

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

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OCTOBER 4, 2026**

## **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**

### **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, what ever 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 OCTOBER 4, 2026

### SATURDAY OCTOBER 3

8:00am For Our Parishioners  
4:00pm Eleanor Kobryn r/o Michelle Loney

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas Vala*

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 4 - TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Josephine & Leonard Coviello r/o Louis & Louise Sandoli  
10:00am Nikolai Hopkins r/o Devery Family  
12:00pm Paul Siravo r/o Sonny Siravo

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Miguel Valle*

### MONDAY OCTOBER 5

8:00am Leonila Roldan Uy r/o Tim & Maryann Donoghue  
12:15pm Lorraine McKinney r/o Nancy McKinney

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Richard Vila*

### TUESDAY OCTOBER 6

8:00am Richard Jarocki r/o Ockenhouse Family  
12:15pm Rex Salvacion r/o Riza Bibiano

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Miguel Virella*

### WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7 - OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

8:00am Richard Safford r/o Tim & Maryann Donoghue  
12:15pm Maurice Simon r/o Susan Simon

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Joel Wilson*

### THURSDAY OCTOBER 8

8:00am Ann Inserra r/o son, George  
12:15pm Allen Carlson r/o John & Maureen Nigro

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Brian Woodrow*

### FRIDAY OCTOBER 9

8:00am Ann Safchinsky r/o Bob & Carol Safchinsky  
12:15pm Christopher Doyle r/o Chris Doyle

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Edgardo Abano*

### SATURDAY OCTOBER 10

8:00am Joseph B. DiMattina r/o Iannarone & Howarth Families  
4:00pm Lucas Dias r/o Nancy D'Mello

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas Aenekatt*

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 11 - TWENTY-EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Margaret Cook r/o Quibell Family  
10:00am Edward & Judith Palluzzi r/o Palluzzi Family  
12:00pm Vincent & Josephine Torricelli r/o Rosalie Federico

*Priest of the Day: Rev. John Alvarado*

## 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.

*So please register... and Welcome!*

**Parish Office :** One St. Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857  
**Telephone:** 732.251.4000

**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](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    |
| Administrative Assistant:    | Mr. Jack Cocozziello   |

## 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. PARENTS must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session.

### MARRIAGES:

Arrangements must be made **at least one year in advance**. Either the bride or groom must be a registered member of our parish. Once the marriage questionnaire is completed 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.

### RECONCILIATION:

Individual Confessions on Saturdays at 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

Cynthia Czarnecki, Nicole Czarnecki, John Derenoski, Jack DeRuvo, Franics Duh, Thomas Kaufman, Richard Marriner, John McDevitt, Courtney Mikos, Richmond Sesay, Thomas Smith, Migdalia Soto, Jean Swinarski, Johnny Tesoriero, Tristan Thompson, Mary Yu, Verne Whitlock

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.

## 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 amount for September 20th and 27th not available at time of printing.

THANK YOU!



Mandatory Confirmation gathering on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm in the church, for all Confirmation students. Students must be accompanied by a parent.

Prep family gathering on Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm for all Prep families.

More information to follow!

## ST. MICHAEL theARCHANGEL PRAYER

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wiles and wickedness of the devil. Restrain him O God, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin and destruction of souls.  
Amen.



## 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. 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. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament November 6th.**

-Pope Benedict XVI

Dear Parishioners,

The weekend of October 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>, a second collection will be taken up to support the ministry of MOM Foundation Inc., a charitable ministry dedicated to bringing hope, dignity, and care to those in need.

Through your generous support, MOM Foundation continues to serve poor & orphaned children, and the elderly by helping with education, food, healthcare, and necessities. Your kindness helps give vulnerable people an opportunity for a better and more hopeful future.

Again, thank you for your kindness and generosity. May God bless you abundantly.

Please make checks payable to: Mission of Mercy Foundation or you can pay by Zelle.

**MISSION OF MERCY FOUNDATION, INC.**  
Compassion in Action ♥ Hope for the Needy ♥ Love that Transforms Lives

**Supporting the vulnerable. Building a better tomorrow.**

|                                                              |                                                        |                                                               |                                                                 |                                                         |                                                |
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| <b>SUPPORT OF ORPHAN CHILDREN</b><br>Care, Love & Protection | <b>EDUCATION</b><br>Empowering Minds, Shaping Futures. | <b>MEDICAL SUPPORT</b><br>Healing with Care, Restoring Lives. | <b>FEEDING THE ELDERLY</b><br>Nourishing Bodies, Lifting Souls. | <b>WOMEN TAILORING</b><br>Skill, Dignity, Independence. | <b>HYGIENE</b><br>Clean Habits, Healthy Lives. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

Together, we can bring hope, dignity, and opportunities to those in need. | *We Care ♥ We Share ♥ We Serve* | Thank you for your support in our mission of mercy! EVERY ACT OF KINDNESS MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

**MOM FOUNDATION INC.**  
P O BOX 333, OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857, USA

Email: [momfoundation03@gmail.com](mailto:momfoundation03@gmail.com)

## SAVE THE DATE!

Join us on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Church for an organ concert featuring Daniel Brondel, Associate Director and Organist at St Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. This is a concert you do not want to miss! We hope to see you there! Admission is free free will offering will be taken. Thank you for continuing to support the Music Ministry!



