

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
November 20, 2022

Pastor:

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Paulus Marandi, CMF

Rev. John M. Rozembajgier, JCL

Deacons:

Robert Bonfante, Sr.

Patrick W. Hearty

Scott D. Titmas, Sr.

Joseph C. Tobin

School Principal:

Annette Pioppo

School Vice Principal:

Diane Zarate

PREP Director:

Ms. Debbie Yesis

Director Sacred Music/Liturgy:

Mr. Justin Connors

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*“To make disciples, as we
know, love and serve God
and one another”*

Celebration of Mass

Weekend:

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!



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
NOVEMBER 20, 2022

SATURDAY	NOVEMBER 19
	VIGIL
4:00pm	Ann Benko r/o Arlene Carlone
SUNDAY	NOVEMBER 20– OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
8:00am	Anna T. Gangemi r/o Gangemi Family
10:00am	Parishioners, Living and Deceased
12:00pm	Thomas Gallagher r/o Gallagher Family
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 21– The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00am	Marta Taracatac r/o Marantino Family
12:15pm	John Moldenhauer r/o Stephanie/Josh Lynne
TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 22 - St. Cecilia, Virgin/Martyr
8:00am	Barbara/Reinhold r/o /Daiva Cornell
12:15pm	Armenia/Gus Sigmund r/o Family
WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 23 - St. Clement I, Pope/Martyr, St. Columban, Abbott; Bl. Miguel Austin Pro, Priest/Martyr
8:00am	Joseph S. Rembish r/o M/M Joseph Napoli
12:15pm	Catherine Bennet r/o Msgr. Behl Aid Society
THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 24 - St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest/ Companions/Martyrs
9:00am	Thanksgiving
FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 25 - St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin/Martyr
8:00am	Richard A. Behl r/o St. Vincent DePaul Group
12:15pm	Chris Dincuff r/o Family
SATURDAY	NOVEMBER 26
	VIGIL
4:00pm	Rosetta Pasqua r/o St. Thomas PREP Staff
SUNDAY	NOVEMBER 27– FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00am	Dr. Thomas J. Purcell r/o Brian/Donna & Family
10:00am	Francis Ancheta r/o Lucille Ancheta
12:00pm	Parishioners, Living and Deceased

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

Rose Marie Davidson-Wilton, Cornelius “Earl” Anderson, Anastasia Segui, Rosemary Casey, Raymond Lucas, Sr., Irene Hennley, John Wyatt

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 Paulus, or Father John. 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 Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Tel: 732.251.4000 **Fax:** 732.251.4946

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

Saturday-Sunday 10:30am-1:30pm

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am - 7:00pm

(Lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm)

School Tel: 732.251.4812

PREP Tel: 732.251.1660

Contact Information:

Website: www.saintthomasob.com

www.facebook.com/pages/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-Bridge-NJ

Parish Office Staff

Business Administrator: Ms. Michelle Loney

Parish Secretary: Ms. Lisa Sorrentino

Reception/Bingo Coordinator: Ms. Jenn Bachonski

Bulletin Editor: Ms. Nellie Moran

Sacramental Information

BAPTISMS:

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

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance—before 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.

RECONCILIATION:

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

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

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES . . .

Sanctuary Candle/Mary Candle, (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.



A tradition here at St. Thomas is that of giving thanks as a Parish Family. Please join us at the **9:00am** Mass on **Thanksgiving**. Bring your baskets of food and wine and keep with you in your pew to be blessed during the liturgy.

Happy Thanksgiving!

The Parish Office will be closed on **Thursday/Friday**, November, 25th and 26th, and **re-open** on Saturday, November 27th at 10:30am.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS

PREP Confirmation Candidates only: are required to attend a mandatory session on **Monday, December 12th from 6:45pm - 8:30pm** in St. Thomas School. Please arrive promptly. *Parents must meet their child at the front doors of the school at dismissal.*

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES



Contribution envelopes will be available for **pick up this weekend and until the end of November**. Please stop by the auditorium after all Masses to pick up your envelopes. *Thank you.*

THIS WEEKEND: WORKS OF MERCY CAMPAIGN

The proceeds benefit the local needs of those within the Diocese of Metuchen community by addressing the social issues of poverty and hunger.



