

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 15, 2023

Pastor:

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicar:

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:

Debbie Yesis

Director of Sacred Music/Liturgy:

Justin Connors

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

CELEBRATION OF MASS

Weekend:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

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

Weekday:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am and 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 AND 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!

MASS INTENTIONS



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME January 15, 2023

SATURDAY	JANUARY 14
	VIGIL
4:00pm	Andrew Kvartek, Sr. r/o George Mitro
SUNDAY	JANUARY 15 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME
8:00am	Felixberto P. Buenaventura r/o Rolando/Susan Leon
10:00am	Int. Mark Sheppard r/o Gordon/Yolanda Anthony
12:00pm	Dominick/Frances/Nicholas Bonfante r/o Deacon Robert Bonfante
MONDAY	JANUARY 16
9:00am	Jane McKinley r/o Michael Menno
TUESDAY	JANUARY 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot
8:00am	Joan Clark r/o Diane Jarusiewicz
12:15pm	Parishioners, Living and Deceased
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 18
8:00am	Joan Clark r/o Diane Jarusiewicz
12:15pm	Dorothy Johnson r/o MaryAnne/Tim Donoghue
THURSDAY	JANUARY 19
8:00am	Allison Poliseno r/o Peterson Family
12:15pm	Jerry Coffey r/o Farrell Family
FRIDAY	JANUARY 20 - St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr
8:00am	Bart Pollack r/o Kathy Salmon
12:15pm	Epifanio Cordero r/o Paul/Vivian Montalban
SATURDAY	JANUARY 21
	VIGIL
4:00pm	Patricia Higgins r/o Yesis Family
SUNDAY	JANUARY 22 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME
8:00am	Marie Giselle Sapini r/o RWJUH Pacu Staff
10:00am	Int. Paul/Vivian Santos Montalban (52nd Wedding Anniv.) r/o Gloria/Paolo Montalban
12:00pm	Daniel Salvaggio (1st Anniv.) r/o Rob Wright

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

*Patricia Liguori, Rose Scarlino, Seraphine A. Alvarez,
Leo Mingione, Theodore Stevens*



*The Sanctuary Candle in the Church this week burns in
loving memory of: Fabio/Lorraine Carbonell
r/o Carbonell/Johnson Family*

*The Altar Bread and Wine this weekend is offered
in loving memory of: Richard/Audrey Lohse
r/o Cathleen Fitzgerald*



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 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.



The Parish Office will be closed Monday, **January 16** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. There will be one Mass at 9:00am.

**ST. THOMAS
HOLY NAME SOCIETY
Month of the Holy Name of Jesus
JANUARY 2023**



The month dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus calls us to think of Jesus - more specifically, to honor and love the Holy Name of Jesus. The liturgical calendar offers an optional memorial for the Name of Jesus on January 3rd within the Christmas season; yet the entire month is dedicated to the Holy Name. The Most Holy Name of Jesus includes all the mysteries of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church that is found in its liturgy. It is the central point of all the Sacraments.

January 15th

The Holy Name of Jesus saves us from innumerable evils and delivers us especially from the power of the devil, who is constantly seeking to do us harm. The Holy Name of Jesus gradually fills our souls with a peace and joy we never had before. The Holy Name of Jesus gives us such strength that our sufferings become light and easy to bear.

**DEACONS
TABLE
SPAGHETTI
DINNER**



**January 18, 2023
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 spaghetti dinner at
St. Thomas the Apostle Church.
Please RSVP to stimas@sttaob.com
or call parish office (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.

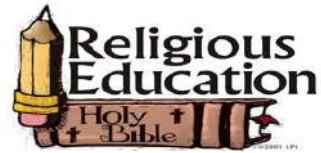
You may mail in your weekly donation to:

*St. Thomas Church, One St. Thomas Plaza,
Old Bridge, NJ 08857*



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

*Collection for January 8, 2023: \$11,946.00
Together in Charity: \$ 2,219.00*



CONGRATULATIONS to the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time Saturday, January 15. Please remember to keep the children in your prayers.

PREP/Confirmation Candidates only: Our next mandatory session is Monday **January 23rd** 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.**

First Communion:

There will be a Parent Meeting on Tuesday, January 24th at 4:30pm OR Thursday, January 26th at 6:15pm for those who have a child receiving First Communion in May. Please choose a meeting that works best with your schedule. Meetings will be held in the church.



