

# **Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**JANUARY 7, 2024**



## **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](http://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



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 7, 2024

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 6</b>
4:00pm	Stephanie Goley r/o Diane Jarusiewicz
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 7 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>
8:00am	For Our Parishioners
10:00am	Gloria Sansone r/o Pasqua Family
12:00pm	Zenon Najdzinowicz r/o Patricia Peterson
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 8 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>
8:00am	Harold Hotchkin r/o Richard J. McGuire
12:00pm	Eleanor Dudek r/o Grandchildren, Craig, Dana and Allyson
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 9</b>
8:00am	Richie Walsh r/o Sharon Trojanowski
12:15pm	Barbara Ann Pasqualone r/o Erin Kellher
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 10</b>
8:00am	Patricia Trezenka r/o John & Michele Hayden
12:15pm	Lois Smith r/o Chris Doyle
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 11</b>
8:00am	Hannah Clements r/o Michael & Barbara Clements
12:15pm	Danny Treacy r/o Michael & Barbara Clements
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 12</b>
8:00am	Susan Crane Hess r/o Nick Blum
12:15pm	Theresa Russo r/o The Russo Family
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 13</b>
4:00pm	Eleanor Dudek r/o Chester Dudek
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 14 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
8:00am	Henry Burns r/o Fred & Amy Bernstein
10:00am	Kevin Dougherty r/o Mom & Dad
12:00pm	Vincent & Josephine Torricellirlo r/o Daughter Rosalie Federico

### CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Your contribution envelopes are being mailed directly to your home. Please contact the Parish Office at 732.251.4000, if you do not receive them by the middle of January.

### 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 John or Father Joseph. 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](http://www.saintthomasob.com)

[www.facebook.com/pages/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-Bridge-NJ](https://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. Jennifer Bachonski

**Bulletin Editor:** Ms. Lisa Sorrentino

### 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 the marriage questionnaire is completed and 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, 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.

### DECEASED + LOVED ONES

*Lisa Thomas, Margaret Janks,  
Judith Hagany, Vaughn Braitsch,  
and Thomas Joseph Benko*

### 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](http://www.saintthomasob.com) or other ways to  
give:*

- visit [https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/  
Giving/PS-1381](https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/PS-1381)
- Scan the QR code below
- Use your envelopes



*The collection for December 23rd/24th ....\$21,790*

*The collection for Christmas ....\$32,539*

*The collection for December 30th/31st ...\$15,538*

*The collection for Solemnity of Mary ....\$5,883*

**THANK YOU!**

### Epiphany of the Lord

*"...They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened  
their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and  
myrrh." - Matthew 2:11*

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt  
before Jesus and prayed to him. Then they presented Him with  
their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present  
our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking  
us to share.

### THIS WEEKEND

#### Second Collection is: Together in Charity

The collection will benefit Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.

*Thank you for your support!*

### Advertising in our Bulletin

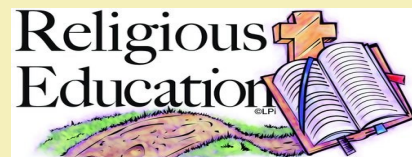
Do you know we have 3000 + families registered here at St. Thomas the Apostle. What better way to advertise your business.

We need and appreciate your help!

Thanks to all our current advertisers!

### THANK YOU

We are so grateful to our many Parishioners who contributed their time, talent and treasure to make our Parish observance of Christmas special: Justin Connors and the Parish Children's Choir, Members of the Liturgy Committee, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Servers, Lectors and Maintenance Staff. Because of Parishioners' kindness many needy families were gifted with gift cards and food. Also, Nursing Home residents were very grateful for their gifts. Many thanks to our dedicated PREP Staff that was Instrumental in coordinating this effort. Also thank you to our Msgr. Behl Aid Society, STA Priests, Deacons and Staff. Thank you for your personal kindness to us...greeting cards, baked good etc. May the Lord reward you. Heartfelt thanks!



