

THE EPIPHANY of the Lord

"Since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:66

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

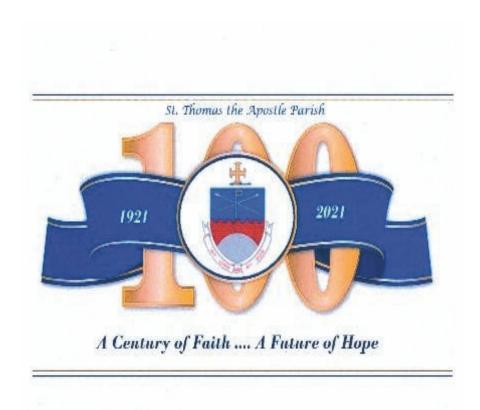
Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish & School

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 2, 2022

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"To make disciples, as we know, love and serve God and one another."



Pastor:

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Frank W. Fellrath Rev. Paulus Marandi, CMF

Deacons:

Robert Bonfante, Sr. Patrick W. Hearty Joseph C. Tobin Scott D. Titmas, Sr.

> School Principal: Annette Pioppo

School Vice Principal:
Diane Zarate

PREP Director: Ms. Debbie Yesis

Director Sacred Music/Liturgy:
Mr. Justin Connors

Celebration of Mass

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00Noon

Weekday:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am & 12:15pm*

*Mondays: Celebrated in church with Miraculous Medal Novena.

Parish Office: Tel: 732.251.4000 Fax: 732.251.4946

Website: www.saintthomasob.com

PEACE & 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!



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 2, 2022

SATURDAY	January 01 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD			
10:00am	Int. of Shirley Burks r/o Tom Passero Vigil			
4:00pm	Frank Doyle r/o Larry/Joan McGrath			
SUNDAY	January 02 - EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			
8:00am	Parishioners, Living and Deceased			
10:00am	Dennis Leonard r/o Anthony/Gale Gesualdi			
12:00pm	Int. Paul/Vivian Montalban (51st. Anniv.) r/o			
·	Gloria/Paolo Montalban			
MONDAY	January 03 - The Holy Name of Jesus			
8:00am	Joan Coleman r/o Thomas C. Passero, Jr.			
12:15pm	Gloria Sansone r/o Joseph/Jennifer Pasqua/Family			
TUESDAY	January 04 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious			
8:00am	Robert J. Mohring (18th Anniv.) r/o wife Patricia/			
	Sons			
12:15pm	Louis Mezzo r/o George/Noreen Szymanski			
WEDNESDAY	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
8:00am	Vincent Serrao r/o Olimpia/James McNicholas			
12:15pm	Ruth Tschinkel r/o St. Thomas Wed. Craft Group			
THURSDAY	January 06 - St. Andre Bessette, Religious			
8:00am	Michael Ferizzi r/o Mr. & Mrs. Sieberg			
12:15pm	James/Rose Nolan Family r/o Veronica Nolan			
FRIDAY	January 07 - St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest			
8:00am	Diana Dennis r/o Brian Essenbreis			
12:15pm	A. Horsford r/o Anna Florencio			
SATURDAY	January 08			
Vigil				
4:00pm	Eleanor Dudek (1st. Anniv.) r/o Chet/Sue/Bob			

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

January 09 - BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Parishioners, Living and Deceased

John Barabas, Jr. r/o Barabas Family

Norbert/Ruth Tschinkel r/o Janet Vassale

SUNDAY

8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm

Felix Hernandez, Joyce Desmond, Joan Evanouskas

Welcome to the Parish Family of St. Thomas!

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 Frank or Father Paulus. 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

Tel: 732.251.4000 Fax: 732.251.4946

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

Saturday-Sunday 10:30am-1:30pm

(Lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm approx.)
School Tel: 732.251.4812
PREP Tel: 732.251.1660

Contact Information:

Website: www.saintthomasob.com

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. Jenn Bachonski
Bulletin Editor: Ms. Nellie Moran

Sacramental Information

BAPTISMS: (1:30pm, most Sundays) 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 <u>three weeks</u> before the scheduled Baptism. <u>PARENTS</u> must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session. (Registration is required.)

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance—<u>before</u> any social plans. Either the bride or groom must be a registered member of our parish. Once a marriage questionnaire (available in Pastoral Center) is completed/returned, a Parish Priest or Deacon will then contact the couple.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

In case of dangerous illness or accident, phone the Pastoral Center. A communal celebration of the Sacrament is held each year in the Spring.

PENANCE: Individual Confessions Saturdays, 12:30pm in the church.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: Parishioners desiring the Sacraments, please contact Pastoral Center.

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES...

<u>Sanctuary</u> <u>Candle/Mary</u> <u>Candle</u>, (lit for one week in church/chapel, available during daytime in Pastoral Center).

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.



