

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 27, 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

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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26

8:00am Patrick O' Neill r/o George Gonzalez
4:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Robert Higgins r/o Yesis Family
Priest of the Day: Rev. Mark F. Kehoe

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 - THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Mr. & Mrs. George Rassman r/o Anthony & Teri
Cutrone
10:00am Anastacia Benzon (liv. int) r/o Mr. & Mrs. Alberto
Benzon
12:00pm Cathy Bennet r/o Mike
Priest of the Day: Rev. Charles F. Kelly

MONDAY OCTOBER 28

8:00am Max Borruso r/o Mom Janet Borruso
12:15pm Monthly Memorial
Priest of the Day: Rev. Kevin P. Kelly

TUESDAY OCTOBER 29

8:00am James Griffin r/o Michael & Dolores Ambrosio
12:15pm Christopher Albano r/o Edward & Lois Bachonski
Priest of the Day: Rev. Sean W. Kenney

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30

8:00am Patti Crescenzo r/o STA Rosary Society
12:15pm Arlene Paolillo r/o Pauline & John Choi
Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Kerrigan

THURSDAY OCTOBER 31

8:00am John & Carole Corcoran r/o Lora Corcoran
12:15pm Hidalgo & Gloria Borja Santos r/o Paul & Vivian
Santos Montalban
7:00pm VIGIL - Kelly Doherty r/o Chris Doyle
Priest of the Day: Rev. David E. Keys

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1 - ALL SAINTS

8:00am Kathleen Donnelly r/o Donnelly Family
12:15pm Deceased members of The Legion of Mary r/o
STA Legion of Mary
Priest of the Day: Rev. Andrzej Kielkowski

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2

8:00am Juan Jiminez r/o Daughter
4:00pm Vincent & Josephine Torricelli r/o Daughter
Rosalie Federico
Priest of the Day: Rev. Bede Kim

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3 - THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For Our Parishioners
10:00am Marilyn Veverka r/o John Veverka
12:00pm Charlotte Guarino r/o Maureen & John Nigro
Priest of the Day: Rev. James King'ori

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

Facebook: 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 & Rudy Maurer, 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.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 October 19th -20th...\$ 11,706
World Mission Sunday...\$3,085

THANK YOU!

The **Mary Candle** in the Church this week burns
in **memory of:** Barbara McMillian



r/o Parish Blood Drive Committee

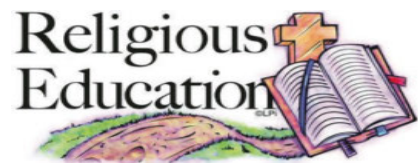
FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

First Friday Adoration on November 1st All SAINTS , will be from 11:00am - 12:00pm **concluding** with the 12:15pm Mass.

Come spend some time with our Lord!

Attention all Ushers

There will be an Ushers meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 6th, at 7:30pm in the Parish Center. Please save the date and make every effort to attend our meeting.



PREP NEWS

Next Liturgy of the Word for Children is November 3rd at the 10:00 AM Mass.

We need help during PREP on Thursdays during class 6:00 – 7:30pm. Call the PREP Office if you can help!

Confirmation Gathering is Monday, November 18th at 6:45pm in church. MANDATORY for all CONFIRMATION students. One parent must attend with their child. Guest speaker Fr. Paul Houlis.

No PREP Class on Halloween – Thursday, October 31st

No PREP Class on November 4th, 5th or 7th.

PREP Home Study Students please submit UNIT 1 packet either to the Parish Office or the PREP box located in the Pastoral Center Lobby.



Eucharistic Adoration



Eucharistic Adoration is the act of worshiping 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 - 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**

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AT 7:00PM

During this liturgy we will remember the name of each parishioner who passed away this year (October 1, 2023 – September 24, 2024). As your loved one's name is read, a relative or friend will come forward to receive a candle and place it to the right of the altar. All are welcome to join us for this liturgy.

Light refreshments will be served following Mass.

Pilgrimage to National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa and National Shrine of Padre Pio
November 9, 2024

Join Fr. John Rozembajgier on pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA followed by the National Shrine of Padre Pio in Barto, PA on Saturday, November 9, 2024.

The price of the trip is \$130.00 and will include a deluxe bus, a delicious lunch and a wonderful, beautiful day.