**\*\*\*Monday Special Needs classes will resume tomorrow  
January 8th.\*\*\***

**Tuesday PREP classes will also resume on January 9th.**

#### PREP Confirmation Candidates only:

Our next mandatory session is **Monday, January 8th from 6:45 - 8:30pm in St. Thomas School.** Please arrive promptly!

**Parents must meet their child at the front doors of the school at dismissal.**

#### CONFIRMATION

All Confirmation Candidates must sign the Mass attendance book (red binder) located on the right side of the church near the front. Please arrive a few minutes early or stay after Mass to sign the book. **Please do not sign the book during Mass or after receiving Communion.**

**\*\*First Reconciliation will be next Saturday, January 13th.  
Information was sent home to parents.\*\***

#### First Communion:

There will be a Parent meeting on **Tuesday, January 23rd** at 4:30 OR **Thursday, January 25th** 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.**

#### THANK YOU...

To all parishioners of St. Thomas for their generous monetary donations towards our Nursing Home gifts. We were able to donate 400 gift bags to our 3 area Nursing Home before Christmas. We also raised over \$2500 in gift cards that were collected and given to parish families in need.





## Christmas Flowers 2023

### In Memory of:

Aboussleman Family  
Arlette/Michael Agolia & Marguerite/Gerald Heath  
Alberte, Bachonski, Stanik & Navickas Families  
Ruben U. Bagadion, Sr.  
Frank Bellina  
Cathy Bennet  
Boyle & Flynn Families  
Angela, Dominick & Kathryn Bongiovi  
John E., Ethel & Tom Karl  
Marie & Salvatore Capasso  
Kucher & Carucci Family  
David Conroy & Joan Flynn  
Corcoran, Wielk, & O'Scannell Families  
Walter Schmidt, Anna Crane & George Crane  
George & Patricia Rassman  
James & Grace Cutrone  
Annette/Peter DeMarco, Nina/Nick Trivento  
Deceased members of the DeMarco & Trivento Families  
Antoinette/John DeRobertis, Virginia/Salvatore Tripoli  
Nancy Garcia  
Toricelli & Federico Families  
Anthony & Lucy Fiduccia/William & Alice Stuart  
Deborah Armhold/Daniel Flatt/Arlene & Daniel Flatt  
John & Maria Stoll/Bob & Estelle Hunt  
Christopher Heppel  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Higgins  
Maxwell & Horn Families  
Lourdes & Rodrigo Martinez  
Jarocki/Ockenhouse Families  
Donald Kenderish  
Faber & Nigro Families  
Agnes Gutowski & Paul Kern  
Alice & Bill Kimble, Fran & Don Markel, Paul Tusin  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Lambert, Mr. & Mrs John Conway, Mr. & Mrs. Christian Lambert  
Thomas P./Dorothy McGuire, William L. Weigel  
Edward/Irene Milanowski, Loretta/Howard Radder  
Parents of Mr. & Mrs. E. Nocera  
Aloysius K. & Helen Stolte & Dorothy Tierney & Norma Driver  
Stephanie Svizeny,  
Joan & Don Vitone, Ron/Weber  
Maurice Simon, Mr. & Mrs. A. Bendeheritz  
T.R. Wang/Tsai Hua Hsieh  
Raubold Family  
Louis R., William E, & Patricia Hauger

### Donated by:

Charlotte Aboussleman  
Mark/Mary Agolia  
Bachonski Family  
Robin Bagadion  
Bellina & Buchinski Families  
Mike  
Boyle Family  
Dominick Bongiovi  
Arlene Capasso Carlone  
Gary & Elizabeth Carucci  
Catherine Conroy  
Lora Corcoran  
Wendy & Terry Crane  
Anthony & Teri Cutrone  
Anthony & Teri Cutrone  
Anthony DeMarco  
Judi & Pete DeMarco  
Barbara/Paul DeRobertis  
Mary Ann Dorio  
A&R Federico  
Alice & Frank Fiduccia  
Susan DiCorcia Flatt  
Bob & Diane Hunt  
Charles & Linda Heppel  
Debbie & Tom Yesis  
Frances Maxwell  
Rebecca Kadmino  
Violeta Medina  
M/M Thomas Ockenhouse  
Sandra Kenderish  
John & Maureen Nigro  
Mrs. Marcella Kern  
Markel Family  
Pat  
Eileen Weigel  
Milanowski Family  
M/M E. Nocera  
Eileen & Kenneth Stolte  
Janice Svizeny  
Daniel J. McNerney  
Donna Weber  
Susan Simon  
Isabel Wang  
Fran & Tony  
Christine Shrestha

