

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 14, 2024

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

“To make disciples, as we know, love and serve one another”

Pastor:

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. John M. Rozembajgier, JCL

Rev. Jojappa 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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	JULY 13	
4:00pm	Eleanor Dudek r/o Sue & Bob Taureck	
SUNDAY	JULY 14 - FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
8:00am	Int of Grace /Gerald George on their 60th Anniv. r/o Craig/Betty Wunderly & Family	
10:00am	Loretta Doyle r/o Justine Durstewitz & Family	
12:00pm	Mark R. Brower r/o Arlene Carlone	
MONDAY	JULY 15	
8:00am	James Keevins r/o Keevins Family	
12:15pm	Gregory Latham r/o Jim & Lori DiRobbio	
TUESDAY	JULY 16	
8:00am	Salvatore Panasside r/o Kathy Salmon	
12:15pm	Bob Reale r/o Cathy Valiente	
WEDNESDAY	JULY 17	
8:00am	Michael Costagliola r/o Grandchildren	
12:15pm	Pat McInerney r/o Nellie Moran	
THURSDAY	JULY 18	
8:00am	Caherine A. Hillman r/o Maureen & John Nigro	
12:15pm	Lucille & William Haberman r/o Linda, Isilio & Michelle Villa	
FRIDAY	JULY 19	
8:00am	Cathy Hillman r/o Holy Name Society	
12:15pm	Dolores O'Malley r/o Lori & Arnold Natali	
SATURDAY	JULY 20	
4:00pm	Stan D'Mello r/o D'Mello Family	
SUNDAY	JULY 21 - SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
8:00am	James Hillier r/o daughter Elizabeth	
10:00am	For Our Parishioners	
12:00pm	Joseph Valenza r/o Loving daughter, Maria Weiss	

MASSES AVAILABLE

Beginning September 7th, 2024, masses available on Saturday mornings at 8:00am. Call the office to schedule.

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 serious 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, Anthony Aurilia, Walter Blais, Edmund Crookhorn, Manuel DeGuzman, Kathryn Duh, Sienna Franco, Anthony D., John Derenoski, Catherine Franken, Joseph Fricano, Walter Gladowski, Joanne Howard, Patricia Howley, Sina Indelicato, Mary Margett, Pat & Rudy Maurer, Barbara McMillan, Daniel Mechkowski, Paul & Vivian Montalban, 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/PI381>
- Scan the QR code below
- Use your envelopes



Collection: June 29th & 30th...\$14,277

Collection: July 6th & 7th...\$ 15,945

THANK YOU!

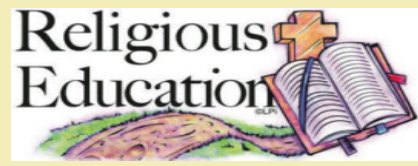
*The **Mary Candle** in the Church this week burns in memory of: John Brusca*

r/o Caroline Delfino



*The **Altar Bread and Wine** this week is offered in intention of: Chester Dudek's 90th Birthday.*

r/o Taureck Family



PREP REGISTRATION

Families with children in Grades 1-8, who attend public school can now register for weekly Religious Education classes. The students will receive instruction in the Sacraments and learn our Catholic Faith. Classes will be:

- **Special Needs classes: Monday afternoons 4:30-5:30pm**
- **Tuesday: 4:15-5:45pm**
- **Thursday: 6:00-7:30pm**
- **PREP Confirmation classes: Monday evenings 6:45-8:30pm and calendar to be determined.**

Registration forms can be found on our website:

- www.saintthomasob.com and click on the Religious Education tab
- Registration forms are also available in the Pastoral Center

Questions?? Call the PREP Office at 732.251.1660

Our PREP Program is dependent upon generous volunteers who want to make a difference in the lives of the children of our parish by sharing their time, talents and faith.

Please consider joining St. Thomas PREP!

Top Reasons to Become a Catechist!

- You will grow in your own faith, learn the teachings of the Church, and deepen your relationship with Jesus.
- Your Baptism calls you to share in the ministry of Jesus.
- Children, teens, and adults in today's world need to hear the Word of God.
- Children, teens, and adults need good role models of faith.
- You will help others deepen their relationship with Jesus. You will be an evangelizer.
- You will be handing on a **2000-year old** tradition that changes life.
- **It is our job: Jesus sent us to "go and teach all nations."**

HS Students Consider...

