

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 22, 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



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 22, 2023

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
MONDAY	JANUARY 23 - Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
8:00am	John Tschinkel r/o Tom Tschinkel
12:15pm	Paddy Curran r/o Farrell Family
TUESDAY	JANUARY 24 - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
8:00am	Adelaide LeMarie Whelan r/o Sharon Trojanowski
12:15pm	Noelene Wolff r/o Withum/Farrell Family
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
8:00am	Shirley Innella r/o Pawlowski Family
12:15pm	Parishioners, Living and Deceased
THURSDAY	JANUARY 26 - Saints Timothy/Titus, Bishops
8:00am	Pat Capasso r/o Olimpia/James McNicholas
12:15pm	Mary McKeown (12th Anniv.) r/o Children/Grandchildren
FRIDAY	JANUARY 27 - St. Angela Merici, Virgin
8:00am	Irma Sunico-Buno r/o Caro Family
12:15pm	Joseph Bauer r/o Tom/Janet Liposky
SATURDAY	JANUARY 28
	VIGIL
4:00pm	Eleanor Nagy r/o Brian Nagy
SUNDAY	JANUARY 29 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME
8:00am	Ruth Tschinkel r/o Tom Tschinkel
10:00am	Geraldine Joan Carson r/o Tom/Janet Liposky
12:00pm	Anna Bella Apuy r/o Dave/May Brunnengraber

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

Patricia Liguori, Rose Scarlino, Seraphine A. Alvarez, Christine Quaranta, Peter Kaznosky



The Sanctuary Candle in the Church this week burns in loving memory of: Loretta Doyle r/o Josie Marchuck/Family

The Mary Candle in the Church this week burns in loving memory of: Frank Patane r/o Flanagan Family



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.

THIS 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.

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 22

St. Paul, filled with a burning love for Our Lord, began his great mission—uprooting paganism, casting down false idols, confounding the Philosophers of Greece and Rome, fearing no enemies and conquering all difficulties - all in the Name of Jesus.

Baptism

Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance. **Next class:** this **Tuesday, January 24 - 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.**

Monthly MEMORIAL

Massis 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.



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 15, 2023: \$15,423.50



PREP/Confirmation Candidates only: Our next mandatory session is this 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 this 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

Image: A mosaic of Our Lady of Guadalupe decorated with a robe given to the Church of Santa Maria della Fede in the Vatican. Dec. 13, 2015 photo/Neil Harding

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

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS - JANUARY 8, 2023



CALENDAR RAFFLE - JANUARY 1 - 16, 2023

1-Jan	720
2-Jan	1154
3-Jan	1418
4-Jan	1081
5-Jan	551
6-Jan	100
7-Jan	1143
8-Jan	1411
9-Jan	64
10-Jan	292
11-Jan	8
12-Jan	947
13-Jan	1001
14-Jan	1438
15-Jan	1138
16-Jan	981



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SENIORS

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE

February 11 and February 12
after all Masses

Thank you for your support!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Multi-Services Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, located at 26 Safran Avenue, Edison, responds to those facing eviction and those that are homeless. They are in need of volunteers to assist with returning phone calls, organizing files, etc. If you or someone you know may be able to offer some time to help, please call Maria Hunter, Office of Parish Social Ministry at 732.387.1315 for more information.

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.

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

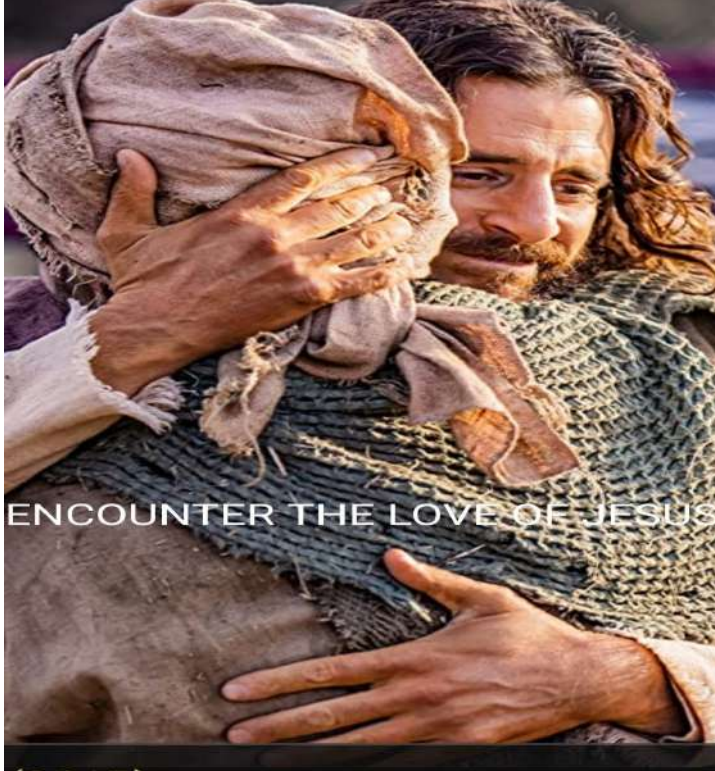
Doors open at 11:00am

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

John Thornton

George Szymanski

Personal Prayer Ministry...Coming Soon



HOT LINE NUMBERS:

- Alanon/Alateen: 1-888-425-2666
- Alcoholics Anonymous: 1-888-245-1377 or 908.687.8566
- Domestic Violence: 1-800-572-7233
- Narcotics Anonymous: 1-800-992-0401
- Nar-Anon of NJ 1-877-424-4491
- Domestic Violence: 1-800-572-7233
- NJ Gamblers Anonymous: 1-855-222-5542

VOTIVE AND WALL OF REMEMBRANCE CANDLES...

...are available near the Mary and Joseph statues. The votive candles in front of the statues will be on the honor system, the cost is \$2 and the candles will burn for 2 hours at a time. The Wall of Remembrance will burn for one year, and the suggested cost from the candle company is \$250 per year, and will be marked with a plaque with your loved one’s name. Please visit the Parish office. Parish office.



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.factsmgt.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.

**RETROUVILLE 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? Retrouville 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 njretrouville@gmail.com or 3024@hopourmarriage.org.



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for your spouse? Why not give yourselves a Marriage Encounter Weekend. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The **next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** will be held on **February 24-26**. Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Call Tom & Ruth DeFalco at 732.904.9636 for application and information or visit us at www.wwme.org for more information.

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**.

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Monmouth, Ocean), YouTube and Facebook**

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