Old Bridge Interfaith Thanksgiving Gathering
Tuesday, November 22, at 7:00pm
Congregation Beth Ohr
70 Route 516, Old Bridge

You are warmly invited to join with members of St. Thomas and our other Old Bridge faith communities as we express gratitude for blessings received during 2022.



Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance. Next class: this Tuesday, November 22 - 7:30pm Parish Room of the Pastoral Center. **Registration required.** 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, One St. Thomas Plaza,
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Online Giving... Visit our website to get started:
www.saintthomasob.com.

Collection: November 12/13 not available at time of printing.



SHARING TREE



St. Thomas the Apostle Parish will continue its Sharing Tree Program. We will **NOT** be collecting toys. **Instead**, we will be collecting Target, Walmart, Amazon and Visa gift cards in **\$10, \$25 and \$50 denominations**. The Gift cards will be collected beginning November 5 through December 4.

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 9:00 am to 12:30pm or 1:30pm to 7:00pm. Saturday/Sunday from 11:00am to 1:30pm.

We will be collecting donations through December 3/4. Please give your cards to the Parish secretary in an envelope marked **SHARING TREE**.

We also welcome gifts of cash or checks made out to St. Thomas Church. St. Thomas the Apostle 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 in to the **NURSING HOME** box in the church lobby.

They 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.**

We will be collecting donations through December 3/4. Please give your **NURSING HOME** donation envelope to the Parish secretary.



St. Thomas the Apostle Church
Old Bridge, NJ



**MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS TREES
4TH 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 **December 3, 2022**. 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.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

MEMORIAL MESSAGE: _____

2022 CONCERT SERIES AT ST. THOMAS

Collegium Musicum Presents ...

The History of the Musical Instruments

December 10th at 7:00pm



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 4815

The Knights of Columbus have been hosting a **Rosary from Monday to Thursday at 7:00pm via Zoom**. If you would like to participate, please contact Rob Wright at **908.510.6328** or email: rjwkofc4815@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: WINTER BLOOD DRIVE

“St. Thomas Parish in conjunction with St. Thomas Knights of Columbus will conduct its annual Winter Blood Drive on **Saturday, January 14, 2023 from 8:00am - 2:00pm**. You can make an appointment to donate by going to nybc.org/newjerseydrive. Enter sponsor code 07755 and end date 1/14/23. You may also call 800.933.2566.



ST. THOMAS 2023 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!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended, Beatrice, Thomas Altruda, Bob Andrews, Ronald Atlak, Sr, Enola Barlik, Rita Bator, Walter Blais, 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, Nancy Donoghue, Loretta Doyle, Chet Dudek, Jim Feely, Sharon Ferrari, Flora, Abigail Francy, Joseph Fricano, Brian Gage, Lucinda Gatto, Walter Gladkowski, Johanna Gordon, Charlotte Guarino, Corazon Gutierrez, Matthew Harris, Robert Henrion, Cathy Hilman, Robert John Isbecki, Emelie Jeffries, Vlad Kachur, Thomas Kaufman, Katie, Gwen Kelly, Pearl Kelly, Cathleen Kimber, Albert King, Joseph Lane, Cheryl Layden, Michael Layden, Thomas Layden, Lester Lim, Rosa Lopez, Cedric Magaway, Harold Mann, Patricia Mann, Gabrielle Margett, Mary Margett, Daniel Mechkowski, Margie Marrero, Rafael Marrero, Jr., Rudy Maurer, Wilfredo Medina, III, Brian Menedez, Yanina Cruz Mikos, Paul Montalban, Jeff Nemeth, Ann Marie Nocera, Ernie Nocera, Olivia, Carolyn Petry, 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, Anasta Sequi, Fr. Thomas E. Smith (S.J.), John Soporowski, AnnMarie Tortoriello, Denise Tuite, Daphne Ulveling, Sandra Varnis, Joseph Vasham, Mark Vern, Isilio Villa, Pati Wert, Nell White, Peter Wsheff, Mary Yuhas, Candida and Edward Zglobicki.

Please pray for all the sick. (Names will remain on our sick list for one month, 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.

INTO THE BREACH UPCOMING TOPICS:



- Nov. 22 Sacramental Life
- Nov. 29 Spiritual Warfare
- Dec. 06 Evangelization
- Dec. 13 The Cornerstone



\$12,000.00 CASH CALENDAR



Searching for a unique Christmas gift for family and friends?