....there is a great way to be of service here at St. Thomas. St. Thomas PREP enables you to assist our catechists in sharing our faith with younger students of our parish. Volunteering in PREP will help you with your community service requirements for high school. Remember by your witness, experience, talents and service you can positively change the lives of others! Now is the time to "Pay it Forward." Info: PREP Office: 732.251.1660

Stewardship Scripture Reflection

July 14, 2024 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick - no food, no sack, no money in their belts...”

Mark 6:8

Imagine taking nothing but a stick when you go on a trip. The Apostles must have really trusted in God’s providential care. Think of all the material things” we can’t live without” in today’s world. We make our life’s journey more difficult because of all the material baggage that we drag along. Putting God first in everything and putting our money and possessions second gives us freedom because we don’t become “slaves” to wanting to acquire more things.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND JULY 19-21, 2024

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. 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.

Silver & Gold & 5 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th or 5th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 3:00 PM. **This year the Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage.** Registration is required. Please register online at: <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>. If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. Registration will close on October 11, 2024. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling 732-562-1543.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY FAIR RIGHT TO LIFE BOOTH

Volunteers needed to staff the Right to Life booth at the fair from August 5th through August 11th. If interested, please call Gerry - 732.251.5879.



DEACONS TABLE



July 17, 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.



Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance.

Next class: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 - 7:30pm in 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.

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.

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!*



QUO VADIS ADVENTURE RETREAT 2024

An invitation for young men (High School Students) ages 14-17 to attend our Quo Vadis Adventure Retreat 2024! This is an opportunity to have fun, grow in your faith, and begin to think/pray about where God may be calling you in life.

Quo Vadis - a Latin phrase which translates to “Where are you going?” is an opportunity to hear from priests and seminarians about their journey. It is also an opportunity to take seriously our own gifts, talents, and weaknesses and begin prayerfully processing where God is leading us. This will be an action-packed few days with opportunities to play sports, participate in leadership/teambuilding exercises, pray, share meals, and grow in our faith together.

- **Where:** Camp Shiloh, 753 Burnt Meadow Rd., Hewitt, NJ 07421.
- **When:** Tuesday, **July 30 at 10AM** arrival and concludes with 1:00PM departure on August 1, 2024.

If you are interested in attending “Quo Vadis” please email Fr. Tom at: tlanza@diometuchen.org

Activities Include: (all optional based on comfort level)

Rock Wall, Zipline, Teambuilding Challenges, Swim-

2024 Bishop’s Annual Appeal

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Our Goal - \$88,000

Amount Received - \$ 94,518.16

15 Week Adult Enrichment Course

Documents of Vatican II

Beginning September 5, 2024 Fr. Glenn Comandini, S.T.D. will present 12 classes on the Documents of Vatican II. Classes will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ on Thursdays from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Attendees will learn about the Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council: *Lumen Gentium* (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), *Dei Verbum* (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation), *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy) and *Gaudium et Spes* (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the modern world). There is a \$35 fee per person for all 12 classes which also includes attendees receiving a copy of the book “The Documents of Vatican II”. To register please visit: www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation. For more information, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543.

For Rent??

Middle-aged, independent woman, looking to rent a room in Old Bridge, South River, East Brunswick or Milltown. Pleasant, quiet and responsible.

References are available..

Willing to pay \$800 per month

Please call Kathy

Home: 732.251.1015 or Cell 908.812.9234

VOTIVE AND WALL OF REMEMBRANCE CANDLES ...



Are available near the Mary and St. Joseph statues. The votive candles in front of the statues are \$2, and will burn for 2 hours at a time. The Wall of Remembrance will burn for one year, and the cost is \$250 per year, and will be marked with a plaque with your loved one’s name. Please call the Parish Office at 732.251.4000.

