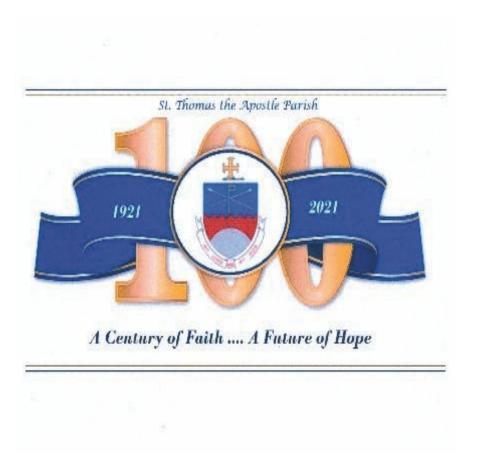
# Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish & School

# THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 7, 2021

# PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

# "To make disciples, as we know, love and serve God and one another."



Pastor: Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Frank W. Fellrath Rev. Paulus Marandi, CMF

Deacons: Robert Bonfante, Sr. Patrick W. Hearty Joseph C. Tobin Scott D. Titmas, Sr.

School Principal: Annette Pioppo

School Vice Principal: Diane Zarate

> PREP Director: Ms. Debbie Yesis

Director Sacred Music/Liturgy: Mr. Justin Connors

# **Celebration of Mass**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00Noon Weekday: Monday - Friday: 8:00am & 12:15pm\*

\*Mondays: Celebrated in church with Miraculous Medal Novena. Parish Office: Tel: 732.251.4000 Fax: 732.251.4946 Website: www.saintthomasob.com

# **PEACE & WELCOME**

Whatever your status in the Church, whatever your family/marital situation, whatever your religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, sexual orientation, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here in the Catholic Community of Saint Thomas the Apostle!



### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 7, 2021

SATURDAY	November 06 Vigil	
4:00pm	Frank Connell r/o Lynda Hanrahan/Family	
·	Arpad Joseph Csizmadia, Jr. r/o Loving mom, Susan	
	Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary r/o	
	STA Legion of Mary	
SUNDAY	November 07 - Thirty-Second Sun in Ord Time	
8:00am	Grace Murnane r/o Steve/Lynn Santurro	
10:00am	Carmela ladevaia r/o Rose Stasi	
	Robert Damis Nobel r/o M/M Michael Szebenyi/ Family	
12:00pm	Walter G. Schmitt r/o Iris Schmitt	
MONDAY	November 08	
8:00am	William Isola r/o daughter, Barbara	
12:15pm	Monthly Memorial Mass	
TUESDAY	November 09 - The Dedication of the Lateran	
	Basilica	
8:00am	Maurice Manili r/o Mark/Mary Agolia	
12:15pm	Marilyn Veverka r/o John Veverka	
WEDNESDAY	November 10 - St. Leo the Great, Pope/Doctor of the Church	
WEDNESDAY 8:00am		
	of the Church	
8:00am	<b>of the Church</b> Alfred Krushinskie r/o Dorothy Klimowicz	
8:00am 12:15pm	<b>of the Church</b> Alfred Krushinskie r/o Dorothy Klimowicz James Nasto, Jr. r./o 5:30pm Ushers	
8:00am 12:15pm <b>THURSDAY</b>	of the Church Alfred Krushinskie r/o Dorothy Klimowicz James Nasto, Jr. r./o 5:30pm Ushers November 11 - St. Martin of Tours, Bishop	
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# **DECEASED +** LOVED ONES

Beatrice Raab, Catherine Bennet, Elizabeth Kucher, Marie Wells, Elizabeth Iorillo, Lynne Pleva, Antonia T. Apoldo, Benjamin D. Agostino

#### Welcome to the Parish Family of St. Thomas!

If you are new to the community, *Welcome!* We are grateful to the Lord for your presence with us, and look forward to including you in all areas of parish life. Please take a moment to stop by the Parish Office and register with us. After Mass, please introduce yourself to Father Jay, Father Frank or Father Paulus. Registering and using your envelopes makes it easier for us to provide documentation, such as a certificate for sponsoring a child for Baptism or Confirmation or to arrange for a wedding.