The Mary Candle this week burns in loving memory of: Zhang Cui Wei r/o Isabel Wang/Family

NEXT WEEKEND: SECOND COLLECTION

"Together in charity" The proceeds of this collection helps to fund Catholic Charities' Parish Assistance Program which provides the 24 hour/seven-day-a-week assistance to parishes faced with individuals and families with serious and urgent financial housing or medical needs. Please give generously to this collection and contribute to making this a blessed new year for a family or individual in crisis. See letter from Bishop Checchio.



ST. THOMAS PREP will not have in person classes for the first two weeks of January. For the safety of our stu-

dents, volunteers and staff -

Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 18, Thursday, January 20, Special Needs on Monday, January 24. PREP Confirmation classes will also meet on Monday evening, January 24.

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THANK YOU

... to all parishioners for the monetary donations. We were able to complete 358 Nursing Home gifts and were delivered before the Holiday. \$2500 in Gift Cards were collected and given to parish families in need.





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, 1 St. Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, N.J. 08857

Online Giving... Visit our website to get started: www.saintthomasob.com.

Collection, December 18/19-Envelopes: \$ 9,560.00 December 18/19-Online Giving: 1,900.00

Collection. Organ: \$1.556.00

Collection, December 25/26 - N/A at time of printing.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center * P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191 P: 738.508.8458 * F: 738.5662.1487 * E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

at to the proper

December 15, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

As we continue to celebrate this season of Christmas, it is a special joy to announce over and over the wonderful truth that God has made His home among us in His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. While the world quickly moves on in a never-ending chase for the next exciting thing, we are called to reflect again on the truth that God is with His people. Because we celebrate Christmas...what does that mean for the rest of the year?

This year we continue to be challenged with emergency needs that arise from people coming to our parishes for additional help. This fund as you know is used solely for those who show up in need of emergency assistance. Every year we have a special opportunity to participate in an annual local collection. Together in Charity. On the weekend of Jamany 9/10, 2022 the annual "Together in Charity" collection will be taken up at all Masses. The collection funds our Catholic Charities' Emergency Assistance Program, which aids parishes when individuals and families are faced with urgent financial, housing, or medical needs beyond a parish's capacity to meet. Your parish may have been one of those helped by the program, since in the last year 39 (43%) of our parishes turned to Catholic Charities for emergency assistance from this fund. In total, 222 households, consisting of 372 adults and 272 children, were helped by those who gave to the Together in Charity Collection.

As we celebrate our 40th Anniversary, one of our hallmarks as a local Church has been our consistent and generous response to those in need. We have consistently risen to the occasion of following the Gospel mandate "what you have done for the least, you have done for me." In that spirit Lask you please respond as your means allow, making a sacrificial offering for those who seek our help. Our assistance becomes the actual presence of Christ in someone's life.

I thank you in advance for your generosity and assure you of my prayerful good wishes for the year ahead. Be assured of my prayers for a blessed Advent and a glorious Christmas! Please pray for me too,

With renewed best wishes, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA Bishop of Metuchen

- I. Church

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

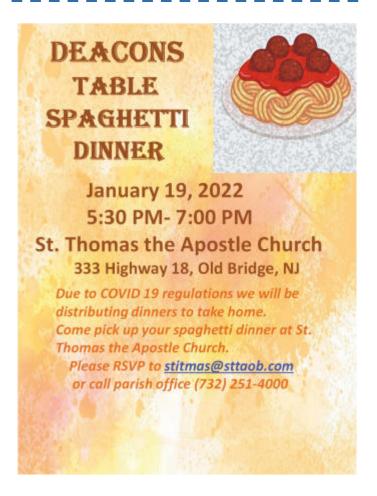
Saturday/Sunday, January 1/2
aturday - 4:00pm, Sunday - 8:00am, 10:0

Saturday - 4:00pm, Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00 Noon (Baby's First Christmas)



CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

All parishioners are asked to check the box of recently mailed weekly envelopes for the coming year. Please be certain that the number on the mailing label matches the printed number on the envelopes. If the number does not match, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible. Do not use the envelopes if the numbers do not match.



Calendar Raffle December

1-Dec-21	781	16-Dec	316
2-Dec-21	675	17-Dec	747
3-Dec-21	814	18-Dec	989
4-Dec-21	1218	19-Dec	412
5-Dec-21	305	20-Dec	1301
6-Dec-21	158	21-Dec	1452
7-Dec-21	732	22-Dec	220
8-Dec-21	729	23-Dec	713
9-Dec-21	621	24-Dec	114
10-Dec-21	76	25-Dec	1133
11-Dec-21	893	26-Dec	1202
12-Dec-21	819	27-Dec	686
13-Dec-21	94	28-Dec	150
14-Dec-21	811	29-Dec	671
15-Dec-21	31	30-Dec	343
		31-Dec	122

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY OF ST. THOMAS Presents:

JANUARY

The Month Dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus

In January, the Church calls us to think of Jesus - more specifically, to honor and love the Holy Name of Jesus. The liturgical calendar offers an optional memorial for the Holy Name of Jesus on <u>January 3</u>, within the Christmas season. Yet the entire month is dedicated to the Holy Name. The Most Holy Name of Jesus includes all the mysteries of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church that is found in its liturgy. It is the central point of all the Sacraments.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

All parents must participate in a Baptismal Preparation Program. Next class: *Tuesday, January, 25 - 7:30pm* (Parish Room). *Registration required*. Remember, the Sacrament of Baptism is a sacred event regulated by Church (Canon) law. **Please do not plan any activity until dates are confirmed**. Any questions - call 732.251.4000



St. Thomas the Apostle Church

in conjunction with the

Knights of Columbus Council 4815

Saturday, January 15 8am-2pm

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins accommodated it space allows.

