

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 10, 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:

Daniel Neff

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 OF LENT MARCH 10, 2024

SATURDAY	MARCH 9
4:00pm	Barbara Romaine r/o Al & Gloria Grima
SUNDAY	MARCH 10 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00am	Stella Wanat r/o Pat Andolfi
10:00am	For Our Parishioners
12:00pm	Kathleen Clements r/o Michael & Barbara Clements
MONDAY	MARCH 11
8:00am	Michelle Bordt r/o Carol & Karl Seper
12:00pm	Ralph Nocera & Susan Legere r/o Nocera Family
TUESDAY	MARCH 12
8:00am	Gladys Wilson r/o Sorrentino Family
12:15pm	Charlotte Guarino r/o Michelle Loney
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 13
8:00am	Int. of Arlene Carlone r/o Nocera Family
12:15pm	Theresa Toto r/o STA Rosary Society
THURSDAY	MARCH 14
8:00am	Angelina Piccolomini r/o Mary Ellen Cilente
12:15pm	Danny Treacy r/o Durstewitz Family
FRIDAY	MARCH 15
8:00am	Vincent Napoli r/o Joseph & Elyse Napoli
12:15pm	Rachela Valenza r/o Loving Daughter Maria Weiss
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
SATURDAY	MARCH 16
4:00pm	Stan D'Mello r/o D'Mello Family
SUNDAY	MARCH 17 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00am	Mr. & Mrs. James Cutrone r/o Anthony & Terri Cutrone
10:00am	Grandparents Flynn & Boyle r/o Marge Boyle
12:00pm	For Our Parishioners

*The **Sanctuary Candle** in the Church for this week
burns in memory of: Robert Vreeland
r/o Tammy Vreeland*



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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended: Bob Andrews, Anthony Androvich, Ronald Atlak Sr, Walter Blais, Edmund Crookhorn, Chet Dudek, Sienna Franco, Anthony D., Joseph Fricano, Joanne Howard, Patricia Howley, Joseph Lane, Pat & Rudy Maurer, Barbara McMillian, Daniel Mechkowski, Paul & Vivian Montalban, Rita Murray, Ernie Nocera, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Salvatore Sodano, John Soporowski, Eileen Stolte, Irene Sutton, Rich Szuminsky, 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.

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 March 2nd/3rd...\$ 20,345.50

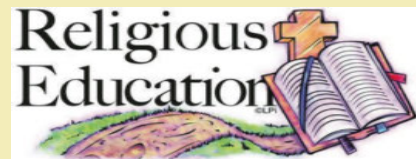
THANK YOU!

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2024

Our Goal - \$88,000
Amount Received - \$31,186.50

DONATIONS

If you would like to make a donation to the St. Thomas Tricky Tray, please drop it off at the Pastoral Center.
Thank You!



Confirmation:

PREP Candidates only:

Our next mandatory session is tomorrow **Monday, March 18th from 6:45 - 8:30pm in St. Thomas School.** Please arrive promptly!

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. **DO NOT sign the book during Mass or after receiving Holy Communion.**

Liturgy of the word with Children at the 10:00am Mass:

Children in Grades K-8 are invited to go to the Pastoral Center, listen to the Readings, share a reflection and Prayers of the Faithful on their level. Children are well supervised and returned to their parents during the Presentation Hymn for the Eucharist. We will meet every Sunday in Lent.

2024 Lenten Obligations

- ◆ The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (March 29).
- ◆ The other Fridays of Lent (Feb. 23, Mar. 1, 8, 15, and 22) are days of abstinence.
- ◆ Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
- ◆ Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.) The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.
- ◆ Fridays at 7pm - Stations of the Cross



Lenten Quotes

"Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself."

- St. Francis de Sales



St. Thomas the Apostle's
FUNRaising Committee
is offering a

"Simple Soup Supper"

Enjoy Homemade Meatless Soup
before the Stations of the Cross

March 8th, 15th and 22nd
Join us anytime between 5:30pm- 7pm
in the Pastoral Center.

This is a free event



Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate,
grant to children/grandchildren the generosity necessary to
follow Your call and the courage required to overcome all
obstacles to their vocation. Give us faith, love and spirit of
sacrifice which will inspire us to offer our children to God's
service and to rejoice whenever one of our children is called to
the priesthood and religious life. Let your example and that of
Your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph encourage both young
people and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.

Cor Program



The Knights of Columbus Council No. 4815 is excited to
share the continuation of the Cor Program with all
parishioners as we prepare ourselves for Lent. Cor is
being held each Saturday morning at 8:00am in the Parish
Center. Come join your brother parishioners for prayer
and fraternity.

Tentative Schedule:

- 3/2** - Daily Prayers in the Parish Center.
- 3/9** - Teaching Mass in Church.
- 3/16** - Reconciliation (Penance) in the Parish Center
- 3/23** - Holy Week Presentation in the Parish Center.

DEACONS TABLE EASTER DINNER



March 20, 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 sttmas@sttaob.com or
Call the parish office at 732.251.4000

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY 16-29

Feb. 16	# 525	Feb. 24	# 1317
Feb. 17	# 1115	Feb. 25	# 1331
Feb. 18	# 1237	Feb. 26	# 253
Feb. 19	# 1121	Feb. 27	# 1192
Feb. 20	# 307	Feb. 28	# 473
Feb. 21	# 962	Feb. 29	# 10
Feb. 22	# 385		
Feb. 23	# 935		



**COME CELEBRATE THE
PASSOVER SEDER OF THE LORD**

All 6th, 7th and 8th graders
are invited to join us
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
6:00 to 9:00pm in the Parish Center.

Bring a Friend

DINNER WILL BE SERVED.