JANUARY 19-27

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



3 WAYS TO JOIN



9DaysforLife.com

**ROSARY FOR LIFE PROCESSION
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2023 - 1:00PM**



Join us as we pray in solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and across the nation. Park at St. James Parish in Woodbridge and gather at 12:45pm after the 12:10 daily Mass. We will process to the abortion center and pray the rosary. For more information, call Angela: 732.562.1543.

NEXT WEEKEND: SECOND COLLECTION

“Foundation for Catholic Education” This collection benefits a diocesan endowment fund providing tuition assistance for families in need of financial assistance to attend our elementary/high schools. Without assistance, these students might not receive the gift of a Catholic education.

MEMORIAL GIFT AVAILABLE

The Altar Bread and Wine (weekend) are available in memory of your Loved Ones. With a \$25 offering, your Loved One will be acknowledged in the bulletin.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

January 15, 2023

**FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION
Annual Collection January 21/22, 2023**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

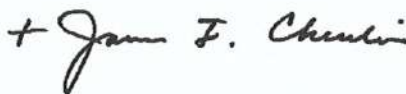
The value of Catholic education cannot be overstated. Our schools continue to be places where faith, academic excellence, athletics, and service combine to provide a rich educational experience that helps to form the next generation of leaders for our Church and civic communities. Every time I visit our Catholic schools and witness firsthand the dedication of the teachers, administrators and principals, I am filled with great joy and hope for the future. Invariably, I find a nurturing environment where our students are challenged and encouraged to meet the highest of standards through Christian discipleship.

We strive to keep Catholic education affordable and accessible for all families who want their children to have the advantage of a Catholic school education. For families unable to afford the entire cost, help is available through the Foundation for Catholic Education, which was established to provide financial support to aid low- and moderate-income families.

The *Annual Collection for the Foundation for Catholic Education* will be taken next weekend, **January 21/22, 2023**. By helping to provide tuition assistance for children attending our diocesan Catholic schools, your gift will make a tremendous impact and offer the promise of a better future to many deserving young students. Please consider supporting this effort and be as generous as your means allow. Thank you!

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,



Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

P.S. We celebrate the ministry of Catholic Education during *Catholic Schools Week*, January 28 through February 3, 2023. If you are interested in giving your children or grandchildren the benefit of a great Catholic education, please visit our website at www.diometuchen.org.



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SENIORS

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE

February 11 and February 12
after all Masses

Thank you for your support!

PARISH REFLECTION ON SAINT PETER

Saturday, February 18—Pastoral Center
11:00am - 3:00pm

Guest Presenter: Deacon Joe Tobin



As a dedicated follower of Christ, Peter spreads the message of the Gospel across the land, often staying only one step ahead of those determined to persecute him. As tensions between Christians and the Romans grow, blood runs in the streets; Peter and Paul meet, and together they form a strong friendship in preaching about Christ. While there was persecution in the Eternal City, Peter sees Jesus walking towards him saying "Peter, I am coming to Rome to be crucified again." Peter realizes he must follow Christ to the end and returns to Rome to be crucified like his master.

-Sponsored by the Holy Name Society

Doors open at 11:00am

We ask you to bring a non-perishable food item for the St. Thomas Parish Food Bank

John Thornton
732.763.3280

George Szymanski
732.238.5743



A home for persons with disabilities.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
One St. Thomas Plaza
Old Bridge, New Jersey
08857

January 4, 2023

Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas,

On behalf of the residents of Community House at Saint Thomas thank you all very much for the gift bags. The tea and coffee tasted delicious in the new mugs! The AMAZON gift cards will be put to good use. Your generous donation of Shoprite gift cards were used to purchase Christmas dinner. The residents enjoyed ham AND turkey breast, mashed potatoes, veggies, dinner rolls, pies, and ice-cream! They said they are all still full!

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year! Thank you and God bless you!

Sincerely,

Susan A. Kuzma, Supervisor
Community House at St. Thomas

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



I am writing to let you know how grateful I am for your love and support during my brief stay with you at St. Thomas. I felt accepted, loved and appreciated for whatever I was or whatever little I did as a priest. I have learned a lot from you. I feel that I have grown in my faith commitment because of your faith in God, and your commitment to the Church.

