Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 5, 2025

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:

Michele Racavich

School Vice Principal:

Diane Zarate

PREP Director:

Andrea Madonna

<u>Director of Sacred Music/Liturgy:</u>

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!



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 5, 2025

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4

8:00am Pauline Siravo r/o Siravo Family 4:00pm Pauline Siravo r/o Sonny Siravo Priest of the Day: Rev. Anthony Palomba

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5 - TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Antonia Baxter Reyes r/o Reyes Family 10:00am Marilyn Veverka r/o John Veverka

12:00pm For Our Parishioners Priest of the Day: Rev. Andrew Park

MONDAY OCTOBER 6

8:00am Peter Connolly r/o Family

12:15pm Agolia & Heath Families r/o Mary & Mark

Agolia

Priest of the Day: Rev. Christopher Panlilio

TUESDAY OCTOBER 7 - OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

8:00am Susan Kohler r/o Ken & Linda Argent

12:15pm Maurice Simon r/o Wife Priest of the Day: Rev. Andrew Park

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8

8:00am Silverlal Scotti r/o son, Dan

12:15pm Tyler Ratkowski r/o Aunt Cheryl Koster

Priest of the Day: Rev. Paul Passant

THURSDAY OCTOBER 9

8:00am Pamela Atkinson r/o Rose Wallace

12:15pm Anne Safchinsky r/o Bob & Carol Safchinsky

Priest of the Day: Rev. Mark Payne

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10

8:00am Salvatore Frascino r/o Frank Ranelli 12:15pm Marylin DeNisco r/o Gerry & Mike Martin

Priest of the Day: Rev. Jonathan Perez

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11

8:00am Barbara McMillan r/o Nellie & Marty Moran

4:00pm Edward Palluzzi r/o Francine Davis

Priest of the Day: Rev. Daniel Peterson

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12 - TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Enola Barlik r/o Larry & Joan McGrath

10:00am Mr. & Mrs. Edward Palluzzi r/o Palluzzi Family 12:00pm Valentine Steinmetz r/o Bob & Carol Safchinsky

Priest of the Day: Rev. Alex Pinto

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church this week burns in living intention of: Josephine & Leonard Coviello

r/o Louis & Louise Sandoli



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. <u>PARENTS</u> must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session. (Registration is required.)

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements must be made <u>at least one year in advance</u> - 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: Walter Blais, Gerry Blinstrub, Sylvia Bowman, Edmund Crookhorn, Cynthia Czarnecki, John Derenoski, Jack DeRuvo, Brien Essenbreis, Richard Fazio, Christopher Horn, Sina Indelicato, Anatoli Karnicki, Harriet Kunzman, Maria Lim, Harold Mann, Mary Margett, Pat & Rudy Maurer, Fran Maxwell, Danny Posadas, Frank Ranelli, Dolores Rinella, Chito & Winnie Santiago, Thomas Smith, John Soporowski, Irene Sutton, Frances Thippabathini, Tristan Thompson, Francis Travino, Daphne Ulveling.

Please pray for all the sick. (Names will remain on our sick list for <u>one month</u>, 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

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

Joseph DiMattina Eugene Picco

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/ P1381
- Scan the QR code below
- *Use your envelopes*



Collection for September 21st... \$12,579
2nd Collection Mission Co-op ...\$3,608
Collection for September 28th not available at time of printing

THANK YOU!

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025

Our Goal - \$90,000 and 600 Families

Total amount received \$106,354.39 and 491 families

Altar Flower Memorial

If you would like to contribute to the Altar Flowers prices are as follows:

\$100 weekly for Altar Flowers \$35 each for small vases placed by the Tabernacle Please drop off your donations at the Parish Office.

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 on November 7th for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 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



PREP

Confirmation Students:

Beginning this week you must sign the Mass Attendance book located by the television on the right-hand side of the Church. **DO NOT** sign during the Mass. Once Mass begins you must wait until the priest has processed out of the Church to sign the book.

VOCATION MINISTRY

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 5, 2025 "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." (Luke 17:6) Even small steps of faith can lead to great things. Show your children how their faith can grow, allowing them to explore whether God is calling them to a vocation in His Church. Remind them that God will provide the strength they need to follow His path, even if it's not yet clear.

Music Ministry

Do you sing, play an instrument, want to be part of the music ministry?

Now is the time to join!

Rehearsals for the Adult Choir take place on Thursday nights at 7:30pm in the church. The Adult Choir sings at the 10am Mass on Sundays.

The Children's Choir will have their first rehearsal on Thursday, October 9th at 4:15pm in the Church. The children will sing at the 12pm Mass on Sunday, October 12th.