RSVP by Monday March 18, 2024
to Mrs. Valerie Romer
at: kvrkc@aol.com or text 732-586-0303



Fourth Sunday in Lent

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..."
John 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we be grateful and generous with our God given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increasing our prayer time, our talent in charitable work and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY
Sponsoring

PARISH REFLECTION

Saturday – March 23, 2024 – 10 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

HOLY NAME SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday April 14th - Communion Breakfast in the Pastoral Center after 10am Mass - Guest Speaker - Parish Committee Forum. Cost \$20 pp.

Saturday May 4th - Somerset Patriots -vs- New Hampshire Fisher Cats \$40 pp. More information to come!

Saturday July 13th – Site and Sound Theater Lancaster, Pa. Time 7am – 7:30pm. The show "Daniel" and Bird-in

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

In our OCIA sessions, we welcome all who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or know someone who is, please have them contact me. For some, this may be an opportunity for a "refresher course" in the Faith. Our classes are weekly. Please invite anyone you know who may be interested in the Catholic Church. Registration is required. - Deacon Pat Hearty -732.251.4000 ext. 8218.

ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASSES **WORLD RELIGIONS**

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway

10 Classes April 18 – June 27, 2024

Thursday 10:00AM – 11:30AM

Fr. Comandini, S.T.D. will teach about Hinduism - Buddhism - Judaism - Christianity - Islam

To register visit: www.diometucvhen.org/faith-formaiton.

For more information email:

amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732.562.1543

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

STAY WITH US, LORD

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Central to our understanding of Christian stewardship is the concept of accountability. To safeguard the gifts you have entrusted to our care, we recently set up a special foundation, a separate trust, where all the money from this Appeal goes so that it can be used only for those ministries advertised in the Appeals materials and website. You can assured that your gift is well protected and well used; making a difference in meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of the people we serve. A gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is a worthy investment.

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.



South Amboy/Sayreville Catholic Young Adult Group
invites you to:

LATE NIGHT Holy Brunch Hour

Stations of the Cross

An exploration of the Stations of the Cross, including a discussion of the origins, the different types, and more.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH,
AT 7:30PM**

Location:

Memorial Hall at Sacred Heart Catholic Church
529 Washington Avenue
South Amboy, NJ 08879



For more information, please email Mike at mconawa8@gmail.com or text Cella at 512-673-0181.

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.

PARISH SECRETARY NEEDED

Most Holy Redeemer
133 Amboy Road
Matawan, NJ 07747

Start date: mid-May 2024.

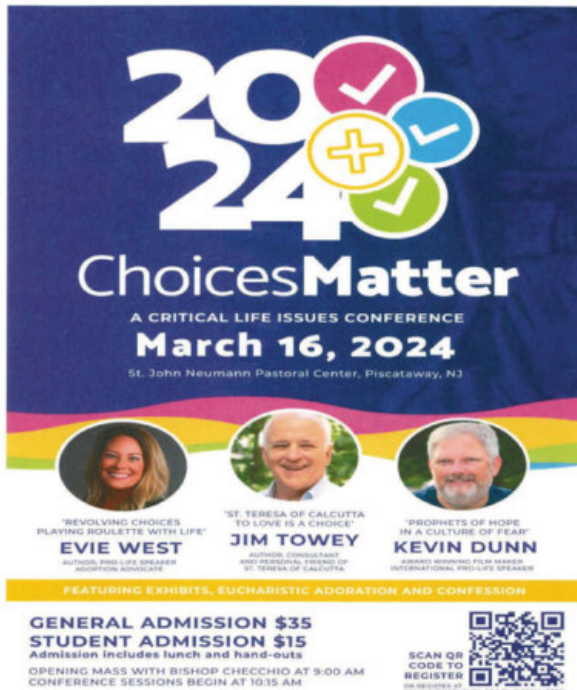
Responsibilities include assisting the pastor with clerical work and minor administrative and business details.

Experience required: must be a mature, courteous, cordial, and effective communicator, good computer and typing skills, knowledge of Word, Excel and Publisher, excellent organizational skills, general knowledge of office procedures and familiarity with office equipment.

Office hours: Monday through Friday 9am-3pm (Summer 9am – 1pm)

Hourly wage

Inquiries should be made to the pastor during business hours 732.566.9334.



BE A BUDDY or FIELD CREW.... JUST 4kixs

BUDDIES: Just4kixs is looking for responsible teens to be a buddy to a child with special needs. Just4kixs has been teaching soccer to children with special needs for 16 years. If you are between the ages of 12- 19 you can be a buddy and friend to a special child.

You do not need any soccer experience to be a buddy. All you need is patience, enthusiasm, and a friendly smile. You will work alongside a child with special needs for one hour each Saturday for 8 sessions.

You will receive 12 hours of community service for completing the 8-week Spring program and an additional 2 hours for attending our buddy training class as well as a lifetime of memories for sharing your time. We need about 200 buddies each season, bring your friends to sign up as well.

FIELD CREW: Our field crew is a HUGE part of this program. They are responsible for setting up the field each week. Since we have 5 different teams and over 120 players, we need as much help as possible to make a smooth transition into play time.

We have two field crew managers who will explain the job to be done and oversee the set up and clean up. Ages 10 & up can be part of our field crew team. Field crew will NOT work with a child on the field, they are simply responsible for set up and clean up.

You will receive 16 hours of community service for completing the 8-week Spring program and an additional 2 hours for attending our field crew training class.

We can assure you it will be one of the best and most rewarding experiences you will ever have.

Register online:

Sign up is easy, visit the www.just4kixs.org or go to www.oldbridgesc.com

Spring season begins Saturday, April 6, 2024

Season ends Saturday, June 1, 2024

Playtime is (11:30 am-12:30pm)

Additional info...please email Linda Giasullo

vgpg03@gmail.com


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.factsmgt.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.

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