## OCIA(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



### October 4, 2026 - Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus tells the parable of the tenants in which the people entrusted with a vineyard forget it belongs to the landowner and act as if it is theirs to reap all the benefits. We can see ourselves in this story. Our homes, children, and even our daily routines are the little vineyards God has entrusted to us. It's easy to believe they are ours when, actually, we are caretakers of His gifts.

The tenants in the Gospel resisted giving the landowner what was his; in our own lives, we can resist giving God our time and our trust. But Jesus reminds us that God is patient, merciful, and always seeking our hearts. For families, this is a call to keep God at the center. We accomplish this through prayer, gratitude, and love. When we tend our vineyard faithfully, it becomes a place where Christ Himself bears fruit. Our OCIA sessions began last month. Please pray for our Inquirers as they begin their faith journey and discern whether God is calling them into full communion with the Catholic Church.

### New Jersey Right to Life Raffle

This weekend the New Jersey Right to Life is having their annual car raffle. The first prize is a 2027 Volvo. Tickets are 10.00 Thank you for your support!

### 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 Wednesday 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 Wednesday, September 30th at 5:00pm in the Church. The children will sing at the 12pm Mass on Sunday, October 11th.

Speak to Dan for more information after mass or e-mail him at [Dneff@saintthomasob.com](mailto:Dneff@saintthomasob.com)



### 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.

### CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER 1 - 30

|          |         |          |       |
|----------|---------|----------|-------|
| Sept. 1  | # 186 # | Sept. 16 | #1001 |
| Sept. 2  | 463 #   | Sept. 17 | #814  |
| Sept. 3  | 1287    | Sept. 18 | #557  |
| Sept. 4  | #224    | Sept. 19 | #259  |
| Sept. 5  | #1323   | Sept. 20 | #1283 |
| Sept. 6  | #1145   | Sept. 21 | #1488 |
| Sept. 7  | #108    | Sept. 22 | #512  |
| Sept. 8  | #120    | Sept. 23 | #1309 |
| Sept. 9  | #949    | Sept. 24 | #145  |
| Sept. 10 | #154    | Sept. 25 | #614  |
| Sept. 11 | #640    | Sept. 26 | #163  |
| Sept. 12 | #1446   | Sept. 27 | #62   |
| Sept. 13 | #392    | Sept. 28 | #807  |
| Sept. 14 | #444    | Sept. 29 | #1225 |
| Sept. 15 | #72     | Sept. 30 | #688  |

### Comedy Knight at the Old Bridge Columbian Club

With the comedy of

**John Pizzi**



John Pizzi



Johnny Z

Saturday, October 10 @ 6:30PM - 10PM

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 great night of fun and food!

Old Bridge Columbian Club (Home of the K of C)  
61 Pine St. Old Bridge NJ 08857

Ticket info: 908-705-4687 or [donniebrucez@gmail.com](mailto:donniebrucez@gmail.com)  
Advanced purchase/reservations required

There will be a food drive for the Old Bridge food bank.  
Please bring a non-perishable food item.

Last day to reserve: Oct. 3

## Table at St. Thomas the Apostle



October 10, 2026

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

PLEASE BE SURE TO PICKUP BETWEEN 12:00 & 1:30



## Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress

October 3-9, 2026

*"My Spirit Rejoices in God My Savior"*



**Saturday, October 3, 2026**  
National Blue Army Shrine (Morris Canal)  
674 Mountain View Road E., Asbury  
(908) 689-1700  
12:15 p.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Sunday, October 4, 2026**  
Our Lady of Fatima (Middlebrook)  
501 New Market Road, Piscataway  
(732) 968-5555  
1:00 p.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Monday, October 5, 2026**  
Our Lady of Peace (Forsgate)  
1730 US Highway Rt. 130, North Brunswick  
(732) 297-9680  
8:00 a.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Tuesday, October 6, 2026**  
St. Jude (Morris Canal)  
7 Eisenhower Road, Columbia  
(908) 362-6444  
9:00 a.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Immaculate Conception (Forsgate)**  
18 South Street, Spotswood  
(732) 251-3110  
9:30 a.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Wednesday, October 7, 2026**  
St. John Vianney (Cathedral)  
420 Inman Avenue, Colonia  
(732) 574-0150  
7:00 p.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Thursday, October 8, 2026**  
St. John the Evangelist (Middlebrook)  
317 First Street, Dunellen  
(732) 968-2621  
9:00 a.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

**Friday, October 9, 2026**  
Shrine Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament (County Seat)  
52 West Somerset Street, Raritan  
(908) 722-1489  
9:30 a.m. Opening Mass  
Followed by Adoration

For more information, please contact  
Adam Carlisle, Secretary for Evangelization and Communication  
at [acarlisle@diometuchen.org](mailto:acarlisle@diometuchen.org) or 732-529-7936

Please scan the QR code to access the Eucharistic Rosary Congresses' website,  
and/or to find a complete listing of participating parishes and their Adoration schedules.