Speak to Dan for more information after mass or e-mail him at Dneff@saintthomasob.com

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



October 5, 2025 - Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

All of the readings emphasize the importance of faith. Every Sunday we come together to celebrate in word and sacrament the mystery of our faith, the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Son of God. This faith is ours through a community of faith called the Church and in each of us through the sacrament of our Baptism into the Paschal Mysteries of Christ. This gift, like the small mustard seed, is to grow constantly within us and in the Church so that even the miraculous is possible for those who believe. Faith for Christians is belief that because Christ is risen from the dead, we will do the same. Jesus used the picture of a tiny seed to move a mighty mulberry tree as a metaphor for faith being the greatest force in the world. Even on a purely natural plane, things that look impossible become possible when approached with faith. The rest of the Gospel passage teaches the disciples the necessity of being humble in the service of God. In words that don't apply to other areas like labour management relations, Jesus says that we can never have any claim on God. Our greatest response to the Giver of divine faith is works of service. Do you know someone who would like to learn more about Jesus, and how we can follow him through the Catholic Faith? All who are unbaptized, baptized into another faith denomination, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist and Confirmation, are invited. For more information we invite you to call Lisa at 732-251-4000 ext. 8218.



America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally

October 11, 2025
following the 4:00 p.m. Mass
to be held at
Our Lady of Fatima Grotto
St. Thomas the Apostle parking lot
WE ALL NEED MARY!



Blessing of the Animals



The annual blessing of the animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi will take place today at 1pm in the Grotto.



Please join us on October 26th at 3:00pm for a dedication concert for our new organ.

More information to follow....

Real Presence, Real Being
Prayerful Encounters in the Eucharist
Adoration of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 - 7:00pm - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 29, 2025 - 7:00pm - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 - 7:00pm - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 - 7:00pm - 9:00 p.m.

"The Eucharist, as Christ's saving presence in the community of the faithful and its

We all need a time and place where we can go and quietly reflect. We all have personal challenges that make us tired and weary. We all search for hope and peace in such a busy and noisy life. As Christians we believe real Hope is found in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Come and allow his presence to heal and nourish you.

spiritual food, is the most precious possession which the Church can have in her

journey through history."

We invite you to four Holy Hour's this year focused specifically on the Real Presence of Christ. This will be a time for you to hear readings relevant to our lives, music that will help you to reflect, and a message of Hope. You can find more information on our website: https://saintthomasob.com/

Table at St. Thomas the Apostle



Saturday, October 11, 2025 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

Bereavement Group at St. Thomas

A weekly bereavement group held on Wednesday's in the Parish Room at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. To find out more information or to register, please call Lisa at 732.251.4000 ext.8218.

PARISH MISSION - OCT 19 - 21 "60 Minutes for Jesus" Fr. Jim Sichko



Fr. Jim Sichko is a priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY, and has been an internationally known preacher, evangelist, and motivational speaker for over 25 years. In 2015, Pope Francis commissioned Fr. Jim as a Papal Missionary of Mercy in conjunction with the Extraordinary Jubilee Year, making him one of 100 in the United States and 1,000 in the world. He will be here at St. Thomas for a parish Mission entitled "60 Minutes for Jesus" October 19th - 21st, at 7:00pm each night.

Fr. Jim's talks and parish missions are geared for every member of the household, from youth to adulthood, and for anyone regardless of religious affiliation or not. Known as "the best opening act ever" by Dolly Parton, Fr. Jim uses real life experiences, personal stories, and humor, to motivate any audience to recognize the good within themselves and others, while challenging them to make the world a better place.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER 1 - 31

Sept. 1	# 1088	Sept. 16	# 176
Sept. 2	# 841	Sept. 17	# 401
Sept. 3	# 688	Sept. 18	# 649
Sept. 4	#129	Sept. 19	# 996
Sept. 5	#997	Sept. 20	# 368
Sept. 6	#1380	Sept. 21	# 1309
Sept. 7	# 717	Sept. 22	# 1179
Sept. 8	# 1034	Sept. 23	# 914
Sept. 9	# 1053	Sept. 24	# 541
Sept. 10	#196	Sept. 25	# 862
Sept. 11	#1367	Sept. 26	# 1352
Sept. 12	#82	Sept. 27	# 170
Sept. 13	#68	Sept. 28	# 1349
Sept. 14	#732	Sept. 29	#700
Sept. 15	#820	Sept. 30	#1111
P 10	020	2-p.: 00	

THE PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH COMMITTEE of ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

Bishop James F. Checchio has decreed a period to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence by visiting sacred places in the Diocese of Metuchen. Please join us on pilgrimage to the following sites:

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI,

METUCHEN

and

THE SHRINE CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT, RARITAN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

The pilgrimage will begin with the celebration of 8:00 AM Mass and then we will carpool to
THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI,
METUCHEN
then stop for lunch at
HAILEY'S HARP & PUB, METUCHEN
and then proceed to
THE SHRINE CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT, RARITAN

\$30 PER PERSON FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT CHRIS DOYLE 732-609-1499 OR CHRISDOYLE167@GMAIL.COM

for Old Bridge Residents

Ready to learn how your local police department serves the community?

