

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 4, 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!



SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 4, 2022

SATURDAY	DECEMBER 03 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest VIGIL
4:00pm	Rosetta Pasqua r/o Arlene Carlone
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 04– SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00am	Int. Toni Jean McGuire r/o Richard J. McGuire
10:00am	Francis Ancheta r/o Lucille Ancheta
12:00pm	Bernard/Delina/Phyllis Santangelo r/o Lisa/Chris Marzella
MONDAY	DECEMBER 05
8:00am	Joyce Desmond r/o Dennis/Nancy Francy
12:15pm	Eleanor Marcey McLaughlin r/o Tim/MaryAnne Donoghue
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 06 - St. Nicholas/Bishop
8:00am	Kevin Dougherty r/o Mom/Dad
12:15pm	Victor Klimowicz, Jr.r/o mother/Dorothy Klimowicz
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 07 - St. Ambrose/Bishop, Doctor of the Church
8:00am	Joseph Azzolino r/o Lora Corcoran/Larry Sciascia
12:15pm	Joyce Desmond r/o Fillimon Family
7:00pm	Lillian McEvoy r/o Gangemi Family
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 08 - THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
8:00am	Kristine Yuhas r/o St. Thomas Pastoral Council
12:15pm	Deceased Members of Gajewski/Kiempitsy Families r/o Nocera Family
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 09 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin
8:00am	Nancy Lloyd r/o Mary/Francis Tonra
12:15pm	Christopher Doyle r/o Arlene Carlone
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 10 - Our Lady of Loreto VIGIL
4:00pm	Frank Doyle r/o George/Noreen Szymanski
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 11– THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00am	Ramon Tudtud r/o Susan/Rolly Leon
10:00am	Living and Deceased Members of MBAS
12:00pm	Joseph Faber r/o Tom/Janet Liposky

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

Patricia Naber, Ellen O'Connor, Carolyn Petrey, Bettina Maresco

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.



ADVENT PRAYER

O Lord, stir up in our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

On behalf of the **Hospitality Committee**, we wish to thank all parishioners who stopped by the auditorium to sign a card or two on behalf of our men and women serving in the military. Each year St. Thomas receives an acknowledgement thanking all who took the time to extend their **Christmas** greetings. A special note of gratitude to all who contributed to cover the cost of postage as well.



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Make the most of your Advent Season! Join Fr. Jay for a study of the Bible, tomorrow Monday, December 5th and Monday, December 12th at 7:00pm in the Pastoral Center.



INTO THE BREACH UPCOMING TOPICS:

Dec. 06 Evangelization - 7:00pm
Dec. 13 The Cornerstone - 7:00pm



NEXT WEEKEND: SECOND COLLECTION

Your gift to the **Retirement Fund** for religious provides for our senior Catholic Sisters, Brothers, and religious order Priest. *Thank you for your generosity.*



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Envelopes are available at Church exits and in the Pastoral Center for those wishing to remember their loved ones by donating Christmas Flowers. *A Triduum of Masses will be celebrated for them on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.*

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 19/20\$13,048.00

Collection: Works of Mercy\$ 2,117.00

Collection: November 26/27..not available at time of printing.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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.*

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LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Children in Grades K-8 are invited to go to the Pastoral Center, listen to readings, reflection and Prayers of the Faithful on their own level. Children are well supervised and return to their parents during the Presentation Hymn for the Eucharist - *Sundays in Advent, except December 10th (Bambinelli) Saturday.*

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(Holy Day of Obligation)

*Wednesday, December 7th - 8:00am, 12:15pm
and 7:00pm Mass.*

Thursday, December 8th - 8:00am and 12:15pm.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**Sunday, December 11, 2022
8:30am to 11:30am**



Santa is Coming, Santa is Coming!!

Sit down and have a hot Breakfast and take pictures Bring your camera and take as many pictures as you like with Santa.

**Children under 5 are Free
Children 5 to 12 - \$5.00 a ticket
Children and Adults over 12 - \$10.00 a ticket
Call 732.251.9817 for reservations before Dec. 11th**

**Knights of Columbus is located at
61 Pine Street
Old Bridge, NJ**

2 Blocks south of St. Thomas Church off Route 18 South.



LOVE and be LOVED

An evening with Jim Towe

DECEMBER 9, 2022

at **6:30 PM**

And a special screening of
**MOTHER TERESA
NO GREATER LOVE**



Immaculata High School, Somerville, NJ



Knights of Columbus
St. Francis Council No. 3272
Metuchen, NJ



DIOCESE OF
METUCHEN



IMMACULATA
HIGH SCHOOL
1801 - 1801 19 - 1801 - 1801 19



THE CATHOLIC CENTER
AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
1111 THE CATHOLIC CENTER AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY



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.



