Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 19, 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

PEACE AND WELCOME

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

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-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 19, 2025

SATURDAY OCTOBER 18

8:00am Aureo Cabus r/o Mindy Cabus & Family 4:00pm Andrew Lanza r/o Nellie & Marty Moran

Priest of the Day: Rev. Paul Provesto

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19 - TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Frank Boyle r/o Christine Siggins 10:00am Dorothy Jicka r/o Kathy Sullivan

12:00pm Torricelli & Federico Family r/o A & R Federico

Priest of the Day: Rev. Mauro Primavera

MONDAY OCTOBER 20

8:00am For Our Parishioners

12:15pm Peter A. Stigi Jr. r/o Kathy Tolson & Enzo Fusco

Priest of the Day: Rev. Scott Pontes

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21

8:00am Alfredo Rodriguez r/o Frank Ranelli 12:15pm Detheridge Family r/o Gerry Blinstrub

Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas Quinn

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22

8:00am John & Carole Corcoran r/o Lora Corcoran 12:15pm Mr. & Mrs. N. Wood r/o Wood Family

Priest of the Day: Rev. Michael Rafferty

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23

8:00am Donna Russo r/o Russo Family 12:15pm Victoria Pollaro r/o Marie Mammand

Priest of the Day: Rev. Anthony Randazzo

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24

8:00am Gail Rose Geraci r/o Toomey Family
12:15pm Marylin DeNisco r/o Tom & Janet Liposky

Priest of the Day: Rev. James Raphel

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

8:00am Barbara McMillian r/o Jeanne & Jerry Goll 4:00pm Joseph & Toni Patton r/o Theresa Crenshaw

Priest of the Day: Rev. Manuel Rios

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 - THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am For Our Parishioners

10:00am Louise Corraro r/o St. Thomas Prep 12:00pm Carolyn Petry r/o Candia Koleszar

Priest of the Day: Rev. Carmine Rizzi

The **Sanctuary Candle** in the Church this week burns in living intention of: **Wolfgang Oberle**



r/o Joseph & Helene Oberle

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, Sylvia Bowman, Edmund Crookhorn, Cynthia Czarnecki, John Derenoski, Jack DeRuvo, Brien Essenbreis, 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, Irene Sutton, Frances Thippabathini, Tristan Thompson, Francis Travino, Daphne Ulveling, Mary Yu.

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

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 October 12th...\$15,432 THANK YOU!

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025

Our Goal - \$90,000 and 600 Families

Total amount received \$106.850.00 and 493 families

SECOND COLLECTION October 18th - 19th

This weekend the second collection is for World Mission Sunday.

Thank you for your support!

SECOND COLLECTION October 25th – 26th

The weekend of October 25th-26th, our parish will participate in a collection to commemorate the centennial celebration of the First Mass being celebrated inside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC

Thank you for your support!

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.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE Sunday NOVEMBER 2 AT 12:00pm

During this liturgy we will remember the name of each parishioner who passed away this year (October 1, 2024 – October 1, 2025). 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.

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**)

may be open to the beauty of His grace.

October 19, 2025 - Twenty-ninth **Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Jesus is encouraging the disciples and us to pray always and not to grow weary. We all have difficult persons or situations in our lives that require prayer. I don't know about you, but there are times I am weary and wonder if there ever will be an answer, a satisfactory answer. Of course, when I least expect it there often is and then I am rather ashamed of myself for doubting the goodness and mercy of our Father in heaven. Unlike the widow who champions her cause, many of us tire of praying. Maybe we need to pray for ourselves, asking for the grace to pray without tiring or to pick ourselves back up when we have lost heart. The widow is one of the great women role models for us in scripture. She is determined to obtain what is needed and goes forward until God answers her prayer. She has that great faith that supports her and in time is rewarded with a just answer. Please pray for our Inquirers this week, those who are actively seeking His love and truth, that their hearts

Substitutes Needed

St. Thomas the Apostle School is in need of certified substitute teachers. If you would be interested and have the necessary certification, please send a copy of your resume to stahr@sttaob.com and someone from the school will contact you. Thank you!

Blanket Ministry

Our next Blanket Ministry meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the large conference room of the Pastoral Center.

Hope to see you there. Happy Fall - Happy Halloween!

New Jersey Right to Life Raffle



On the weekend of October 25 & 26 raffle tickets will be sold at all Masses.