#### So please register... and Welcome!

Parish Office	: One St. Thomas Pl	aza
	Old Bridge, NJ 088	57
	Tel: 732.251.4000	Fax: 732.251.4946
Office Hours:	Monday-Friday 9:0	00am-4:00pm
	Saturday-Sunday 1	0:30am-1:30pm
(Lunch 12:30p	om-1:30pm approx.	)
School Tel:	732.251.4812	
PREP Tel:	732.251.1660	
	Contact Informat	tion:
Website: <b>www</b>	.saintthomasob.con	1
www.facebool	c.com/pages/St-Tho	mas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-
Bridge-NJ		
	Parish Offic	ce Staff
<b>Business</b> Adm	inistrator:	Ms. Michelle Loney
Parish Secreta	ary:	Ms. Lisa Sorrentino
Reception/Bir	ngo Coordinator:	Ms. Jenn Bachonski
Bulletin Editor	•	Ms. Nellie Moran

#### **Sacramental** Information

**BAPTISMS:** (1:30pm, most Sundays) The Church calls GODPARENTS, to be practicing Catholics, examples of Christcentered living today. All Godparents should submit Sponsor letters from their Parish ASAP—but no later than <u>three weeks</u> before the scheduled Baptism. <u>PARENTS</u> must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session. (Registration is required.)

#### **MARRIAGES:**

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance—<u>before</u> any social plans. Either the bride or groom must be a registered member of our parish. Once a marriage questionnaire (available in Pastoral Center) is completed/returned, a Parish Priest or Deacon will then contact the couple.

#### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

In case of dangerous illness or accident, phone the Pastoral Center. A communal celebration of the Sacrament is held each year in the Spring.

**PENANCE:** Individual Confessions Saturdays, 12:30pm in the church.

**HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:** Parishioners desiring the Sacraments, please contact Pastoral Center.

#### **REMEMBERING** LOVED ONES . . .

<u>Sanctuary</u> <u>Candle/Mary</u> <u>Candle</u>, (lit for one week in church/ chapel, available during daytime in Pastoral Center).

**Wall of Remembrance:** Honor your Loved ones with a candle that burns for one year and has a plaque under the candle in the church.



#### OUR ST. THOMAS 2022 CASH CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED!

Please stop by the Auditorium after Mass to pick up your reserved calendars. If you have not yet reserved a calendar number - ranging from 1 to 1500 and wish to do so, please e-mail Eileen at eatabert@hotmail.com with your desired selection. Calendars are \$25 and daily prizes ranging from \$25 to \$500 totaling \$12,000 for the year. It's the gift that keeps on giving!



# **REMEMBER OUR TROOPS THIS CHRISTMAS**

Come join your fellow parishioners the weekend of **November 13/14**, in the auditorium after Mass to sign Christmas cards for our Military, to

wish them a Merry Christmas and thank them for their service to our country.

## LIFE CHOICES RESOURCE CENTER



**Baby Bottle collection** is due <u>THIS weekend</u> **November 6-7.** Please drop bottles in collection

bin or the form in the collection basket. You may also mail to Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840. Your gift will help save a baby's life. Thank you! www.LifeChoicesRC.com

### MONTHLY MEMORIAL MASS ...

...is offered for specifically-recommended deceased loved ones. The names are inscribed in a Memorial Register located at the rear of the church under a lighted candle. For more information, call the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000.



# BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

All parents must participate in a Baptismal Preparation Program. <u>Next class:</u> *Tuesday, Nov. 23*,

**7:30pm** (Parish Room). **Registration required**. Remember, the Sacrament of Baptism is a sacred event regulated by Church (Canon) law. **Please do not plan any activity until dates are confirmed**. Any questions - call 732.251.4000



#### PARISH SUPPORT

Here at STA we encourage you to be Christian Stewards, using everything God has given us—time, talent, treasure—to serve Him gratefully.

You may mail in your weekly donation to:

St. Thomas Church, 1 St. Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 Online Giving... Visit our website to get started: <u>www.saintthomasob.com.</u>

Collection: October 30/31: \$13,951.00

### WELCOME FR. PAULUS MARANDI, CMF



I am Paulus Marandi, a Claretian Priest. I was born in Eastern India in 1986. I come from a tribe called Santal, one of the largest homogenous tribes of Asia. I entered the seminary at the age

of 16 and completed some of my priestly formation in India. Before taking the final vows in the Claretian congregation, I opted to serve in the United States. I arrived in Chicago almost eight years ago in 2013. I did my ESL (English as Second Language) Studies at De Paul University, Chicago for six months. I completed my theological studies at Catholic Theological Union with an MA in Theology. I was ordained a priest on May 27, 2016. Since that time, I have studied Spanish in various places, including Mexico. After ordination,

I served in two Hispanic communities, one at San Gabriel Mission, California and the other, in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. I thoroughly enjoy ministering as a priest and I find my greatest satisfaction and enthusiasm in parish ministry. I am looking forward to work and to share the joy of my priestly vocation with you at Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, Old Bridge, New Jersey.



