

# St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

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Parish Center Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm. Friday 9am-1pm & 2pm-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm

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

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ELEMENTARY CATECHETICS

Tracey Hann

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Michael Petrillo

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MUSIC MINISTRIES

Patricio Molina

ASSISTANT LITURGICAL  
MUSIC MINISTERS

Kimberley Mesiti

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR FAMILY  
& ADULT FORMATION MINISTRIES

Robert P. Miller

COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Quinn Furnald

TRUSTEES

Bernadette Lipoma

James McKittrick

SACRAMENT OF  
RECONCILIATION  
(Penance/Confessions)  
Saturday: 11:00am

MARIAN  
DEVOTIONS  
Mondays  
Novena Prayer  
11:30am Mass

LITURGY OF  
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November 10, 2019 • Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Week**

**Saturday, November 9**

5:00 pm Anne Lynch - Friend

**Sunday, November 10**

**Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am Virginia E. McGovern – Friend

9:00 am Dorothea Berdoulis – Friend

10:30 am For the Faithful Departed

12:00 pm Marie Reilly – 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Daughter

**Monday, November 11**

**St. Martin of Tours, Bishop**

7:30 am For the Faithful Departed

11:30 am Thomas Carroll – Friend

**Tuesday, November 12**

**St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr**

7:30 am Mary & Carlo Safonte - Family

11:30 am Brendan Boyle – Bequest

**Wednesday, November 13**

**St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin**

7:30 am Marie & Paul DeRogatis – Family

11:30 am Mary Margaret Tizzano – Husband

**Thursday, November 14**

**Weekday**

7:30 am Vanjean Cayetano – Family

11:30 am Johanna & Edmund Dovidas – Family

**Friday, November 15**

**Weekday**

**St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

7:30 am Gail Karen Pilsbury – Husband

11:30 am Molly Casale – Friends

**Saturday, November 16**

**Weekday**

**St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, Virgin, BVM**

8:30 am Antonia Bevacqua

5:00 pm Anthony Buono, Jr. – Family

**Sunday, November 17**

**Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am Michael Anthony Pedalino – Friend

9:00 am Sean Holland – Friend

10:30 am Victor V. Villafranca – Neighbor

12:00 pm For the People



**PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Ranato Tuason, Phyllis Manion,  
William Frunzi, Nancy Salerno,  
Kevin Carroll, Carolyn Lyons,  
Fortunato 'Gerry' Geronimo

**REST IN PEACE**

Anastasia Vera Benjamin, Eric B. Ramos  
Robyn Gianotti Lubanik, Dorika Campomayor

**SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS**

CHURCH: Emilie B. Celis

View this bulletin online at:

<http://stachurchbloomfield.com/bulletin>

**Background on the Gospel Reading:** *Luke 20:27-38*



In today's Gospel, we hear about an encounter between Jesus and some Sadducees. The Sadducees were a party of Judaism active in Jesus' time, descended from the priestly family of Zadok. They were literal interpreters of the written Law of Moses, which means that they were in disagreement with the position of the Pharisees, who offered an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses.

The Sadducees are described in this Gospel as opponents to the belief in resurrection. In the dialogue presented here, we see an example of the means of disputation that was common in first century Judaism. The Sadducees use the example of Levirate marriage, found in the Law of Moses, to disprove belief in the resurrection. According to Deuteronomy 25:5-10, if a man died without producing an heir, the man's brother should marry his wife and the offspring of this union would inherit the property and carry on the name of the man who had died. The Sadducees use this as an example to challenge belief in the resurrection.

Jesus argues from the same written Law of Moses to show that there is resurrection. Using the texts from the Book of Exodus (Chapter 3) that describe Moses' encounter with God in the burning bush, Jesus shows that God is the God of the living, not the dead. Here Jesus uses the same method and texts of the Sadducees to counter them. As the Gospel text suggests, he beat them at their own game!