## Christmas Flowers 2023

### In Memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. A. Torre & Mr. & Mrs. S. Fauci  
Torre Family  
Vastola Family  
Doreen Kinery  
Mr. & Mrs. William Micciulli & Mr. & Mrs. Poniello Madonna  
Gabrielle Abate  
Mary Helen & James Keevins  
Joseph & Jacina Migulski  
Paul Tusin, Andrew & Mary Soyka,  
John & Mary Tusin, Joe & Maryann Minchilli,  
Ray, Janet, & Dawn Varsolona,  
Eleanor Nagy, Daine Ellison,  
William & Alice Kimble  
Michael Scarano, Charles & Stephanie  
Gaydos  
Maurice Simon, Mr. & Mrs.  
Aloes Bendeheritz  
Frank, Theresa, Greg & Kyle Miller  
Pauline Malinary  
Walter & Alice Daniels  
Sonny, Bill, Regina & Billy  
Godlesky & Ungrady Families  
Genoveva Donoso & Mrs. Waters  
Major & Migliore Families

### Donated by:

Mrs. S. Fauci  
Torre Family  
Fran, Maryann & Tony  
Donna, Joyce, Sue & Dan  
Andrea & Michael Madonna  
M/M Matthew Marcinczyk  
Anne Marie Keevins  
Regina White  
Andrea Tusin  
Gerard Scarano  
Susan Simon  
Frank Miller, Jr.  
C.A. Karolewski  
Candice Lewandowski  
Karen Ungrady  
Sonnica Supple &  
Fred Waters  
Laura Migliore

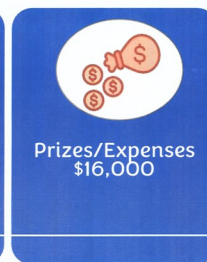
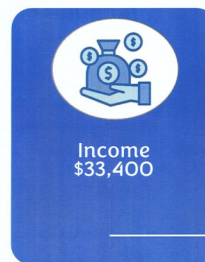
### DONATIONS

William J. McDonnell  
Mariano Guido



## 2024 St. Thomas Cash Calendar Project

# 1,216 Calendars Sold

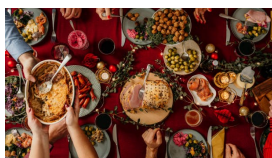


# THANK YOU!



Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance.  
**Next class:** this **Tuesday, January 23, 2024 - 7:30pm**  
Parish Room of the Pastoral Center. **Registration required.**  
The Sacrament of Baptism is a sacred event regulated by Church (Canon) Law. Any questions - call 732.251.4000.

## Deacons Table



January 17, 2024  
4:00pm-6:00pm  
St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, NJ

Come pick up your Christmas dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

Please RSVP to [sttmas@sttaob.com](mailto:sttmas@sttaob.com) or call the parish office 732.251.4000.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended: Bob Andrews, Anthony Androvich, Ronald Atak Sr, Walter Blais, Edmund Crookhorn, Chet Dudek, Anthony D., Joseph Fricano, Patricia Howley, Pat & Rudy Maurer, Barbara McMillian, Daniel Mechkowski, Rita Murray, Ernie Nocera, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Salvatore Sodano, Joseph Vasham, Isilio Villa, Nell White.

*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 their home or local hospital. Contact the Parish Office at 732.251.4000. If a name no longer needs*

## MARCH FOR LIFE - January 19th

Three parishes will be running buses to the March for Life in Washington DC on January 19, 2024. Please call and reserve your spot.