All Confirmation Candidates: Both St. Thomas PREP and St. Thomas School Confirmation Candidates must attend a gathering with one parent tomorrow, <u>Monday, November 8</u> <u>at 6:45pm in the auditorium</u>. Our speaker will be Sr. Hosea Rupprecht, and the topic will be integrating culture, faith and media. All Confirmation Candidates: (PREP/School) are asked to <u>donate a non-perishable food item for Thanksgiving</u>. Candidates, please bring your item with you when you attend our talk with Sr. Hosea on this <u>November 8</u>. Any questions—please call PREP at 732.251.1660

### **Sharing Tree Program**

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish will continue its Sharing Tree Program. Due to the pandemic, <u>we will not be collecting</u> <u>toys.</u> We will be collecting Target, Walmart, Amazon, and Visa gift cards in **\$10**, **\$25 and \$50 denominations**. The gift cards will be collected beginning <u>November 6 through</u> <u>December 4</u>. If you would like to contribute, you can drop your gift card in the Sharing Tree box in the Church lobby.

Gift cards may also be dropped off at the Pastoral Center during office hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00am to 12:30pm or 1:30pm to 4:00pm, Tuesday/Thursday from 9:00am to 12:30pm or 1:30pm to 7:00pm. Saturday/ Sunday from 11:00am to 1:30pm. Please give your gift cards to the Parish secretary in an enveloped marked SHAR-ING TREE. We will be collecting donations through December 5.

We also welcome gifts of cash or checks made out to St. Thomas Church. St. Thomas parishioners have always been very generous to those in need. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated during this holiday season. **May the Peace** of the season fill your heart.

### **NURSING HOME DONATIONS**

St. Thomas the Apostle will be accepting monetary donations for the purchase of specific items requested by our local nursing homes. Please place your check made out to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, or cash donation in the envelope labeled **NURSING HOME** and put into the NURSING HOME box in the church lobby.

Nursing Home donations may also be dropped off at the Pastoral Center during office hours: <u>Monday/Wednesday/Friday</u> from 9:00am to 12:30pm or 1:30pm to 4:00pm Tuesday/ <u>Thursday from 9:00am to 12:30pm of 1:30pm to 7:00pm,</u> <u>Saturday/Sunday from 11:00am to 1:30pm.</u>

We will be collecting donations through December 5. Please give your NURSING HOME donation envelope to the Parish secretary.

# **ST. MICHAEL PRAYER**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wiles and wickedness of the devil. Restrain him O God, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly

Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin and destruction of souls. Amen



# SAVE THE DATE

BLOOD DAVE St. Thomas Parish will hold its annual Winter Blood Drive on Saturday, **January 15, 2022** from 8:00am until 2:00pm. Appointments are recom-

mended. Walk-ins will be accommodated as space allows. Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. 16 year olds need a signed NYBC parental consent form. If you have received the COVID vaccine, there is no waiting period before donating as long as your feeling well. Further specific details will be published soon.



**Knights Corner** St Thomas the Apostle Council 4815





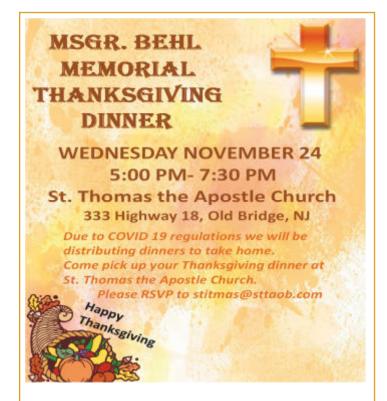
# Prayer for the Canonization of Fr. McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Fr.

McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body, which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in servant Michael J. McGivney, on earth, according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Use this QR Code. Scan the code MCGIVNEY2020 to receive a FREE first year membership dues!! Offer is good until December 31, 2021. Enter our Council number 4815.





# ST. THOMAS SCHOOL CHILDREN CELEBRATE 100 YEARS WITH 100 ROSARIES





St. Thomas the Apostle Church Old Bridge, NJ



# MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS TREES 3RD ANNUAL

# "LIGHT UP THE SEASON"

St. Thomas the Apostle is sponsoring a fundraiser that will allow you to memorialize a Christmas tree in honor of your loved ones, living or deceased. The trees will be placed on the parish grounds around the St. Thomas statue. The trees are live, 6 foot trees. Each tree will be lighted and have a memorial sign remembering your loved one or family members attached to it.

# JOIN US FOR THE LIGHTING

There will be a blessing and lighting of the trees and Nativity following the **4:00pm** Mass on **November 27, 2021.** The trees will be lit every night for the entire Christmas season and families will be able to visit the trees throughout this time.

# Trees must be ordered ASAP!

# **SPONSOR A MEMORIAL TREE FOR \$100**

If you are interested, please complete this form and return with a check made payable to St. Thomas Church and return to the Pastoral Center.