Please contact Chris Doyle for further information. 732-609-1499 or chrisdoyle167@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

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

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!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1333, tells us that; "At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that, by the words of Christ and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, becomes Christ's Body and Blood. Faithful to the Lord's command the Church continues to do, in his memory and until his glorious return, what he did on the eve of his Passion: "He took bread..." "He took the cup filled with wine..." The signs of bread and wine become, in a way surpassing understanding, the Body and Blood of Christ."

Communion for the Homebound

If you or your loved ones are homebound and cannot attend Mass to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, please contact Lisa Guilano at 732-251-4000 ext. 8218 to have one of our ministers bring the sacrament in a home visit.

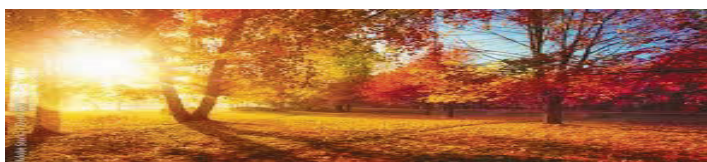


Table at St. Thomas the Apostle



Saturday, November 16, 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

YOUTH GROUP at ST. THOMAS

Are you between grades 7-12? Do you want to give back to your community, learn about your faith, and have a place to meet enthusiastic likeminded peers? **Join us in the Parish Center on Wednesday, October 30th at 6:30PM-8:30PM for our first monthly Youth Group meeting of the year!** We will be having a Fall themed get together where we will be painting pumpkins and making candy bags for a local Senior Residence center! We will also have snacks, participate in other fun Fall activities, and learn more about what Youth Group has to offer! If you would like more information, feel free to reach to our Youth Minister Ms. Juliette Malone at her email jmalone@saintthomasob.com! We look forward to seeing you there!

RETROUVAILLE

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 28 – March 2, 2025**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.

EUCHARIST

"Through adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the gospel. Anyone who prays to the Saviour draws the whole world with him and raises it to God."

- Pope St. John Paul II

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



October 27, 2024 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Trust. Courage. Faith. Bartimaeus had all of those, didn't he? And Jesus saw and knew and healed him. He wants to do the same for us. Heal us of whatever blindness we have in our life. But we must ask. When Bartimaeus approached Jesus, he asked for sight. He was very specific and spoke in the positive. His words are not "I don't want to be blind," but "I want to see."

Sometimes we have a specific issue to bring to Jesus that we truly would like him to fix. But after reading this, maybe we are going about it the wrong way. Instead of asking to get rid of the problem, we should ask for the solution. Of course Jesus knows the solution before it's articulated, but maybe it is in our articulation of the solution we learn something. Don't you think Bartimaeus was onto something that may help us as we struggle in our lives with problems that need to be fixed? Please pray for our Inquirers this week, those who are actively seeking His love and truth, that their hearts may be open to the beauty of His grace. 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.

HONEY FOR SALE

Polish Supplementary School will be having a fundraiser selling honey here at St. Thomas this weekend and November 2nd & 3rd.



Please help them achieve their goals!!

WINTER BLOOD DRIVE

Our annual Parish Winter Blood Drive will take place on **SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025**. You are eligible to donate if you are in generally good health, at least 17 years old (16 year olds can donate with parental consent). If you are 76 years or older you need your doctor's consent. (Medical consent needs only to be filed once, not every donation.) Most people with diabetes and most people on medications are eligible to donate. For specific medical guidelines, call NJ Blood Services at 1-800-688-0900. Details of the St. Thomas Blood Drive will be issued soon.

From the Diocese:

With Election Day 2 weeks away, below is the link to the USCCB information and inserts for the Faithful Citizenship catechesis as well as the Civilize It Campaign. Strong opinions about political topics is historically nothing new, especially in a Presidential election year. But we used to debate, attempt to persuade, sometimes argue, and then the day after the election tempers cooled and life resumed. That's no longer the case. It seems now someone with a differing political opinion is deemed "evil" forever and in any and everything they will ever do.

<https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-and-peace/forming-conscience-faithful-citizenship>



Honor Our Veterans

In the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, World War I ended when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. Formerly known as Armistice Day when President Woodrow Wilson declared it one year later, Veterans Day this year marks the 105th anniversary of the end of WWI.

Not to be confused with Memorial Day, which remembers and honors those who died while in service to our country, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank our living veterans for their service to our country and to remember those veterans who have gone to their rest.