St. Francis Cathedral - Metuchen  
Contact: Kara Kwiatkowski 732-548-0100 ext. 210

St. John Vianney - Colonia  
Contact: Carolyn Glodek 973-394-4626

St. Philip & St. James - Phillipsburg  
Contact: Colleen Wolters 908-454-9880

Join the Immaculate Conception Columbettes at

# BUNCO NIGHT

**Roll The Dice and Join The Fun!**  
on  
January 19, 2024  
at  
6:00 pm  
Dice Roll at 7:00 pm

Knights of Columbus  
Crescent Ave, Spotswood

Coffee & Tea will be served.  
Bring a snack or dessert to share!

To Reserve Your Seat(s) Contact:  
Nadine 732-690-7933  
or  
Miriam 732-446-3650  
Payment due January 12, 2024

**\$15.00 to play**

Cash bar

50/50 RAFFLE



## Stress in Your Marriage?

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrouvaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ.

Retrouvaille consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with four follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 2-4, 2024**. All inquires are confidential. Please contact Rich Colasuonno 732.236.0671 or Annette Colasuonno

## Rosary for Life—January 19, 2024

Come Pray a Rosary for Life (in solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington DC and across the country). Bishop Checchio is scheduled to attend! Friday, January 19, 2024, at 1:00 pm, on Main Street in Woodbridge. Park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 pm (369 Amboy Ave, Woodbridge, NJ) There is a 12:10 pm daily Mass at St. James, for those who wish to attend. For more information, contact amarshall@diometcuhen.org or call 732-562-1543.



## January - Holy Name of Jesus

All the Saints had an immense love for and trust in the Name of Jesus. They saw in the name, as in a clear vision, all the love of Our Lord, all his power, all the beautiful thing He said and did while on earth.

They did all their wonderful works in the Name of Jesus. They worked miracles, cast out devils, cured the sick and gave comfort to everyone, using and recommending to all the habit of invoking the Holy Name. St. Peter and the Apostles converted the world with this all-powerful name.

Dear Family and Friends of Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish,

## Help us kick off our 2023 Annual Fund with a BANG!



Your support is a vital part of our mission at Saint Thomas the Apostle School, and we cannot thank you enough for that. As we embark on another year of hard work and big goals, we want you to know that your generosity this year is as important as ever. Donations can be made by filling out the remittance envelope found at the rear of the church or online via our website [www.sttaob.com](http://www.sttaob.com). Once on our site, scroll across the home page banner to the Giving tab and click on 2023-2024 Annual Fund on the drop down menu and scroll down to the gold donate button. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

### Theology of the Eucharist

The Office of Ongoing Faith Formation will be offering a 12-week Adult Enrichment Course entitled "Theology of the Eucharist" on twelve consecutive Thursdays, starting January 4 through March 21, 2024 from 10am-11:30am. The course will be offered at the St. John Neuman Pastoral Center located at 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ. Admission is \$15 for all twelve classes. Please register at [www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation](http://www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation). For more information, please email [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732.562.1543.

# 2024

HAPPY  
*New Year*

**The Table at St. Thomas  
Saturday, January 13, 2024**

Pickup 12 PM - 1:30 PM [note time change]

We will be distributing dinners to take home.

To reserve your dinner, please call 732.609.1499  
or email [ChrisDoyle167@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisDoyle167@gmail.com)

Pickup between 12 PM-1:30 PM at:  
**St. Thomas the Apostle Church**  
333 Highway 18 Old Bridge, NJ



### Thanksgiving

In this season of Thanksgiving, why not celebrate your marriage and its many blessings by attending 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 February 16 - 18.

Please apply ASAP as space is limited.  
Phone 1-732-904-9636 for application and information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco).

Visit us at: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) for more information.



## BLOOD DRIVE St. Thomas RC Church

**Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00am-2:00pm**

333 Route 18, Old Bridge



**Appointments preferred: Scan the QR code above or  
call 1-800-933-2566, or visit [www.nybc.org](http://www.nybc.org)**

[https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/311022](https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/311022)

Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.  
[www.nybc.org/coronavirus](http://www.nybc.org/coronavirus) for COVID-19 safety protocols.



800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](http://nybc.org) [#nybloodcenter](https://twitter.com/nybloodcenter)