2022 CONCERT SERIES AT ST. THOMAS

Collegium Musicum Presents ...

The History of the Musical Instruments

December 10th at 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Saturday, December 3

Memorial Tree Lighting - after 4:00 pm Mass

Bambinelli Mass - December 10 (revised)

4:00 pm

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols - 10:15 pm

Christmas Eve Masses - Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, *11:00 pm

*No Mass at 12:00 am

Christmas Day Masses - Sunday, December 25

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 Noon

New Year's Eve - Saturday, December 31

4:00 pm

New Year's Day Mass - Sunday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 Noon

Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday/Sunday, January 7/8

Saturday - 4:00 pm, Sunday - 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 Noon (Baby's First Christmas: Noon Mass)



C A L E N D E R R A F F L E

1-Nov-22	306	16-Nov	1252
2-Nov-22	184	17-Nov	1081
3-Nov-22	133	18-Nov	337
4-Nov-22	121	19-Nov	1262
5-Nov-22	907	20-Nov	250
6-Nov-22	592	21-Nov	27
7-Nov-22	383	22-Nov	252
8-Nov-22	134	23-Nov	48
9-Nov-22	680	24-Nov	77
10-Nov-22	558	25-Nov	178
11-Nov-22	1097	26-Nov	720
12-Nov-22	1378	27-Nov	139
13-Nov-22	942	28-Nov	406
14-Nov-22	1235	29-Nov	1282
15-Nov-22	39	30-Nov	1261



CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH
Christmas Cookie Walk and MORE!
Sunday, December 11 from 11:00am—2:00pm
Corpus Christi Church Hall
100 James St. South River, NJ

- Assortment of homemade cookies and other baked goods (\$8.00 per pound).
- Pictures with Santa and his helper.
- Kids ornament making (\$3.00 per child).
50/50 Raffle.

Enjoy complimentary hot chocolate, coffee, and apple cider!

All proceeds benefit the Evangelization Ministry

MOST HOLY REDEEMER BLOOD DRIVE
133 Amboy Road, Matawan, NJ
Thursday, December 15, 20



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.



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!*

SPONSOR LETTERS FOR
BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

To receive a sponsor letter to be a Godparent for a Baptism or Sponsor for Confirmation, the Sponsor must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have received Baptism, Communion & Confirmation in the Catholic Church;
2. If married, you must have been married in the Catholic Church;
3. If divorced, you must not be remarried without having received an annulment for the first marriage;
4. Be a registered and practicing member of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

If you have moved out of the parish, and no longer live within our parish boundaries, we CANNOT give you a Sponsor Letter, even if you grew up here and made all your Sacraments here and your family still lives here. You are given a Sponsor Letter from the parish whose boundaries you live within currently.

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 Sorrentino, Nancy Stahley, Eileen Stolte, Irene Sutton, Jacquelyn 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.

\$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!





WINTER BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, January 14, 2023
8:00am to 2:00pm

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

In conjunction with
St. Thomas
Knights of Columbus Council 4815

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins accommodated if space allows.

For an appointment go to nybc.org/newjerseydrive
Sponsor code 07755 end date 01/14/23
or call 800-933-2566

Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.

Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. 16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form. If you have received the CoVid vaccine, there is no waiting period before donating as long as you are feeling well.

We urge you to make an appointment even though you are not sure of the exact time you will be able to donate. Select a time about when you think you can come.



ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA December 6

O good St. Nicholas,
you who are the joy of the children, put in
my heart the spirit of childhood which the
gospel speaks, and teach me to seed
happiness around me.

You, whose feast prepares us for Christmas,
open my faith to the mystery of
God made man.

You good bishop and shepherd,
help me to find my place in the Church
and inspire the Church to be faithful to the Gospel.
O good St. Nicholas, patron of children, sailors and the
helpless, watch over those who pray to Jesus,
your Lord and theirs, as well as over those who humble
themselves before you.

Bring us all in reverence to the Holy Child of Bethlehem,
when true joy and peace are found. Amen

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: amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732.562.1543.

DEACONS TABLE CHRISTMAS DINNER



December 21, 2022
4:30 PM- 6:30 PM

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

Due to COVID 19 regulations we will be distributing dinners to take home. Come pick up your Christmas dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Please RSVP to sttmas@sttaob.com or call parish office (732) 251-4000

DOMESTIC CHURCH MEDIA

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