On Sunday, November 10th after the 12pm Mass, Saint Thomas the Apostle will honor the living and deceased veterans of our parish family at Saint Thomas the Apostle Church. Organized by the Saint Thomas the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council 4815, an American flag will be placed for your veteran, with their name, branch of service, and other pertinent information you wish to share in the lawn near the entrance of Saint Thomas the Apostle Church. A blessing will be bestowed to all veterans in attendance followed by a prayer for those who have gone to their eternal rest. A black ribbon will be affixed for those who are deceased.

Complete the form below and return to the Parish Center or drop into a collection basket no later than Sunday, November 3rd. Free-will donations in the name of each veteran accepted via check payable to **Knights of Columbus Council 4815** with proceeds benefitting the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park.

Veteran's Name: (Last) (First) (MI)

Branch of Service: Army Marines Navy Air Force Coast Guard

Other Information*:

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____



* Examples: Rank, years served, war (if served during wartime), awards/medals/ribbons, year of birth and, if deceased, year of death. Flags will remain until sunset on Monday, November 11th when you may pick up. Uncollected flags will be stored at the Parish Center for pick up at a later date. Any questions, email Rob Wright (rwkofc4815@gmail.com) or call him at 908-510-6328.



Comedy Knight at the Old Bridge Columbian Club



Saturday, October 26 @ 6:30PM – 10PM or later

Doors Open & Buffet Starts @ 6:30 PM

Show starts between 7:30 and 8PM

\$50.00 Per person

Includes Buffet Dinner, Draft Beer, Wine, and Soda

Enjoy a night of fun and food!

Old Bridge Columbian Club (Home of the K of C)

61 Pine St. Old Bridge NJ 08857

Ticket Info: Don Bruchez

908-705-4687 donniebruchez@gmail.com

Advanced Purchase/reservations required

There will be a food drive for donations to the Old Bridge food bank. Please bring a non-perishable food item last day to reserve. Oct. 19

HOLY NAME SOCIETY
SPONSORING

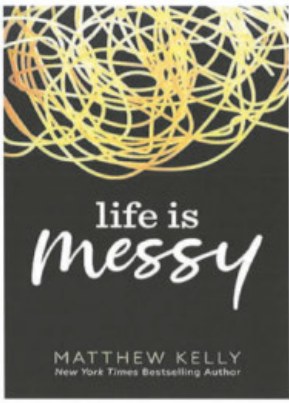
CASINO TRIP
Monday November 4th, 2024

WIND CREEK CASINO



Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem, PA
Bus Trip Leaving 9:00 am to 7:00pm
\$50 per person getting back \$20 Casino Voucher

George Szymanski	John Thornton
732-238-5743	732-763-3280



Book Review and Discussion
at
St. Thomas the Apostle Church
on
Life is Messy by Matthew Kelly
Sunday, October 27, 2024
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Schedule:
7:00p.m. – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:30 p.m. – Reflection on *Life is Messy* by Matthew Kelly
7:45 p.m. – Group Discussion on *Life is Messy* by Matthew Kelly
8:30 p.m. – Departure

ADULT SACRAMENT PREPARATION - RCIA

Are you searching for God? Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Do you want to complete what your baptism began, and prepare for Confirmation and Eucharist? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults may be the answer...The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is an open-ended process to warmly welcome new members and provide spiritual formation according to each person's needs. The process includes small and large group meetings, discussion, individual and group prayer, and liturgies and rites celebrated within our faith community. Participants reflect on Scripture, uncover their faith stories and learn to recognize themselves and God's action in their lives, while exploring the teachings of the Church and its application to their own lives. The process is designed for catechumen (those who have never been baptized). It can also assist candidates (those baptized in another Christian tradition or Catholics who have never received Eucharist and Confirmation) in their preparation for sacraments. Contact our parish office for more information.

Adult Confirmation

Have you never received Confirmation, and now feel called to complete your Christian Initiation with its celebration at the Easter Vigil of 2025? Each year starting in the fall, we offer a weeknight formation series to prepare adults for Confirmation. This year we will begin our formation series on October 24th, from 7-9pm.

St. Thomas The Apostle Church
Presents

Designer Bag

BINGO

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 \$5/100

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

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>.

Encounter the Love of Jesus through personal prayer

Encounter School of Ministry Prayer Teams are available:
Sunday, October 27th after 10am Mass

Ponte Vecchio
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 Old Bridge, NJ 08857
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 (732) 607-1650

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