$79,479	\$799,821

The year to date amount is negative by \$6,726 as of week number 5 in our current budget year.

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

*The installation of
our new Pastor,
Fr. Larry Fama*



Installation Mass

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
5:00 P.M. Reception to follow
More information to come.

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THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Volunteers Needed

St. Thomas is in need of individuals who could occasionally substitute for regularly assigned personnel to launder Eucharistic Purificators. A simple task as need arises with Abundant Blessings.

If interested, contact: John Rennie at 973-338-4615



STA School Box Tops Collection

We will have another Box Top Drive in the fall, but please feel free to continue depositing your Box Tops in the box in the vestibule over the summer.

Lord, what about you and me?



I don't want to
forget you
just because
I'm off my normal
school-year routine.



Keep close to me, Lord, and remind me
that my relationship with you
should never take a break.

THANK YOU

The Missionary Sisters of Charity of Mother St. Teresa of Calcutta and the Beyond Cornerstone Ministry of St. Thomas wish to thank all of our parishioners for their overwhelming support in providing for the poor through your contribution of prayer, time and treasure to the soup kitchen and shelter.

Our recent visit was to give the children enrolled in their Day Camp a special day. The response to a collection to provide an ice cream truck was overwhelming. The donations not only provided the ice cream but also over one hundred dinners of tater tots, chicken nuggets, corn and fruit. The children decorated and planted seeds in their individual flower pots.

Special recognition must be extended to our annual supporter, The St. Thomas Filipino youth basketball league organized by David Trias. The Deloitte Company in Parsippany donated the take home goodie bags organized by Shannon Rennie and the interns. All the water, fruit juices and over the top snacks were donated by women of our Ministry. Thanks to the women who volunteered their time that hot day to bring such joy to the Sisters community.

Our next visit will be coordinated by Dene and will take place Sunday August 25th. These visits are financed through cash donations, primarily from individuals and families. We also enjoy the financial support of several of our parish's other organizations. You may donate by writing a check to St. Thomas Parish---please note on the check that it is for the SOUP KITCHEN. Mark the envelope "soup kitchen--- att. Alicia" Your donation may be dropped off at the Parish center or placed in the Sunday collection basket

If you are interested in participating in this Ministry you are encouraged to attend our planning meetings. **Next meeting will be held in the Parish Center on Wednesday, September 25th at 7PM**

"We are all pencils in the hand of God." — Mother Teresa



Invitation to Serve on the New St. Thomas Baptism Team Ministry

Hello parishioners! We are excited to inform you that St. Thomas is starting a new Baptism Team Ministry, to support families on the Baptism day of their child. Baptism is in many ways the quintessential example of parish life, because the faith community — family, relatives, and friends — is gathered in the church to welcome its newest member, incorporate him or her into the sacramental life, and profess belief in Jesus Christ and His Church on his or her behalf. It is a profoundly important time for both the individual family and the communal family.

We heartily encourage members of our parish community to consider serving on this new Baptism Ministry. Your main responsibility would be to be present on the days when baptisms are being done and assist with the ceremony and environment by making families and guests feel welcome, providing support, and attending to situations that may arise, such as the needs of small children. You can also serve as lector, since the Baptism ceremony usually involves a Scripture reading and Intercessions.

This is a beautiful way to welcome the newest members of our parish along with their families.

If you would like to become part of our Baptism Team, please contact:
Deacon Brian Murphy, by phone at **973-454-7289** ,
by e-mail bjmurph1@gmail.com or
Michael Pasquale, by phone at **973-393-8684** , by
e-mail mpasquale22@gmail.com
Thank you and God bless you!

PARISH CENTER SUMMER HOURS



July 1st through Labor Day
Mondays – Thursdays 9 am – 5pm
Fridays 9 am – 1pm
Saturday 9 am – 1pm

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

"The just give unsparingly." (Proverbs 21:26)

Summertime is a good time to enjoy the fruits of our time, talent and treasure. As we take time to relax, it is also a good time to reflect on what we have done thus far and recommit to being more generous in sharing these three gifts with the Lord and others.

"...Be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." *Luke 12:40*

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:

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.

**For more information,
contact Fran Gardella at 848-448-4335 or
email at fgardella@hotmail.com.**

PARISH INFORMATION
FOR ST. THOMAS PARISH
Did you know?

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 or Deacon 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 or Deacons.

'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 2019 year. All Baptisms are on Sundays at 1:30pm on the following dates; 7/21, 8/18, 9/22, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15

Baptism is a community celebration. Individual Baptisms are normally performed only in case of necessity.

*Statement of Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., on
New Jersey's Assisted Suicide Law
August 1, 2019*

Human compassion fills our hearts with sadness when we hear about an individual who wishes to end his or her life to escape the pain and suffering of illness, disability, or disease. The fear associated with such devastating human conditions is real and legitimate.

However, as Pope Francis has noted, we must be careful not to yield to a false sense of compassion. Our Holy Father reminds us that we must never take a human life—even, or especially, our own, since “this is a sin against God, the creator.”

The gift of human life and dignity is sacred and must be respected and protected at every stage, from conception to natural death. Respect for human life encourages a trust and peace with God despite illness and suffering.

We remain united to Christ through our suffering. St. Paul reminds us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We have Christ in life and death – when he will intercede for us and bring us to eternal joy.

We must be clear. What legislatures now refer to as “death with dignity” is legal permission for one to end their own life with a lethal overdose of prescription drugs. This new state law has become an answer to addressing one's fear of affliction or suffering. What is more, in a for-profit industry like health care, there is the real danger that euthanasia will be seen as a cost-cutting measure. There is evidence in states that have already legalized assisted suicide that insurers encourage this “solution” instead of more costly medical care. The handicapped and impaired will feel pressure to end their lives.

This law also puts immense pressure on Catholics in health care ministries to follow their conscience instead of being coerced into providing assistance that is immoral.

Dying patients who request euthanasia should receive loving care, psychological and spiritual support, and appropriate remedies for pain and other symptoms so they can *live* with dignity until the time of natural death.

Many families surround loved ones with comfort in their final moments of life. The Little Sisters of the Poor provides a powerful witness to the conviction that loving, prayerful, and attentive presence offered in times of suffering and death can be redemptive. Their mission, which brings strength, peace, and assurance to those under their care, quietly proclaims their belief that “dying with dignity” comes with humble acceptance, not through the avoidance of suffering.

We only have to consider the cross of Christ to be reminded that God, in the hour of His greatest suffering, expressed His deepest compassion for us, and chose not to avoid painful torment and humiliation, but to accept it for our sake. ♦

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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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