City:	State: Zip:
hone:	Email:
IORIAL MESSAGE:	

# **PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Anonymously Recommended, Lucy Alversano, Beatrice, Bob Andrews, Ronald Atlak, Sr, Pat Barabas, Enola Barlik, Rita Bator, Barbara and George Bollhardt, Gloria Bonagard, Barbara Brooks, Craig Michael Buttcher, Nicholas Campanella, Ralph Chiano, Louis Coromilias, Edmund Crookhorn, Camella Dacunta, Barbara Davis, Christopher Dee, John D'Mello, Stan D'Mello, Nancy Donoghue, Loretta Doyle, Chet Dudek, Sharon Ferrari, Flora, Joseph Fricano, Brian Gage, Lucinda Gatto, Walter Gladkowski, Johanna Gordon, Charlotte Guarino, Matthew Harris, Robert Henrion, Robert John Isbecki, Emelie Jeffries, Vlad Kachur, Irene Keaveney, Katie, Gwen Kelly, Pearl Kelly, Cathleen Kimber, Albert King, Joseph Lane, Cheryl Layden, Michael Layden, Thomas Layden, Lester Lim, Rosa Lopez, Vincent Mascolo, Harold Mann, Patricia Mann, Gabrielle Margett, Mary Margett, Margie Marrero, Rafael Marrero, Jr., Joseph McKeown, Wilfredo Medina, III, Brian Menedez, Susan Napier, Jeff Nemeth, Olivia, Ralph Perez, Connie Pfiel, Sam Pontieri, Elaine Posluszny, Michael Quinlan, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Harry Rothlin, Joseph Russo Jr., Marie Sarna, Eileen Schuck, Donna Semko, Fr. Thomas E. Smith (S.J.), Alice Sokolowsky, AnnMarie Sorrentino, Nancy Stahley, Irene Sutton, Jacquelyn Tortoriello, Denise Tuite, Mark Vern, Isilio Villa, Adele Weiner, Pati Wert, Andrew Wolf, Nell White, Marie Wilson, Peter Wysheff, Mary Yuhas, Candida and Edward Zglobicki.

Please pray for all the sick. (Names will remain on our sick list for <u>one</u> <u>month</u>, after which time they will be removed, unless we are notified to the contrary.) The Clergy will be happy to visit parishioners confined to local hospitals. Phone the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000.

### **PLUMBING PROBLEM NEWS!**

The church's main sewer line has dislodged in one spot and is clogged in another area. We have had a plumbing company try to unclog the line the past 3 days with several types of equipment to no avail. We will need to replace approximately 400'of waste line from the corner of the church to the Memorial Garden in front of the school.



ALL SINGERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND Metuchen NPM's 2021 St. Cecilia Sing Prayer from our Souls

Friday, November 12, 2021–7:00pm. Rehearsal - 8:00pm Prayer Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church 600 Harris Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846

<u>Masks are strongly recommended for all singers and will</u> <u>be available.</u> Registration is required. To learn more or to register please visit: diometuchen.org/npm



## THE RARITAN TRIO CONCERT St. Thomas the Apostle, Old Bridge November 14 - 3:00 p.m.

Join us as we welcome the music of The Raritan Trio on Sunday, <u>November 14 at</u> 3:00 p.m.

The Raritan Trio brings together three young musicians of exceptional talent, passion and experience. Formed in January 2019 at Mason Gross School of the Arts-Rutgers University, NJ, The trio originally consisted of pianist Alexander Bui, violinist Yu Ouyang, and cellist Jiun-Ru Wang. Due to a professional leave in 2021, Ms. Wang left the trio and cellist Li Pang quickly stepped in to continue The Raritan Trio's ultimate goal-spreading the beautiful repertoire of Piano Trios to audiences world wide through performances and music education. Coached by Jonathan Spitz and other internationally renowned musicians, the Raritan Trio has achieved the highest esteem such as winning the Rutgers Chamber Music Competition, Bronze medalist in the American Prize Chamber Music Competition, Rudolph Barshai International Strings Competition, and Odin International Music Competition. The name of the Raritan Trio was inspired by the Raritan River that is across from the Mason Gross School of the Arts. The river resembles their warm spirit in hoping that they will leave a long-lasting and meaningful impact to their audiences.

# Celebrating the Church as a "Family of Families"

As we celebrate the Year "Amoris Laetitia Family," the Office of Communications and Public Relations is compiling a digital family photo album. We invite you to share a photo of your family - a photo of your domestic church by which our local Church of Metuchen is constantly enriched. Please consider sharing your family's photo with us by sending your photo to communications@diometuchen.org, so we can together bear witness to the love of God through our "family of families."



Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; In you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became a man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, Show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage. And defend us from every evil. Amen.



