

# **Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OCTOBER 6, 2024**

## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**"To make disciples, as we know, love and serve God and 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: Telephone -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 – SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### SATURDAY OCTOBER 5

8:00am Charles Starkey r/o Jeanne & Jerry Goll  
4:00pm Nancy Stahley r/o St. Thomas Seniors Club  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Piotr Grezskiewicz*

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 6 - TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For Our Parishioners  
10:00am Charles & Kathleen Donnelly r/o Donnelly Family  
12:00pm Thomas & Rosa Federico r/o son, Anthony &  
Rosalie Federico  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. John C. Grimes*

### MONDAY OCTOBER 7

8:00am Irene Hennelly r/o Sandra Ampania &  
Anthony Demeola  
12:15pm Maurice Simon r/o Wife, Susan  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Michael J. Gromadzki*

### TUESDAY OCTOBER 8

8:00am Dominick Colasuonno r/o Walter & Stacey Tier  
12:15pm Christopher Doyle r/o Christine Doyle  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Stanley G. Gromadzki*

### WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9

8:00am Mary Schnuck r/o Rose Wallace  
12:15pm Ann Safchinsky r/o Bob & Carol Safchinsky  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Douglas J. Haefner*

### THURSDAY OCTOBER 10

8:00am Mary Ann Robson r/o Michele, Cheryl, &  
Michael Koster  
12:15pm Vincent DeCarlo Sr. r/o Jeanne & Gerald Goll  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. James W. Hagerman*

### FRIDAY OCTOBER 11

8:00am Beatrice Pampillonio r/o Jeanne & Gerald Goll  
12:15pm Sonny, Bill, Regina, & Billy r/o Family  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Henry L. Hemmerling*

### SATURDAY OCTOBER 12

8:00am Joseph Gualtieri r/o Elizabeth Loney &  
Joseph-Louis D'Amore  
4:00pm Valentine Steinmetz r/o Bob & Carol Safchinsky  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Herlihy*

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 13 - TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Dorothy & Dennis Sullivan 60th Wedding Anniv.  
r/o Dorothy & Dennis Sullivan  
10:00am Judith & Ed Palluzzi r/o The Palluzzi Family  
12:00pm Veronica Tenneson r/o Erin Kelleher  
*Priest of the Day: Rev. John G. Hillier*

## Welcome to the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle Church!

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  
**Telephone:** 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 Telephone:** 732.251.4812

**PREP Telephone:** 732.251.1660

### Contact Information:

**Website:** [www.saintthomasob.com](http://www.saintthomasob.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/pages/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-Bridge-NJ](http://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

## 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 or by appointment by calling the Parish Office.

**HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:** Parishioners desiring the Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office.

### **REMEMBERING LOVED ONES . . .**

**Sanctuary Candle/Mary Candle,** lit for one week in Church, available during daytime by contacting the Parish Office.

**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, Sylvia Bowman, Edmund Crookhorn, John Derenoski, Cathy Duh, Catherine Franken, Clark French, Walter Gladowski, Thomas La Marca, Mary Margett, Pat & Ruby Maurer, 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***

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

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

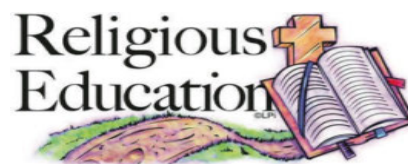


*Weekly Collection Sept. 28th - 29th....\$13,625*

Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas:

I write this note to you on behalf of myself, Fr. John and Fr. Joseph. I want to express our deep gratitude to YOU the wonderful parishioners of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish for the heartfelt cards and pictures you wrote and made for us on the occasion of Priesthood Sunday! You put so much love and care into this project and we are deeply touched and thankful. It is our privilege and honor to serve you as your priests. Our love to you all. Know we pray for you daily and remember you at the celebration of Holy Mass.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fr. Jay, Fr. John, and Fr. Joseph



## **Liturgy of the Word for Children - Beginning Sunday, October 6, 2024 during the 10:00 am Mass**

On the first and third Sunday of the month we invite all children grades K-8 to join us for Liturgy of the Word for Children. The priest will call all children into the center aisle and they will process to the Chapel where they will here the Gospel, sing, pray, and have a discussion on their level. They will return to you during the Offertory Hymn.



*"If I can give you any advice, I beg you to get closer to the Eucharist and to Jesus... We must pray to Jesus to give us that tenderness of the Eucharist."*

- St. Teresa of Calcutta



## Eucharistic Adoration



*Eucharistic Adoration is the act of worshipping God as He is present in the consecrated Eucharist. Since the Last Supper, when Jesus broke the bread and distributed the wine saying, "This is my Body" and "This is my Blood," Catholics have believed that the bread and wine are no longer merely baked wheat and fermented grape juice, but the actual living presence of the Second Person of the Trinity—Jesus Christ. Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, in prayer and devotion, is exactly the same as spending time before the Living God. Adoration occurs whenever someone kneels in front of a tabernacle that contains the Blessed Sacrament, genuflects toward a tabernacle, bows before receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Mass, or, in a more focused way, when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration. Join us every First Friday in 2024—October 4, November 1, and December 6. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues from the conclusion of 8:00 am daily Mass on First Friday until the beginning of 12:15 pm Mass that very same day. Please come and embrace Jesus in which you say to Him: "I am yours, and I ask you, please stay with me always." -Pope Benedict XVI*