Apply today and be part of the experience.

Starts: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Duration: One night per week for 8 weeks Class size: Limited to the first 25 applicants.

Eligibility: Must be 18 years of age or older Must reside in Old Bridge Township Must pass a limited background check What you will Learn: Accident investigation Patrol functions and tactics Defensive tactics Firearms familiarization Use of Force Active Shooter Community Programs Police Officer Qualifications

Application deadline: September 26, 2025.

Notification: Accepted applicants will be contacted via email.

Questions?call (732) 721-5600, Ext. 3170.





HEALING MASS

Come celebrate Our Lady of the Rosary Feast Day with a **Healing Mass with Father John Campoli, i.v.dei**, at Our Lady of Peace Church, 1730 US Hwy 130 North, North Brunswick, NJ 08902, Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00PM. All are welcome! A gifted homilist, Father's beloved Masses are always a grace-filled, peaceful celebration of God's Healing Love & Mercy. Sponsored by the Parish Columbiettes.

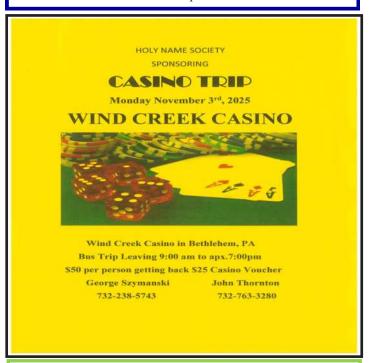
For more info: https://www.frjohncampoli.com/

DEACONS TABLE



Wednesday, October 15, 2025 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 dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.



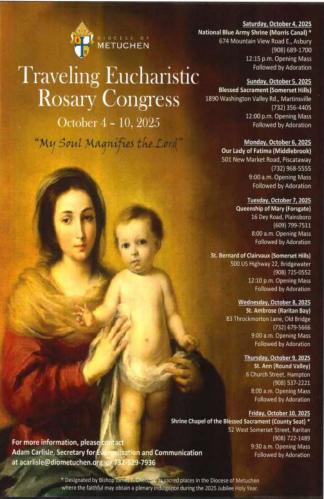
PRAYER BLANKET

Anyone who needs spiritual, mental or physical comfort, and can benefit spiritually from a prayer blanket, contact the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000.

LOST and FOUND

There will be a Lost and Found Box in the Ushers room. Should you leave or lose an item in Church, please check with an usher or check in the usher's room. for your item.







Ponte Vecchio 3863 Route 516 East Old Bridge, NJ 08857 at Village Town Center

Phone:

www.restaurantpontevecchio.com

SERVING THE AREA SINCE 1985! DRIVEWAYS - STEPS THE POLISH POLANIA PATIOS - FIREPLACES MASON CONSTRUCTION INTERLOCKING PAVERS - RETAINING WALLS ALL PHASES OF BRICK, STONE AND CONCRETE WORK!
CALL US FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE 732-205-0086 or 732-525-8118
**** FULLY LICENSED AND INSURED***
WWW.POLANIACONSTRUCTION.COM (732) 607-1650

CLINTON MONUMENT COMPANY

40 Years of Experience



Granite & Bronze Monuments

841 Cranbury Road, Jamesburg, NJ • 732-521-3020 (DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM HOLY CROSS BURIAL PARK)

COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL CONTROL WIRING • RESIDENTIAL 732-416-0043

www.KnorrElectricalContractors.com NJ LIC. #9441



AUTUMN LAKE

HEALTHCARE at Old Bridge

Bringing Hospitality to Healing

CARE AREAS

24/7 Skilled Nursing Care **Short-Term Rehabilitation**

Long-Term Care · Respite (Vacation) Stays Palliative/Hospice Care · Dementia Care

For a tour of our facility or questions about our programs and services:

732-254-8200

CMS * * * *

111 ROUTE 516 · OLD BRIDGE, NI autumnlakeoldbridge.com

St. Gabriel's Mausoleum Expansion

St. Catherine's Mausoleum named after the Holmdel Church, formerly the Mission Church of St. Gabriel's

549 Route 520 (Newman Springs Road) • Marlboro, New Jersey

SPECIAL PRE-CONSTRUCTION PRICES

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE OVER 12 MONTHS WITH NO INTEREST CHARGES.