May you always keep up the faith. May you never grow tired of proclaiming the Gospel to the world by your life.

I believe that God has a better plan for me and for you, therefore, let us keep each other in prayer. Please know that you will always be in my heart and mind, and especially in my daily prayers.

Counting on your prayers and blessings, I remain,

Sincerely,

Fr. Paulus Marandi

marandipaulus1986@gmail.com

**CATCH THE LUCK OF THE IRISH
TRICKY TRAY**

**SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL HSA 2023
TRICKY TRAY**

MARCH 16, 2023



**SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE AUDITORIUM
333 Rt 18
OLD BRIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07785**

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM

TICKET PULLING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM

**4 PRIZE TIERS, LOTTO BOARD, GIFT CARD TABLE,
SUPER 50/50, WALLET RAFFLE AND SO MUCH
MORE**

GENERAL ADMISSION PRICE: \$30.00 PER PERSON

ADMISSION INCLUDES 1 SHEET OF TIER 1, COFFEE /TEA AND DESSERT

ADMISSIONS TICKET PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Pre-purchased packages MUST be PICKED UP AT THE DOOR

**ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE REACH OUT TO JENNIFER FLAHERTY AT
HSA@STTAOB.COM OR [908] 601-6210**

2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Please complete and return this form to the *Pastoral Center*; place in the collection basket, or mail to: Saint Thomas Church, One Saint Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857. **Please do not phone the office.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Day phone # _____ **Envelope #** _____



**CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2023-2024
TUITION ASSISTANCE
ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply on line now through FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmtg.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation *no later than March 31, 2023*). Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

OFFICE OF YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Saturday, January 21 - 11:00am

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway

Awards ceremony with Bishop Checchio will be held on Saturday, **January 21st at 11:00am**. The **St. Timothy Award** is given annually to a high school youth within our diocese, who live as disciples of Christ.

The **St. Mother Teresa Award** is given to a select few High School Seniors who follow St. Mother Teresa's example. Nominations were due by December 15th. Please email mcalhan@diometuchen.org or call 732.243.4576 for further information.



**RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND
FEBRUARY 3—5, 2023**

Do you feel lost, lonely or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting, or do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce, or does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. To register, call Rich/Annette Colasuonno at 732.236.0671 or 732.672.0748 or email njretrouvaille@gmail.co or 3024@hopourmarriage.org.

HELP FIGHT HUNGER PROJECT



The St. Bartholomew Columbiettes are currently collecting new or used coffee mugs. The mugs will be filled with food items such as soup, hot chocolate etc., and will be collected during the entire month of **January** to be distributed to those facing food insecurity. Please place your donation in the designated bin in the St. Bart's Church Narthex. Any questions, please call Judy - 908.313.8469.

Thank you for your support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended, Beatrice, Thomas Altruda, Bob Andrews, Janet Gavin Arden, Ronald Atlak, Sr, Enola Barlik, Rita Bator, Walter Blais, Bollhardt, Gloria Bonagard, Barbara Brooks, Craig Michael Butcher, Nicholas Campanella, Ralph Chiano, Louis Coromilias, Edmund Crookhorn, Camella Dacunta, Barbara Davis, Christopher Dee, John D'Mello, Diane Derenoski, Nancy Donoghue, Loretta Doyle, Chet Dudek, Coleen Fedyna, 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, 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, Paul Tierney, Jacquelyn Tortoriello, Denise Tuite, Daphne Ulveling, Sandra Varnis, Joseph Vasham, Mark Vern, Isilio Villa, Pati Wert, Nell White, Peter Wysheff, 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.

SURVIVING DIVORCE

**For Men and Women Seeking Healing
from Separation or Divorce**

Surviving Divorce- For men and women seeking healing from separation or divorce. This 12 week program, while based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. Meetings will be held on **Thursdays 7:00pm - 9:00pm beginning March 2, 2023** at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ For more information or to register **contact Ro Bersch at 908.313.5947**.

DOMESTIC CHURCH MEDIA

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Monmouth, Ocean), YouTube and Facebook**

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