## **Vocations Prayer**

Jesus, make me your disciple,  
with your joy fill me,  
by your love form me,  
in your hope lead me,  
show me the vocation that you desire for me,  
the path to love and follow you. **Amen**

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS FOR  
SEPTEMBER 16 - 30

Sept. 16	# 712	Sept. 24	# 1153
Sept. 17	# 558	Sept. 25	# 902
Sept. 18	# 196	Sept. 26	#128
Sept. 19	# 120	Sept. 27	# 944
Sept. 20	# 1144	Sept. 28	# 615
Sept. 21	# 1024	Sept. 29	# 364
Sept. 22	# 337	Sept. 30	# 222
Sept. 23	# 812		

**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!*

**From the Upper Room to the Resurrection:  
October 7<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:30pm in the Pastoral Center**

The Eucharistic Revival, all are invited to join Fr. Jay for an exciting **Bible Study** that will cover the **Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper to the Resurrection of Jesus** as told in the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke. All you need is a Bible and an open heart! Please call the Parish Office to let us know you are coming!

**Table at St. Thomas the Apostle**



**Saturday, October 12, 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](mailto:chrisdoyle167@gmail.com)  
or call 732-609-1499

**DEACONS TABLE**



Wednesday, October 16, 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.

Your are invited to a special webinar on the upcoming election:

**Blessed are the Peacemakers**

Where you will learn how Catholics can prepare for the upcoming election and restore civility to politics and public discourse

Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Panelists include:



James J. King  
New Jersey  
Catholic Conference



Emily Schumacher-Novak  
USCCB



Eric Failing  
Pennsylvania  
Catholic Conference

To register, visit [bit.ly/46ZEW3F](http://bit.ly/46ZEW3F) or scan code below  
Space is limited!



This webinar is being jointly hosted  
by the Pennsylvania and  
New Jersey Catholic Conferences

**Holy Name Society**

Wind Creek Casino Trip  
Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Bus leaves at 9am and will return at 7pm  
Cost is \$50pp with \$20 voucher.  
Contact either John Thornton 732.763.3280  
or George Szymanski 732.238.5743

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**October 22nd - Feast of St. John Paul II - 7-8:30pm**

Adoration of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament with a reflection on Mary and St. John Paul II.

We will also begin the 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory—  
Consecration to devote ourselves to God and make ourselves 100% available to carry out His will on this earth.

**Saturday, October 26th - 2pm**

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

**Sunday, October 27th - 7:00-8:30pm**

Adoration of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament with a book discussion on Matthew Kelly's Life is Messy

**Jubilee 2025 - June - In the Footsteps of St. John Paul II**

June 17-30, 2025 - Poland (Krakow, Wadowice, Czestochowa, and Warsaw) and Italy (Rome/Assisi) with Fr. John M. Rozembajgier. More information to follow.

**Jubilee 2025 - September - Trip to Italy**

September 22 - October 2, 2025 - Rome/Assisi & 6 night River Cruise to Venice and the Vento Region with Fr. Jay Johnson. More information to follow!

## OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



October 6, 2024 - 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are more than half-way through the Gospel of Mark and the disciples still don't get it. They still don't understand the virtue of humility, the foundation for spiritual growth. People brought little children "that He might touch them." It seems likely that some of the children were crippled, blind, or sick. Still, the disciples shoo these desperate people away. We would think Jesus might have been annoyed with his disciples. All of us can identify with that emotion, especially when life isn't going our way.

We all have days when we are tired or sad or just too busy. Look to Jesus in this passage. Stop what you are doing and give a hug to a whining child. That little one might just may be teaching a lesson like Jesus taught! (Adapted from [www.Catholicmom.com](http://www.Catholicmom.com)). We are four weeks into our Inquiry sessions. Inquiry sessions are for those who wish to inquire, explore, and search for ways to grow in the Catholic faith. For more information, call Lisa at 732-251-4000 ext. 8218.

### Be a Champion for Catholic Charities and Put Mercy into Action

50/50 RAFFLE DRAWING ~ NOVEMBER 1, 2024

We might never know the recipients of our Works of Mercy or the impact our financial gift had on their lives. Consider the family that was helped by Catholic Charities during a period of unemployment and is now on the path to self-sufficiency or, the person whose struggle with addictions is being alleviated through our Catholic Charities' counseling services. Who would guess that becoming a Champion for Catholic Charities by purchasing a raffle ticket could have such far-reaching results. When a community responds in generosity, that is exactly what happens.

By entering our Champions 50/50 Raffle, you are helping our neighbors in need and you just may win one of the two grand prizes. ***Over the years, the prize for this raffle has reached as high as \$40,000 each for two lucky winners!*** With your participation, we are hoping for even greater success this year. Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased by [downloading a raffle form](http://www.diometuchen.org/champions) at [www.diometuchen.org/champions](http://www.diometuchen.org/champions) and mailing it in with your payment or by calling 732-562-2432. Thank you and good luck!