The prizes are:

1st Prize – 2025 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV valued at \$44,595

2nd Prize - \$1,000 ShopRite Gift Card 3rd Prize - \$750 ShopRite Gift Card

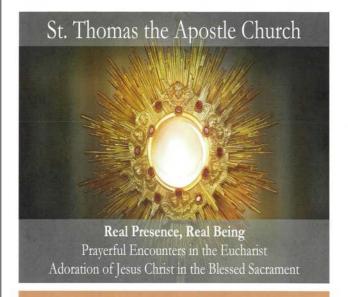
4th Prize - \$500 ShopRite Gift Card

Proceeds will benefit New Jersey Right to Life, the state's oldest and largest pro-life organization, dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death.

Please show your support for LIFE by buying a raffle ticket! The cost is \$10 per ticket.

Thank you for your support!





Wednesday, October 29, 2025 - 7:00pm - 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 19, 2025 - 7:00pm - 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 17, 2025 - 7:00pm - 8:30 p.m.

"The Eucharist, as Christ's saving presence in the community of the faithful and its spiritual food, is the most precious possession which the Church can have in her journey through history." Saint Pope John Paul II

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.

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/

Monthly MEMORIAL Mass

Is offered for specifically-recommended deceased loved ones. The names are inscribed in a Memorial Register located at the rear of the Church under a lighted candle. For more information, call the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Bingo will be closed on Friday, October 31st and Midnight, November 1st. Bingo will resume on Sunday, November 2nd.





St. Thomas the Apostle

The C. William DeCarlo Memorial Organ Dedication Concert



October 26, 2025 3pm



Featuring the St. Thomas Parish Choir, Designer and Organist Rudy Lucente,

and Wanamaker Grand Court Organist Peter Richard Conte





Free will offering will be taken to support the Music Ministry



Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance. Next class: Tuesday, October 28th - 7:00pm in the 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 <u>registered and practicing</u> member of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

If you have moved out of the parish, and no longer live within our parish boundaries, we <u>CANNOT</u> 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.

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

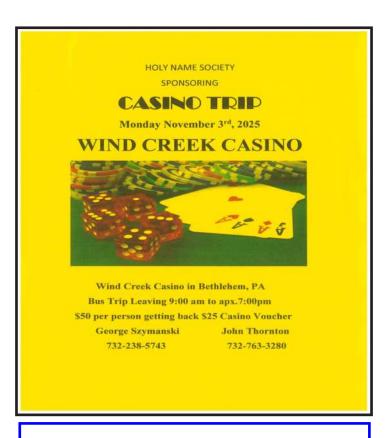
\$30 PER PERSON FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT CHRIS DOYLE 732-609-1499 OR CHRISDOYLE167@GMAIL.COM

> 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.

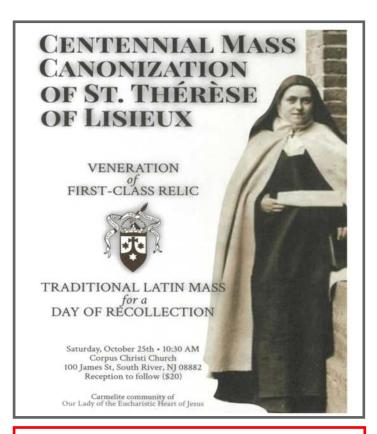
Fr. Jim's talks and parish missions are geared for every member of the household, from youth to adulthood, and for anyone regardless of religious affiliation or not. Known as "the best opening act ever" by Dolly Parton, Fr. Jim uses real life experiences, personal stories, and humor, to motivate any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

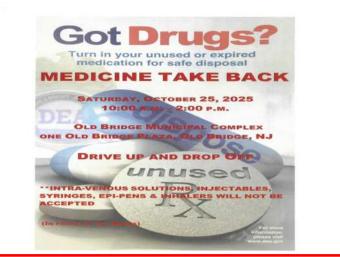


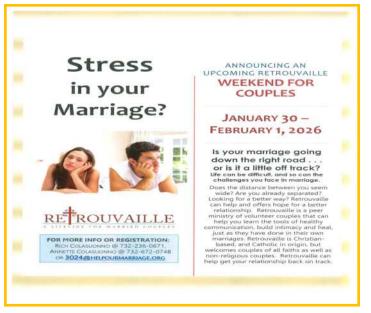


Bereavement Group at St. Thomas

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.







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