

# Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 25, 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:

Andrea Madonna

### 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](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

## TWENTY- FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### SATURDAY AUGUST 24

4:00pm Dorothy & Cyprian D'Mello r/o D'Mello Family  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Chester H. Carina*

### SUNDAY AUGUST 25 - TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Daniel Geiser r/o Wayne & Laurie Miller  
 10:00am Greg Crowe r/o Mr. & Mrs. Gary Holland  
 12:00pm For Our Parishioners

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Alexander A. Carles*

### MONDAY AUGUST 26

8:00am Art Vader r/o Kathy & Steve Lopez  
 12:15pm Monthly Memorial

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas S. Carlton*

### TUESDAY AUGUST 27 - ST. MONICA

8:00am James R. Golembeski r/o Mike & Barbara  
 Clements

12:15pm Michael Lynch 19th Anniv. r/o Mom & Dad

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Peter R. Cebulka*

### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28 - ST. AUGUSTINE

8:00am Catherine Hilman r/o Wendy & Terry Crane  
 12:15pm Henriette Gallagher r/o Sharon & Joseph Lane

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Vincent P. Chen*

### THURSDAY AUGUST 29 - THE PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

8:00am Gordon Grau r/o Kathy & Lorento Fusco  
 12:15pm Barbara Romaine & STA PREP

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Celanao*

### FRIDAY AUGUST 30

8:00am Kelly Doherty r/o Bruce & Claire Stankiewicz  
 12:15pm Kieran P. Clements r/o Mike & Barbara Clements

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Kevin M. Cervine*

### SATURDAY AUGUST 31

4:00pm For Our Parishioners

*Priest of the Day: Rev. John Kattattu Chacko*

### SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1 - TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Robert McGovern r/o Kevin & Rosemary Hayes  
 10:00am Charlotte Guarino r/o Peggy & Marge Boyle  
 12:00pm William Hunter r/o Vallo Family

*Priest of the Day: Rev. David Chalackal*

## 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.

**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 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: Anthony Aurilia, Walter Blais, Edmund Crookhorn, John Derenoski, Catherine Franken, Walter Gladowski, Thomas La Marca, Mary Margett, Barbara McMillan, Paul & Vivian Montalban, Ernie Nocera, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Bob Samaco, John Soporowski, Eileen Stolte, Irene Sutton, Rich Szuminsky, Joseph Vasham, Isilio Villa.

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

- visit <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/P1381>
- Scan the QR code below
- Use your envelopes



*Collection: August 17th & 18th....\$12,920  
Assumption of Mary....\$3,614*

**THANK YOU!**

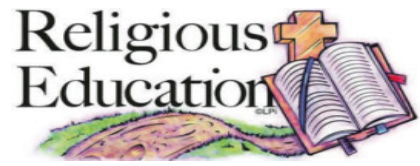
## 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

*Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission*

Our Goal - \$88,000  
Amount Received - \$ 98,849.50

## Encounter School of Ministry Prayer Teams

Available after Mass on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am and September 29<sup>th</sup> at 12pm.



## PREP REGISTRATION

If you have not registered for PREP classes, please do ASAP. You can register online at [www.saintthomasob.com](http://www.saintthomasob.com) and click on the Religious Education tab. Registration forms are also available in the Pastoral Center.

## WE NEED YOU!!

Serve as a Catechist or Catechist Aide...WHY?

- The best way to learn is to teach.
- Your own faith will come alive.
- You become an active participant in one of the essential responsibilities of a Church community.
- You assist in bringing Christ to others.
- You practice stewardship.
- You become a role model.
- Being a Catechist brings joy.
- A Catechist helps young people come to Christ and the riches of our faith by teaching PREP classes.

If interested....Call the PREP Office at 732.251.1660

## AIDES are needed to assist our Catechists on:

Monday afternoons: 4:30-5:30pm

Tuesday afternoons: 4:15-5:45pm

Thursday evenings: 6:00-7:30pm

## PARENTS:

Classes begin:

Monday, September 16th

Tuesday, September 17th

Thursday, September 19th

## ADULT CONFIRMATION

Any adult, 18 years of age or older, who has received First Communion, but not Confirmation, and is interested in Adult Confirmation, please contact Fr. John Rozembajgier at the Parish Office -732.251.4000.



*"Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the Living Heart of each of our parishes."*

*-Blessed Paul VI*

## Pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington D.C. September 28, 2024

Fr. John Rozembajgier and the Knights of Columbus are organizing a pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington DC on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 for all parishioners and friends.

Tentatively, the trip would encompass the following:

- Transportation to and from Washington DC by bus
- A private guided tour of the pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine
- Lunch
- Mass

More details to follow...

## New Jersey Right to Life Raffle

This weekend the St. Thomas Right to Life will be selling raffle tickets. Proceeds for benefit of New Jersey Right to Life.

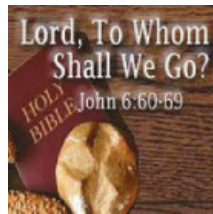
- 1st prize: 2025 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV.
- 2nd prize: \$1,000 ShopRite gift certificate.
- 3rd prize: \$750 ShopRite gift certificate.
- 4th prize: \$500 ShopRite gift certificate.

Cost per ticket is \$10.00. Please support this worthy cause. Thank you.

## OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

### **August 25, 2024 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Again we continue with the Bread of Life discourse from John's gospel this week. In verses 60–71, you will witness a very intimate moment between Jesus and his disciples and a moment when we see the very human and vulnerable side of Jesus when he asks (in v. 67), "Do you also want to leave?" and we see and hear Peter at his very best — see verses 68–69. Is there someone in your life who would like to know more about Jesus and the Bread of Life? Invite your relative or friend to call Lisa Giuliano at the parish office, 732-251-4000 ext. 8218 for information on OCIA. Our Inquiry sessions begin in September. Inquiry Sessions are opened to anyone who is unbaptized, baptized into another Christian Denomination or baptized Catholic but has not received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.



## Stewardship Scripture Reflection

### **August 25, 2024 - 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."* Joshua 24:15

When we commit to serve the Lord, we become a disciple in the work of the Lord. A disciple is a person who spends time in prayer every day, joyfully participates in charitable works and generously supports their local parish and Church mission. If we say we serve God, our words and actions should reflect the Gospel message to others.

## DEACONS TABLE



September 18, 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.

## LAZARUS MINISTRY

We are seeking people to join us in the Lazarus Ministry. This ministry involves helping families plan the Funeral Mass for their loved one and offers continued support for the family in the days following. If you are interested in this special Ministry, please call Lisa Giuliano on 732.251.4000 ext. 8218.



## **MEN OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP**

Men of our parish (any age) are invited to join for a evening hour of prayer, readings and discussion: **Mondays, 6pm** Pastoral Center. With Saint Joseph as our role model, this group hopes to inspire a more faith-focused approach to the workweek and our paternal roles by inviting God in.

**Info: Deacon Joe: joetobinebnj@gmail.com.**

**JOIN US!**

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**CLASS WILL BE  
EVERY  
WEDNESDAY IN  
SEPTEMBER AT  
9AM**

class will run for  
2 to 3 hours

For more information contact OBPD Community Police Detective  
D'Onofrio at (732) 721-5600 x3170 or email pdonofrio@oldbridge.com



## Save the date!

**September 21, 2024 or October 5, 2024**

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Parish Retreat on the Eucharist and St Francis of Assisi  
"Rebuild My Church" by Fr. John Rozembajgier

**September 28, 2024**

Parish Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. John Paul II in Washington, DC

**October 12, 2024**

Parish Pilgrimage to Old St. Thomas the Apostle on  
Englishtown Road, Old Bridge, NJ with Fr. John  
Rozembajgier and Fr. Iaroslav Korostil

## The Faith Sharing group will be presenting:

A Powerful Study on the Blessed Mother

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. She will become part of your daily life and help you to become more like Christ.

Beginning September 12<sup>th</sup> and for 8 weeks there will be 3 different sessions:

Thursday 10am-12pm

Thursday 7-9pm

Saturday 10am-12pm

Call Marilyn Harmyk at 732.735.5907 or  
email:marilynharmyk@gmail.com.

## 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](http://www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation). For more information, please email [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543.

## **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!*

## BLOOD DRIVE

Most Holy Redeemer Parish (Desmond Hall)  
133 Amboy Road, Matawan, NJ 07747

New Jersey Blood Services will be conducting a blood drive at Most Holy Redeemer Parish on **Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.** in Desmond Hall. At this time, the blood supply is critically low – PLEASE HELP.

To remain in compliance with the federal guidelines for social distancing.

### DONORS PRESENTING:

- Must wear a mask or face covering
- Will have their temperature taken
- Must be 14 days symptom-free if recovered from COVID-19
- May NOT donate if they have had a positive diagnostic test or experienced symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- May NOT donate if they are currently on self-quarantine restrictions.

Please be aware that we DO NOT test for COVID-19. You should contact your health care provider if you want to be tested. Remember to eat, drink, and bring your Donor ID or ID with your name and photo.



Although no fee is required, in the past many jubilarian couples have given a free-will donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion.

If you have any questions, please email Angela Marshall at [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE PRAYER SERVICE**

**REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON OCTOBER 13, 2024**

**REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT**  
**WWW.DIOMETUCHEN.ORG/FAMILYLIFE**

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

SOMERSET BASEBALL Picnic Area Game

Saturday August 31, 2024

Somerset Patriots vs Reading Fightin Phils



R-Phils

Saturday August 31st @ 6:35pm Gate 5:30pm

With Fireworks Show

\$40 per person #1-5, #6-7 \$250, #8-9 #325, #10+\$390

Picnic Area Menu

Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken Strips, Green Salad, Brownies, Cookies and unlimited soda, water and coffee

George Szymanski

John Thornton

732-238-5743

732-763-328



# THE BLACK POSTER PROJECT

RAISING AWARENESS THROUGH LIVES LOST TO ADDICTION

## The BLACK POSTER PROJECT Old Bridge Medical Center

Help bring awareness to Substance Use Disorder Addiction and Overdose in our Community through Silent Memorials for those who have lost their lives in their battle with addiction.

Monday, September 9

4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

1 Hospital Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ

For more information visit  
TheblackPosterProject.com  
Or Scan the QR Code



Hackensack Meridian  
Old Bridge Medical Cen  
KEEP GETTING BETTER

## 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

No tables or chairs will be provided

Please bring your own

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Bus trip to the Mass and March - Call Angela at 732-562-1543 or email  
amarshall@diometuchen.org

You are invited to New Jersey's

# Mass for Life

Thursday, September 26, 2024  
9:30 a.m.

Cathedral of St. Mary  
of the Assumption  
151 N. Warren Street, Trenton



CELEBRANT  
Cardinal Joseph W.  
Tobin, CSsR



HOMILIST  
Bishop David M.  
O'Connell, C.M.



No RSVP • Seating 1st come 1st served



\*Mass will end in time to walk to the Statehouse  
Annex for the NJ Rally & March for Life



For full information, visit: [dioceseoftrenton.org/nj-march-for-life](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/nj-march-for-life)





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