Here is a link to the downloadable [Parish Year of Mission Playbook](#) for the National Eucharistic Revival. This includes information about the Walk With One program.

Bishop Burbidge, USCCB Pro-Life Chair, with a prayer to pray between now and Election Day. It can be found in English and Spanish at <https://www.usccb.org/resources/prayer-life-jesus-blessed-sacrament>.

**PUMPKIN PATCH GIFT AUCTION**

Sponsored by  
Boosters & Friends of Holy Family Church

**October 18, 2024, at 7 P.M.**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.**

**Holy Family Church**  
**MEMORIAL HALL**  
727 Hwy. 36, Union Beach

Tickets available at Holy Family Church after all Masses or in their Parish Office Mon. through Thurs. from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.  
Or by calling Jo Farley at 732-739-2578.  
You must be 18 or older to purchase tickets or enter.

**PRE-PAID TICKET PACKAGE \$50**  
At the Door Price \$55

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- \$10 Admission Fee, Coffee, & Cake
- \$10 Orange Ticket Sheet (Prizes Valued to \$75)
- \$15 Green Ticket Sheet (Prizes Valued to \$150)
- \$20 Three Yellow Tickets (Prizes Valued to \$200+)

**OK Treat**

Free To The Public

**Friday OCT 11th** RAIN DATE: **6 PM - 8 PM**  
**Friday OCT 18th**

**Saint Bernadette's**  
**Knights Of Columbus**

80% will Benefit  
Tunnels To Towers.  
20% To Benefit our Church.

**\$20 Donation**  
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**Tunnel= Towers Foundation**  
TTF.org

**Life Choices Resource Center**  
**"Baby Bottle Blessings"**



St. Thomas is hosting a "Baby Bottle Blessings" Campaign for Life Choices Resource Center which is based in Metuchen.

For over 39 years, Life Choices has been serving women and families in our local communities by offering FREE services and support. We offer hope and friendship for those facing crisis pregnancies and post abortion healing. WE are "Walking with Moms in Need."

By supporting the "Baby Bottle Blessings" campaign, you are assisting our families and helping to spread the Gospel of Life while building a legacy of Love with our precious clients.

We would be most grateful if you would take home a bottle or an envelope and return it with your donation (cash, check or credit card information) by October 13<sup>th</sup>. Donations also can be mailed directly to: Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840 or made on-line at [www.Life ChoicesRC.com](http://www.Life ChoicesRC.com) or by using the QR code.

**Your gift will help us serve our Lord's most precious creation!**  
**Thank you! You are in our prayers!**

# Come Join Us for Food & Music of the 60's

Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 p.m.

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**DJ**

☮ **TRIVIA** ☮

**PRIZES**


**60's COSTUME CONTEST**

Adults: \$25 pp  
 Children 5-10: \$10 pp  
 Children (under 5): FREE

Ticket Price Includes:


**FOOD**  
 Salisbury Steak  
 Fried Chicken  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Mac & Cheese  
 Corn  
 Ambrosia Salad

**BEER & REFRESHMENTS**  
 BYOB Permitted



Tickets available after all Masses  
 Beginning 9/21 for 4 weekends ONLY  
 Limited Seats Available

*You are cordially invited to the St. Bartholomew Columbiettes*



## Annual Pink Luncheon

**Sunday - October 20, 2024      1:30 pm**  
**St. Bartholomew Church Hall**  
**470 Ryders Lane**  
**East Brunswick**


Join us to honor men & women who have been affected by breast cancer

Includes - Speaker, prizes, hot buffet, dessert and beverages  
 Catered by - Carrabba's Italian Grill (East Brunswick)

*Faith*

*Hope*

*Believe*



We will be collecting food for REPLENISH and local families in need at the door

**Cost - \$25.00 per person (in advance)**  
**\$30.00 per person (at the door)**

*For tickets and information, please call Noreen at 732-238-5743*

**Checks to be made out to -**  
**St. Bartholomew Columbiettes**

*We encourage you to show your support by wearing pink!*

St. Thomas The Apostle Church  
Presents

# Designer Bag

## B I N G O



Tricky Tray & More

**Wed. 11/20/24 @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

**\$40 - Includes: 10 Games, Light Refreshments, and Free Dabber**

Doors open @ 5:30 pm  
 First ball called @ 7:00 pm  
\*No one under 18 years of age is permitted\*

Participants are welcome to bring their own food and beverages  
 Due to limited seating, don't delay in purchasing your tickets!

Amazon Gift Card Raffle  
\$25/Ticket  
6/8/109

Entrance on day of event is cash-only  
 333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, New Jersey  
 For more information, contact Laura at [harmonyfoods@outlook.com](mailto:harmonyfoods@outlook.com)



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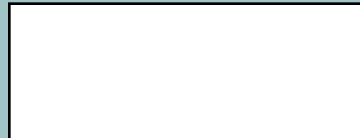
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 May not be combined with other offers. Exp. 12/31/24


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