Celebrate Life
A Morning for Grandparents and Seniors (55+)
THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024
at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway

SCHEDULE OF DAY
9:30 AM: Welcome and Breakfast
10:30 AM: Presentation by Dcn. Jerry Jablonowski
11:30 AM: Adoration followed by Mass

GUEST SPEAKER:
DEACON JERRY JABLONOWSKI
Healthcare clinician, educator and executive

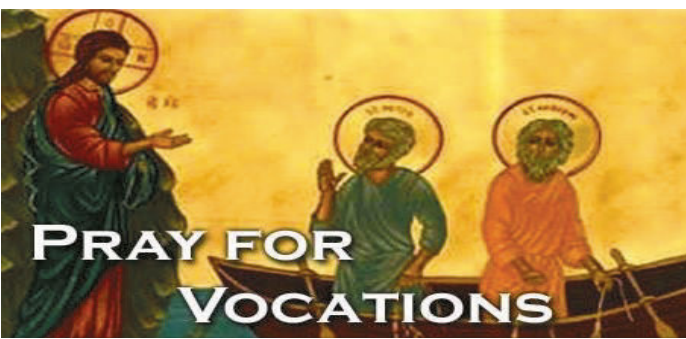
“A Vital Spirituality: The Key to Healthy Aging!”

EVENT IS FREE
Registration is Required
Mail completed form to Office of Human Life and Dignity, Director of Metlars, P.O. Box 191, Metlars, NJ 08842

Please call for more information at 732-562-1543
This event is sponsored by the Director of Metlars's Office of Human Life and Dignity

YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.DIOMETUCHEN.ORG/HUMANLIFEANDDIGNITY

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Parish/Town: _____





B I N G O
 Come join the fun
 Tuesday & Thursday 11am
 Friday 9pm
 Saturday Midnight
 Sunday 5pm
 Facebook: STA Bingo
 Saint Thomas
BINGO

DO YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPE NUMBER 2945????

Parishioner using contribution envelope number 2945, please call Lisa in the Parish Office at 732.251.4000 ext.8211, so that you may receive proper credit for your contribution.

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

Cathedral of Saint Francis of Assisi
2024 Summer Choir Camp
 August 12-16, 2024

The Cathedral of Saint Francis of Assisi is pleased to announce its 2nd ANNUAL SUMMER CHOIR CAMP for all rising 3rd-8th grade students. Students from any parishes within or outside of the Diocese are welcome to attend! Every day, students will participate in choir rehearsals, music theory classes with the Camp's outstanding music faculty, work on composer projects, and sing for the Cathedral's daily 12:10 Mass. There will also be fun outdoor activities (weather permitting), games, and snacks! Plus, each chorister will have an opportunity to play the Cathedral's pipe organ!

General Information:
 Dates: August 12-16, 2024
 Times: Mon-Thurs 9am - 2:30pm; Friday 9am - 1:30pm
 Tuition: \$250 per chorister
 Food: All chorister are required to bring a bag lunch (including drink) Monday through Thursday. Friday will conclude with an Ice Cream Party after the 12:10 Mass. Dismissal is at 1:30pm on Friday, Aug 25. A mid-morning snack will be provided each day by the Cathedral.

Add'l Info:
 Contact Christopher Delbert, Director of Sacred Music - Music@StFrancisCathedral.org
 Registration Deadline: July 8, 2024 N.B. - Full payment of tuition must accompany this registration form. Checks should be made out to Cathedral of Saint Francis of Assisi. Memo line: 2024 Summer Choir Camp
 OR
 USE THE QR CODE at the bottom of this form to register and make payment. Thank you.

Name of Student Chorister _____
 Grade (in September 2023) _____ T-Shirt Size: YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL (circle one)
 Any allergies or medical conditions _____
 Name of Parent/Guardian _____
 Best Phone Number of Parent _____
 Mailing Address _____
 Email of Parent _____
 Parish _____
 Emergency Contact _____



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Please scan QR code or call 1-800-933-2566.



Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.
 Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.
 Masks are optional for all donors and staff. For full list of COVID-19 safety protocols, please visit nybc.org/coronavirus.


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RESERVE SPACE NOW

St. Thomas the Apostle's
3rd Annual

Flea Market



September 7th, 2024
 (rain date Sept. 14th)

8AM - 2PM

333 NJ-18 Old Bridge, NJ 08857

SPACE RENTALS - \$25
2 SPACES RENTALS - \$40
 1 space = 8ft x 19ft

For space rentals or more information contact
Vanessa Hogan - (908) 208-8598
Hsa@sttaob.com

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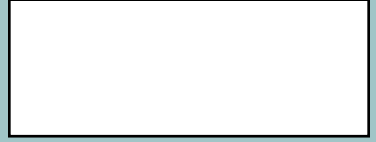
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