More importantly, in this discourse Jesus shows the limits of our imaginations when it comes to eternal life. The Sadducees argued against resurrection because of the limits of earthly existence. They did not imagine another possibility for existence and relationship with God. Jesus proposes that the possibilities of resurrected life are beyond our imaginations. Jesus' conclusion suggests something else as well: To spend time worrying about resurrected life is to miss the point. The point is eternal relationship with God is possible, for God is the God of the living, ". . . for to him all are alive."

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/32nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-c-sunday-connection>

## From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Parish Family,

This week you will find our Financial Statement for the fiscal year 2018/2019. Please look them over. If you have any questions please contact Jim McKittrick or Pat DeCotiis. (Their contact information is at the bottom of the "Notes to Financials".)

There will be a brief overview of the Financial Statement at all Masses next weekend.

I would like to take this time to thank Jim McKittrick and Bernadette Lipoma, our Trustees, and Pat DeCotiis, Bob Garrabrant, Dennis Sutton from our Finance Council, and Jim Gasperini, our Business Manager, for your Stewardship of Time and Talent in preparing these statements. I also thank O'Donnell and Company, our Accounting firm, for their assistance over the years.

Most of all I thank you, our parishioners, for your generosity and support. I look forward to years of working together here at St. Thomas the Apostle.

You will also find a beautiful Prayer for Stewardship in the bulletin.

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



Fr. Larry

### 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 November 3<sup>rd</sup> compared to the budget amount for the year. The break-even date is June 30, 2020. The amount needed each week is \$17,496 and the amount collected last weekend was \$17,073.



Budget Amount	Year to Date	Remaining Amount
\$892,300	\$298,219	\$594,081

The year to date amount is negative by \$16,709 as of week number 18 in our current budget year.

### Parish Stewardship Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

My parish is composed of people like me; **I help make it what it is.**

It will be friendly, **if I am.**

**Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.**

It will do great work, **if I work.**

**It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.**



It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, **if I invite and bring them.**

It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a parish with a noble spirit, **if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.**

Therefore, with Your help, O God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be.

Reprinted from the September 2019 issue of *One Family in Mission* newsletter, courtesy of the Office of Parish Stewardship, Diocese of Rockville Centre.

### This week at STA [stachurchbloomfield.com](http://stachurchbloomfield.com)

Location key: (CH) Church (PC) Parish Center (G) Gym (HH) Herron Hall

Day	Date	Time	Event and location (refer to key)
Su	11/10	10:00a	RCIA (PC)
		10:30a	Mass - Children's' Liturgy (PC)
		1:00p	Baptism Preparation (PC)
M	11/11	11:30a	September Club (PC)
		3:40p	CCD Class (HH)
		6:00p	Cub Den Meeting (HH)
		7:00p	Funeral Support (CH)
		7:30p	Men's Scripture (PC)
T	11/12	3:40p	CCD Class (HH)
		6:00p	Girl Scouts (HH)
		7:00p	Boys Scouts (G)
W	11/13	7:00p	Small Christian Community (PC)
Th	11/14	7:45p	Choir Adult (PC)
F	11/15	7:20p	Small Christian Community (PC)
Sa	11/16	11:00a	Confession (CH)
Su	11/17	8:00a	Blood Pressure (PC)
		9:00a	Hospitality (PC)
		10:00a	RCIA (PC)
		10:30a	Mass - Children's Liturgy (PC)
		11:30a	Prayer Shawl Ministry (PC)
		1:30p	Baptism Sacrament (CH)
		7:00p	Youth Group (PC)

New Ministry Here at St. Thomas  
Have you ever thought of using  
your time and talent to help others  
who are grieving?



Here at St. Thomas we celebrate many funerals each year. What better way to show our love and support for each other than by offering our time and talent during this difficult time in a family's life. We will be starting a funeral ministry to offer such support to one another.

If you are interested come to a meeting with Fr. Larry on Monday, November 11th at 7pm in the church.



