

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28, 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



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 21, 2024

SATURDAY	JANUARY 27
4:00pm	Barbara Hathaway r/o Chris Doyle
SUNDAY	JANUARY 28 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00am	John Wanat r/o Pat Andolfi
10:00am	For Our Parishioners
12:00pm	Frank Fetyko r/o Vingara Family
MONDAY	JANUARY 29
8:00am	Catalina Fascio r/o Yvonne & Angel Heredia
12:00pm	Monthly Memorial
TUESDAY	JANUARY 30
8:00am	Joan DeCandia r/o Mary Ellen & John Ench
12:15pm	Irene Toto r/o Nellie Moran
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 31 - St. John Bosco. Priest
8:00am	Marie Sirotiak (LIV. INT.) r/o Roseann Johnson
12:15pm	Robert McGuinness r/o McGuinness Family
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 1
8:00am	Walter F. Healy r/o Pat Moran
12:15pm	Pete Patel r/o Ruth Newton & Family
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 2 - The Presentation of the Lord
8:00am	Valentim J. Neves r/o Robert Badillo Jr.
12:15pm	Rita Claire Fitzsimmons r/o Nellie Moran
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 3
4:00pm	Barbara Hathaway r/o John & Maureen Nigro
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 4 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00am	For Our Parishioners
10:00am	Vilma Liposky r/o John & Maureen Nigro
12:00pm	Christine Sliwinski r/o Nerina Felumero

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church for this week burns in memory of: Frank and Christopher Doyle.

r/o Chris Doyle



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

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, Paul & Vivian Montalban, Rita Murray, Ernie Nocera, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Salvatore Sodano, Eileen Stolte, Irene Sutton, 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.

THIS WEEKEND

Second Collection is: Foundation for Catholic Education

The collection will benefit students attending diocesan and parochial elementary and high schools in the Diocese of Metuchen.

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*

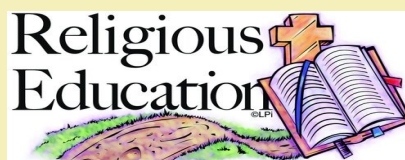
Online Giving... Visit our website to get started:
www.saintthomasob.com or other ways to give:

- visit <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/PS-1381>
- Scan the QR code below
- Use your envelopes



The collection for January 20th/21st....\$11,625

THANK YOU!



Confirmation:

PREP Confirmation Candidates only:

Our next mandatory session is **Monday, February 5th 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.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of Anxieties.”
1 Corinthians 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this—use the word “pray” instead of the word “worry” in the future. Then spend your time praying instead of worrying.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Your **NEW** contribution envelopes are being mailed directly to your home. Two months are mailed at a time, not the whole year. See picture below so you know what to expect in the mail. If you do not receive your envelopes please contact the Parish Office at 732.251.4000.



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

First Friday Adoration on the first **Friday** of each **month** following the 8:00am Mass, and **concluding** with the 12:15pm Mass.

Come spend some time with our Lord!



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.



The Table at St. Thomas

Saturday, February 10, 2024

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

We will be distributing dinners to take home.
Come and pick up your dinner at
St. Thomas the Apostle Church
Please RSVP to chrisdoyle167@gmail.com
or call 732-609-1499

PLEASE BE SURE TO PICKUP BETWEEN 12:00 & 1:30

CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2024-2025 TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31, 2024**. 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.

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!*

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 Attn: Jennifer Bachonski.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____



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

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!

DEACONS TABLE SPAGHETTI DINNER



February 21, 2024
4:00pm-6:00pm
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 stitmas@sttaob.com or
Call the parish office at 732.251.4000



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 732.672.0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

February 9-11, 2024
Marianist Family Retreat Center
Cape May Point, NJ 08212

Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist, and lots of fun!

COST: \$145 per person

Register at: www.capemaymarianist.org or
call 609.884.3829

January - Holy Name of Jesus

St. Augustine, the great Doctor of the Church, found his delight in repeating the Holy Name. He himself tells us that he found much pleasure in books which frequent mention of his all consoling Name.

St. Bernard felt a wonderful joy and consolation in repeating the Name of Jesus. He felt it, as he says, like honey in his mouth and a delicious peace in his heart. We too shall feel immense consolation and shall feel peace steal into our souls, if we imitate St. Bernard and repeat frequently his Holy Name.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY
Sponsoring

PARISH REFLECTION

Saturday – February 17, 2024 – 9 am to 1pm
In the Pastoral Center

Featuring film

“MOTHER TERESA”

Her heart found the forgotten, her faith found a way.



And
Deacon Joseph Tobin Guest Presenter

Cost is a Donation to Food Bank
Prior to Retreat
Join us for a great day of Parish Fellowship

LENTEN NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION

St. Bartholomew Church, East Brunswick



Date: **Thursday, February 15, 2024**

Presenter: Lori Albanese, JCL

Theme: Enriched through Ecumenism

Private Prayer: 6:00pm – Reflection: 6:15pm –
Mass: 7:00pm

Lenten Soup Supper after Mass \$7.00pp
Reservation required for the Soup Supper- Contact
732.207.9786

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).

2024

ChoicesMatter

A CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE

March 16, 2024

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ

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

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

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

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