## DEACONS TABLE



October 21, 2026

4:00pm - 6:00pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, NJ

We will be distributing dinners to take home.

RSVP: [sttmas@sttaob.com](mailto:sttmas@sttaob.com)

# Interfaith Network of Care's

# 30<sup>th</sup>

## ANNIVERSARY

# Luncheon

*Come celebrate with us!*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**  
**NOON TO 3PM**

  
Catered lunch

  
Music

  
Door prizes

  
BYOB

**\$40 PER PERSON**

EVENT WILL BE HELD AT  
**HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S PARISH HALL**  
90 Leonardine Ave., So. River, NJ

FOR TICKET INFORMATION  
**CALL INC AT 732-247-1655**



## METUCHEN SUPPORT GROUP

### FOR ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE OR SEPARATION

### SESSIONS INCLUDE

- Weekly small group discussion facilitated by Molly Racsko
- Explore themes of grieving, identity, faith, love, forgiveness, and more
- We will use the *Life-Giving Wounds* book & support group workbook
- There will be optional goal setting and tracking
- This group will involve prayer and the sacraments

### WHEN

- Strategically timed from October through February, to help you through the stressful holiday season.

### LOCATION: HYBRID

- In Person Orientation and Holy Hour: Saturday, October 10, 2026 at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway
- Online: Thursdays, Oct 22, Nov 5 and 19, Dec 3 and 17, Jan 7 and 21
- In Person Wrap Up with Confession and Mass: Saturday, February 6, 2027 at Pastoral Center

### REGISTRATION

To Register, please visit the website below or scan the QR code above.

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/form/728ag2v4e3ra3n>

**STAY CONNECTED LOCALLY**  
Molly.Moltane@gmail.com  
CDaverso@diometuchen.org

**OR CONTACT LGW**

[www.lifegivingwounds.org](http://www.lifegivingwounds.org) @lifegiving.wounds



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**Oct. 9-11, 2026**

*Get away to the shore together this fall!*

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- **Hybrid format:** one virtual session (Fri) evening, two full days in person (Sat/Sun)
- **Non-residential:** commute from home or stay nearby in a hotel

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and learn more.

[wwme.org](http://wwme.org)



## 1000 Strong Rosary for Life

*Live via conference call*

**Tuesday, October 13, 2026\***  
**at 7:00 pm Eastern Time**

\* October 13 is the 109<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima

Our goal is 1,000+ people praying in Reparation for the Sin of Abortion and for Equal Rights for Babies in the Womb.

**Rosary will be led by priests  
from all over New Jersey**

Please register at:



[lifeneteducation.org/1000strong](http://lifeneteducation.org/1000strong)

Call-in Number: 1-401-252-0031

Access Code: 759297#



[info@lifeneteducation.org](mailto:info@lifeneteducation.org) | 973-497-4520



## FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED!

**We are in need of the following items:**



Coffee, canned soups, juice boxes, snacks (individual), canned fruit, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, Dinty Moore stew, Vienna sausage, Spam, ketchup, mayo, pasta, pasta sauce (plastic jars ONLY), Chef Boy Ardee, tuna fish, canned chicken, paper towels and toilet paper.

Please be sure your items are not used and do not carry expired dates.



Sponsored by  
Boosters & Friends of Holy Family Church

**October 16, 2026, at 7 P.M.**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.**

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

Tickets available by calling Jo 732-673-9460 or  
Fran 908-507-0307, or Wilma 732-670-6174  
Or in the Parish Office Mon. through Thurs.  
from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

You must be 18 or older to purchase tickets or enter.

**PRE-PAID TICKET PACKAGE \$55**

At the Door Price \$60

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- \$15 Admission Fee, Coffee or Tea & 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+)



## SILVER and GOLD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**OCTOBER 18, 2026 - 3:00 PM**

Couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 50th or 50+ wedding  
anniversaries are invited to attend this special prayer service.  
Registration is required. Free-will offerings are appreciated.

For questions, please email [magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org)  
or call 732-562-1543.

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi  
32 Elm Ave. Metuchen, NJ 08840



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