St. Thomas is looking to restore the Wedding Rehearsal Team!! This valuable ministry assists the priest, deacons, couples to be married and their families by running the wedding rehearsals. This is a very social ministry and it is exciting to work with the couples and their families at such a happy time. The newly revised plan for rehearsals is much more streamlined and very different from previous teams. We invite anyone who may be interested to please contact Michael

Pasquale: [mpasquale22@gmail.com](mailto:mpasquale22@gmail.com) or Fr. Anton by calling the parish center to leave your name and contact information. Or, you can simply approach us after mass. Training and meeting information will be forthcoming once we have a core group together.

### **MEN'S SCRIPTURE READING AND REFLECTION**

ALL MEN are invited **Monday, November 11, 2019** at 7:30pm in St. James room.

Join a group of ordinary men and spend 90 minutes reflecting on the Sunday Scripture Readings for the coming week and discussing some of the **Challenges to our Catholic Faith**. Come and share the extraordinary Word of God and together learn more about our beautiful Catholic faith.

Hello. My name is Patricio Molina and I am excited to be working here at St. Thomas the Apostle Church as your new Director of Music. From a very young age in Chile I have had a deep love for music. In fact, the Chilean University was quick to recognize my God-given talents when at the age of four they invited me to attend college on a scholarship. I have been recognized by a number of people, institutions and competitions, including The New York Times.

As a pianist, organist, and composer, I have performed in a wide range of venues around the world including New York's Carnegie Hall, Borden Auditorium at the Manhattan School of Music, New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), the Teatro Municipal of Chile, Odeon Amphitheater in Jordan and in TV media; PBS, Chilean National TV, NBC, among others.

I completed my master's degree at the Manhattan School of Music under the guidance of Dr. Marc Silverman and am now attempting the only and first double-doctorate, a PhD in composition and DMA in performance at Rutgers University.

Always looking to share my love for music I teach college classes and am the Director of the Grier Conservatory at the Newark School of the Arts. Seeing a need to help others, I co-founded and am president of Notes for Growth Inc., a non-for-profit foundation that gives musical instruments to under-privileged children. On a personal note, I was recently married to my wife, Mallory, and we are expecting our first child in May.

I look forward to working with the people here at St. Thomas and to sharing my love for music with you.

### **NEW ON OUR WEBSITE**

When preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation it is important to do a good Examination of Conscience. For help in getting ready please refer to our website where you will find helpful information for people of all ages.

Also new on our website is information from the US Catholic Conference of Bishops on Catholic Cremations.

### **WELLNESS MINISTRY**

Blood pressure screening, Sunday,  
Nov. 17, 8a-12p at the Parish Center.



**MASS FOR OUR COUNTRY** is an opportunity to come together in prayer for the healing of our Country; held on the first Thursday of each month to June at 7:30 pm preceded by a rosary at 7:00 pm. This will be held here at St. Thomas the Apostle.



Are you or someone you know interested in being baptized or need to receive the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation? Perhaps you just want to learn more about your faith. The RCIA is the process by which adults prepare for the reception of the sacraments in a friendly, relaxed, and informal setting. It is also a way for those who have already received their sacraments in initiation to learn about their faith in a deeper way. The RCIA meetings are held every Sunday after the 9 a.m. Mass in the St. Thomas room in the parish center. For more information call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x135.

### HOLIDAY SEASON BULLETIN DEADLINES

#### DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> BULLETIN

Deadline: 5pm on Monday November 18<sup>th</sup>

#### DECEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup> BULLETIN

Deadline: 5pm on Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>

#### DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup> BULLETIN

Deadline: 5pm on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>

#### JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup> BULLETIN

Deadline: 5pm on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup>

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

*"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God."  
(Isaiah 40:1)*

Inasmuch as November is set aside in a special way to prayerfully remember the deceased, let us also remember to reach out to comfort those grieving loved ones who have been "left behind." Let us generously use our Time, Talent, and Treasure to comfort those who themselves are in the final stages of dying, as well as their loved ones who are generously and bravely ministering to them. With great courage and wisdom, too, let us prepare materially and spiritually to comfort ourselves and our loved ones in anticipation of the eventuality of our own deaths. *Amen.*

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**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

***Congratulations to those who were  
joined in Holy Matrimony***

***They are no longer two...  
but one.***



*Cynthia Michels and Zachary Robbins*  
*Lauren DiPasquale and Robert LaPorta*  
*Lauren Podkul and Joseph Milano*

**NEW TO OUR PARISH? WELCOME!!**

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP;** New Parishioners are request to register in the Parish as soon as possible. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes in address or phone number.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive a registration form

I have an address change

I am moving out of the Parish

Please cut out and return to Parish office or drop in the collection basket.

