

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 14, 2024

Pastor:

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. John M. Rozembajgier, JCL

Rev. Joseph Thippabathini

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 14, 2024

SATURDAY	JANUARY 13
4:00pm	Eleanor Dudek r/o Chester Dudek
SUNDAY	JANUARY 14 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00am	Henry Burns r/o Fred & Amy Bernstein
10:00am	Kevin Doherty r/o Mom & Dad
12:00pm	Vincent & Josephine Torricellirio r/o daughter Rosalie Federico
MONDAY	JANUARY 15
9:00am	For our Parishioners
TUESDAY	JANUARY 16
8:00am	Lillian R. San Agustin r/o Cora Reyes
12:15pm	Peter Vivirito r/o Pat Moran
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot
8:00am	David Ralph Riter r/o Linda & Bob Cirrello
12:15pm	Frank Bootz r/o Fillimon Family
THURSDAY	JANUARY 18
8:00am	Christine Sliwinski r/o Diane Jarusiewicz
12:15pm	Irene Toto r/o Charles Vitello & Family
FRIDAY	JANUARY 19
8:00am	Mary Matko r/o St. Thomas Office Staff
12:15pm	Frances M. Frakenberger r/o Raymond Zadlock & Family
SATURDAY	JANUARY 20
4:00pm	Patrica Higgins r/o Yesis Family
SUNDAY	JANUARY 21 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00am	Joseph Fumando Sr. r/o Yock Family
10:00am	Maria Fiore Wilson r/o Jim & Maryanne Donoghue
12:00pm	For Our Parishioners

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

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

Daniel Black, Joseph Lucciola
and Kevin Roy

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 or other ways to
give:

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



The collection for January 6th/7th....\$17,340

THANK YOU!

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them,
‘What are you looking for?’” - John 1:38

When we recognize who we are, it’s easier to find what we are
looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of
God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of
the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that
can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to
live the life He intended for you.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 15th
in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

There will only be one Mass at 9:00am.

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!

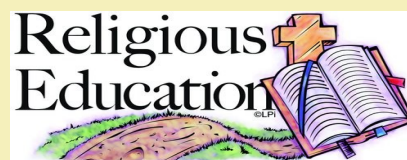


SO LONG , FARE WELL...



After much prayer and consideration, I have ac-
cepted a new position at Holy Trinity, in
Georgetown, DC and pray to be in place and
new residence for the start of Lent! I spent over
15 years at St. Thomas the Apostle in Old
Bridge, NJ where I was extremely blessed to
have worked with two great Pastors, Msgr. Behl
and Fr. Jay, one Administrator, countless
Associates, Deacons, Staff, Choir Members,
Cantors, Instrumentalists, students - all who
have become my family as well as parish-
ioners who together we walked this path called
life. I will forever be grateful for what I have
learned and how this parish helped form me. I
have now spent 23 years in New Jersey. Who
would have thought that after graduate school, I
would have stayed? I have loved every minute
of it.

With gratitude,
Justin Connors



****Congratulations to the children who received the
Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time yesterday.
Please remember to keep the children in your prayers.****

Confirmation:

PREP Confirmation Candidates only:

Our next mandatory session is **Monday, January 22nd 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 .**

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 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.**

Cor Program



The men of Knights of Columbus Council No. 4815 are excited to share the implementation of Cor, a new formation and fraternal opportunity for the men of St. Thomas the Apostle parish. Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. Cor will be held at 8 am on Saturday, February 3rd (and the following Saturday's) in the Parish Center. Come join your brother parishioners for prayer and fraternity.

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Please complete and return this form to the Parish Office, place in the collection, or mail to: St. Thomas Church
One Saint Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857
PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____

Come Pray a ROSARY for LIFE

with Bishop James F. Checchio

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2024
at **1:00 PM**
MAIN STREET, WOODBRIDGE, NJ

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

You are asked to park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 PM
(369 Amboy Avenue, Woodbridge, NJ)

There is a 12:10 PM daily Mass at St. James for those who wish to attend.
For more information, please contact amarshall@diometuchen.org



DIocese of
METUCHEN

Jan 20, 2024

Calling all 6th to 8th graders

Join us at 4pm Mass

stay afterwards for

**Admission
to the movie:**

Donation of
TP or Paper Towels
for STA Food Pantry



Movie
Food
Fellowship

Movie TBD:

Any recommendations you have
Email: kvrkc@aol.com or
text: 732-586-0303
Dynamic Catholic Kids

FLOCKNOTE.COM ...

..is a simple way for us to communicate with you via email or text! Simply register for **Flocknote.com** and follow the instructions it's so easy!

ST. MICHAEL the ARCHANGEL PRAYER

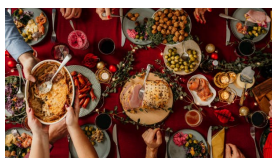
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wiles and wickedness of the devil. Restrain him O God, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin and destruction of souls. Amen



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 dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

Please RSVP to sttmas@sttaob.com or call the parish office 732.251.4000.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended: Bob Andrews, Anthony Androvich, Ronald Atlak 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 to be on our list.

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



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 inquiries 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

The Prince of the Apostles began his glorious career preaching of Jesus to the Jews in the streets, in the Temple, in their synagogues. His first striking miracle occurred on the first Pentecost Sunday, when he was going in to the Temple with St. John. A lame man, well known to the Jews, who frequented the Temple, stretched out his hand expecting to receive alms. St. Peter said to him: "Silver and gold, I have none, but what I have, I give thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, arise and walk." Acts 3:6

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. For more information, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732.562.1543.



Catholic Schools

OPEN HOUSE AT
SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH
FROM 11:00AM TO 1:30PM



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL * WWW.STTAOB.COM

PRAYER BLANKET

Anyone who needs spiritual, mental or physical comfort, and can benefit spiritually from a prayer blanket, contact the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000



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 for more information.

2024
ChoicesMatter
A CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE
March 16, 2024
St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ

EVIE WEST
'REVOLVING CHOICES
PLAYING ROULETTE WITH LIFE'
AUTHOR, PRO-LIFE SPEAKER
ADOPTION ADVOCATE

JIM TOWEY
'ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA
TO LOVE IS A CHOICE'
AUTHOR, CONSULTANT
AND PERSONAL FRIEND OF
ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

KEVIN DUNN
'PROPHETS OF HOPE
IN A CULTURE OF FEAR'
AWARD WINNING FILM MAKER
INTERNATIONAL PRO-LIFE SPEAKER

FEATURING EXHIBITS, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSION

GENERAL ADMISSION \$35
STUDENT ADMISSION \$15
Admission includes lunch and hand-outs
OPENING MASS WITH BISHOP CHECCHIO AT 9:00 AM
CONFERENCE SESSIONS BEGIN AT 10:15 AM

SCAN QR
CODE TO
REGISTER
OR REGISTER AT
WWW.DIOMETUCHEN.ORG/CHOICESMATTER

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU HAVE

ENVELOPE NUMBER 1944 OR 1952

Please call Lisa in the Parish Office: 732.251.4000 ext.8211 and let her know so you may receive proper credit for your contribution.