The 2023 St. Thomas Cash Calendar just might be the answer!

Each of the 365 days of 2023 offers a cash prize ranging from **\$25.00** each weekday to **\$50.00** each Sunday to **\$100.00** each of 9 holidays: New Year's Day ~ Valentine's Day ~ St. Patrick's Day ~ Mother's Day ~ Father's Day ~ Memorial Day ~ July 4th ~ Labor Day ~ Thanksgiving to **\$500.00** on both **Easter** and **Christmas**.

That's a total of **\$12,000.00** in prize money!

Each \$25.00 calendar is individually numbered with a tear-off section to fill in the recipient's name and address. We keep the tear-off ~ you give the calendar as a gift. (Make sure to reserve one for yourself, too!)

Calendars go on sale to the general public on November 5th. If you wish to reserve the same number as you had in 2022, please contact Eileen at eatabert@hotmail.com or call 732.251.4766 prior to November 5, 2022.

Each daily winner will be sent a check for that day's prize. You can win more than once as each winning number is returned to the pot for the next day's drawing. Your Christmas "gift" will keep on giving throughout the year!



MSGR. BEHL MEMORIAL THANKSGIVING DINNER



**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23
4:30 PM- 6:30 PM**

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church
333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, NJ**

We will be distributing dinners to take home. Come pick up your Thanksgiving dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Please RSVP to sttmas@sttaob.com



LIFE CHOICES RESOURCE CENTER

Clothing needed for children (up to size 7) Fall/Winter clothes. Contact: Maureen Nigro - 732.591.8914

THE TABLE AT ST. THOMAS



Saturday, December 10, 2022
12pm - 2pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
333 Highway 18
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Due to COVID 19 regulations we will be distributing dinners to take home. Come pick up your dinner at St. Thomas Church.

Please RSVP, so we can have your meal prepared, to chrisdoyle167@gmail.com or call 732.609.1499.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CRAFT FAIR
Spotswood, NJ

Free Admission – Saturday, November 26 9:00am—4:00pm, hosted by the Altar Rosary Society. Quality holiday and hand crafted items/50-50 raffle. Kitchen closed. There are still a few tables available. If interested, please contact Jay at 609.409.0199.

CALENDAR RAFFLE - NOVEMBER 1 - 15, 2022

1-Nov-22	306	16-Nov
2-Nov-22	184	17-Nov
3-Nov-22	133	18-Nov
4-Nov-22	121	19-Nov
5-Nov-22	907	20-Nov
6-Nov-22	592	21-Nov
7-Nov-22	383	22-Nov
8-Nov-22	134	23-Nov
9-Nov-22	680	24-Nov
10-Nov-22	558	25-Nov
11-Nov-22	1097	26-Nov
12-Nov-22	1378	27-Nov
13-Nov-22	942	28-Nov
14-Nov-22	1235	29-Nov
15-Nov-22	39	30-Nov

RESPECT LIFE MASS SUNDAY

Sunday, January 23, 2023

Please consider joining us for the Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass on **Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 12:00 noon;** Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. Bishop James F. Checchio will be the celebrant. Youth who have been active in pro-life volunteering will be recognized. There will be a light reception immediately following the Mass. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact:

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IMMIGRATION SERVICES PROGRAM

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen ...

... provides immigration services at a low, flat-rate cost for individuals and families. Please call for more information or to make an appointment: 732.324.8200. The main office is located at 319 Maple St., Perth Amboy, NJ; other offices are in New Brunswick and Phillipsburg.



MOST HOLY REDEEMER BLOOD DRIVE
133 Amboy Road, Matawan, NJ

NJ Blood Services will be conducting a Blood Drive at Most Holy Redeemer Parish on **Thursday, December 15, 2022** from 1:00pm - 7:00pm in Desmond Hall. At this time, the blood supply is critically low—PLEASE HELP.

Donors must wear a mask or face covering, have their temperature taken, must be 14 days symptom free if recovered from COVID 19. May NOT donate if you are currently on self-quarantine restrictions. We DO NOT test for COVID-19. Remember to eat, drink, and bring your Donor ID or ID with your name and photo.