# OLIVER!

The Theater League of Clifton will present the Broadway musical, "Oliver".

**Theresa Aprea Theater**  
199 Scoles Ave., Clifton, NJ 07012

The show continues Nov. 10, 15, 16, and 17.

Friday & Saturday night performances begin at 8 p.m., while the two Sunday matinees will start at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices for adults are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For students and seniors, prices are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Group rates are available for \$12 /ticket (must have 12 or more people).

Tickets may be reserved by phone (973-928-7668); online via the theater's website [www.theaterleagueofclifton.com](http://www.theaterleagueofclifton.com); or regular mail--payment by check only.

The Theater League's mailing address is: P.O. Box 4072, Clifton, NJ 07012

### St. Thomas parishioners in this production:

**Kim Mesiti** (cantor) – as Nancy

**Jose Rojas** (choir member) – as Grimwig/Governor/Ensemble

**Mary Nakrosis** (STA student) – as Handwalker/Ensemble

St. Thomas the Apostle School is in need of substitute teachers. Anyone interested should send their resume and credentials to [staoffice@staschoolnj.org](mailto:staoffice@staschoolnj.org).

### St. Thomas the Apostle Prayer Shawl Ministry

*November 17<sup>th</sup>*  
*in the St. Peter's room*  
*11:30a.m. -1:30 p.m.*



Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry knit or crochet either privately at home or with a group. They begin each shawl or lap robe with prayers for the recipient and continue their intentions throughout the creation of the shawl. A prayer may also be offered when the shawl is presented. 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.

Request a shawl by calling the parish center, by speaking to one of our members, dropping by during one of our gatherings or by contacting Alicia @ 973-715-5770 or [aliciavons@gmail.com](mailto:aliciavons@gmail.com). All crafters are welcome to join our gatherings of fellowship where we pray and work together exchanging ideas and patterns.

### Understanding the Catholic Teaching on the Eucharist

You may have heard in the news recently of a poll taken by the Pew Research Center that 69% of self-described Catholics believe that during the celebration of the Mass that the bread and wine are merely symbols of Jesus' body and blood. To make matters even worse, of those who participated in the survey, 43% of Catholics not only believed that the Eucharist is just a symbol, but that they believed that the Catholic Church taught that the Eucharist was merely symbolic. Of those who do know of the Catholic teaching on transubstantiation, that the elements of bread and wine actually change into the true body and blood of Christ, 22% reject this teaching. A majority of people in every age group surveyed, including those over 60, believed that the bread and wine are symbols and not the actual body and blood of Christ. In response to this lack of understanding about the Eucharist, we at St. Thomas will be publishing a series of articles in the bulletin to help explain the Catholic Church's teaching on the doctrine of the Eucharist. We will also sponsor a series of speakers to give a more in-depth teaching to promote an understanding of the Church's consistent 2000 year teaching on the Eucharist. Please check upcoming bulletins for this series of articles and upcoming speaker events. For more information, please contact Bob Miller, Director of Adult Education at 973.338.9190 x135.



Looking for a few new members for the St Thomas Bell Choir. Students grades 4 and up. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 4-5 in the parish center. Must be available to play Thanksgiving morning and Christmas Eve masses. For questions or more info please contact bell director Mrs Bellotti at [amb@bellotti.us.com](mailto:amb@bellotti.us.com)

### SOMETHING NEW

We have added a "Petition Book" to our church near the Reconciliation Room. Here you may list any special intentions that you have and we will pray for them at our weekend Masses.

**PRAY FOR OUR VETERANS THIS  
VETERAN'S DAY, MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 11, 2019.**



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