Chiropractic Physician

732.545.3300

www.stgabrielsmausoleums.com | 908-208-0786

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

DR. LUCIEN J. EID

EXPERT CHIMNEY & ROOFING

\$1100 OFF ANY NEW ROOF

REPLACEMENT

Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter, Masonry Repair & SENIORS

Family Owned/Operated Bonded & Insured - 20 Years Lic.#13VH11097900

Serving All of New Jersey

732-520-9554 | www.expertchimneyroofing.com

SPRING HOME REPAIRS - FREE ESTIMATES
ROOFING • CHIMNEYS • GUTTERS • MASONRY • SIDEWALKS & STEPS

We Find & Fix Leaks!

ack to wellness center

f o backwellness 1 dreid@bwchiro.com|www.bwchiro.com

525 Milltown Rd., Suite 201 | North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Chiropractic • Physical Therapy • Acupuncture

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION **NEED A NEWSLETTER?**

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.



Scan to contact us!

Visit Ipicommunities.com



FREE AD DESIGN with purchase of this space

CALL



732-577-9813

Roofing • Siding • Windows & Doors • Masonr All Repairs • Porches & Porticos • Decks

Focused Learning. Real Results.



Online tutoring designed to help learners thrive focusing on **K-12 Students**

- > Coding & Tech
- Math (Basic; Algebra; Geometry; Trigonometry; Statistics; Pre-calculus; Calculus, SAT)
- Science (Foundational; Biology Chemistry; Physics)
- > English (Primary; High School)
- > Tagalog for English Speakers (for Kids and Adults)
- General help on lessons, homework etc. for Grades 1 - 4



support@diligenttutors.com



BE YOURSELF, BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE





SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!





EUGENE A. ISOLA III, DDS Raritan Bay Medical Center 2 Hospital Plaza, Suite 410 Old Bridge, NJ 08857 732-360-2500

Family Care, Cosmetics, Implant Cases Associate Professor at UMDNJ **New Patients Always Welcome**

MAY GOD BLESS EACH OF US

KERRIGAN ELECTRIC 732-615-0005

www.kerriganelectric.com FREE ESTIMATES . SPECIAL ON GENERATORS



EMERGENCY SERVICE! SERVICE UPGRADE! GENERATORS! PROFESSIONAL, QUALITY WORK!

(800) 33*LUNAR (58627)

www.lunarelectric.com NJ Lic. #10775

RUSSO CONTRACTING INC

Capital Home Improvement Call Joe for an estimate at 732-723-1984

www.russocontracting.com



EllenRosenbaum.com 3 Grace Drive Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Ann Marie Rini

Broker Associate in NJ & NY Cell: 917-363-4284 Office: 732-679-5661 annmarie@ellenrosenbaum.com



Contribution to the Church for each Closing!

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire ✓ Family ✓ GPS & Fall Alert CALL 800.808.9294

🗱 md-medalert.com



EIGHTEEN LUMBER CO.

652 State Highway 18 East Brunswick, NJ 257 - 6004 FREE DELIVERY 732-254-1655

catholicmatch New Jersev

CatholicMatch.com/NJ



Family Caring for Family

Assisted Living | Rehabilitation | Skilled Nursing

(732) 607-9230

1990 Route 18 North • Old Bridge, NJ • 08857

We have been serving families for



(732) 963-2377

OLD BRIDGE, NJ PLUMBING LIC.# 36BI01264400 **NEWJERSEYMASTERPLUMBING.COM** Nearly 50 years of combined experience serving families



ORIDGE FUNERAL HOME

"Family Owned & Operated" 2350 Route 516, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 (732) 607-9500

JerseyMemorial.com

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Chris Reeves

creeves@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6206



Burial & Cremation Services Memorial Services

GB Accounting & Advisory Services Our commitment: To achieve mutual financial success through high quality of professional services to meet client's needs • Bookkeeping • Financial Reporting

• Payroll • Tax Services Strategic Business Advisory Financial Management Consulting • Financial Auditing Not For-Profit Organizations

gbasily@basilycpa.com 732-387-2568 www.basilycpa.com H13 Brier Hill Ct., East Brunswick NJ 08816

Foundation Family Dentistry

Dr. Calvin Huen

Quality Cosmetic and Restorative Dentistry General Dentistry Invisalign Certified Provider

B5 CORNWALL DRIVE, EAST BRUNSWICK 732-390-1911