For an appointment go to hybologynewjerseyditve spansor code 07755 end date 01/15/21 or call 800-933-2566

Danors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. 16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form.

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed it space permits. Preson remember to eat, drink and bring your donner to card or to with name and photo. Masis that cover mouths and note are required for ALL donners regarders of vaccination status. For tull list of COVID-19 softly protocologicate visit mybc.org/coronavius.





PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended, Lucy Alversano, Beatrice, Bob Andrews, Ronald Atlak, Sr, Pat Barabas, Enola Barlik, Rita Bator, Barbara and George Bollhardt, Gloria Bonagard, Barbara Brooks, Craig Michael Buttcher, Nicholas Campanella, Ralph Chiano, Louis Coromilias, Edmund Crookhorn, Camella Dacunta, Barbara Davis, Christopher Dee, John D'Mello, Stan D'Mello, Lori Donelan, Nancy Donoghue, Loretta Doyle, Chet Dudek, Sharon Ferrari, Flora, Joseph Fricano, Brian Gage, Lucinda Gatto, Walter Gladkowski, Johanna Gordon, Charlotte Guarino, Matthew Harris, Robert Henrion, Robert John Isbecki, Emelie Jeffries, Vlad Kachur, Katie, Gwen Kelly, Pearl Kelly, Cathleen Kimber, Albert King, Joseph Lane, Cheryl Layden, Michael Layden, Thomas Layden, Lester Lim, Rosa Lopez, Vincent Mascolo, Harold Mann, Patricia Mann, Gabrielle Margett, Mary Margett, Margie Marrero, Rafael Marrero, Jr., Joseph McKeown, Wilfredo Medina, III, Brian Menedez, Susan Napier, Jeff Nemeth, Margaret Padin, Olivia, Ralph Perez, Connie Pfiel, Sam Pontieri, Elaine Posluszny, Michael Quinlan, Frank Ranelli, Lucia Rella, Harry Rothlin, Joseph Russo Jr., Marie Sarna, Eileen Schuck, Donna Semko, Fr. Thomas E. Smith (S.J.), Alice Sokolowsky, AnnMarie Sorrentino, Nancy Stahley, Irene Sutton, Jacquelyn Tortoriello, Denise Tuite, Mark Vern, Isilio Villa, Adele Weiner, Pati Wert, Andrew Wolf, Nell White, Marie Wilson, Peter Wysheff, Mary Yuhas, Candida and Edward Zglobicki.

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 local hospitals. Phone the Pastoral Center: 732.251.4000.



CELEBRATE

... your marriage and its many blessings by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held **February 4th - 6th.** Please apply **ASAP** as space is limited. Phone **732.904.9636** (Tom/Ruth DeFalco) for more information or visit us at: www.wwme.org for more information.

OFFICE OF YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

January 26 –7:00PM - Cathedral of St. Francis

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will host the St. Timothy and St. Teresa of Calcutta Youth Awards in person at the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi** on **Jan. 26 at 7:00pm**. Pastors, PCL's, and Youth Ministers will have the opportunity to nominate two students (junior or senior) for the St. Timothy Awards and one student (senior) for the St. Theresa Award. All students nominated should submit a short personal written statement in order to be considered for the award. Nominations are <u>due by Dec. 15</u> and the cost per nomination is \$20. For more information, please visit: diometuchen.org/youthministry.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL'S 2021-2022 ANNUAL FUND

Our 2021-2022 Annual Giving Campaign was launched last month. Your contribution will help provide an extraordinary educational experience for our students by providing the most current and up to date technological resources.

Please give today! If you didn't receive our mailing, you can visit our website at https:www.sttaob.com, click on the Giving Tab on the top banner, then click on Annual Fund and scroll down to our donation form. Your continued support and generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED!

We are in need of the following items:

Canned tomato sauce, canned chicken, chicken soup, beef vegetable soup, canned tuna, Chef Boyardee, Spaghetti O's, canned fruits.

No corn, green beans, pasta and mac n cheese at this time.

Please be sure your items are not used and do not carry expired dates! Thank you for your generosity!



Knights Corner St Thomas the Apostle Council 4815



Prayer for the Canonization of Fr. McGivney



God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Fr. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and

virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body, which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in servant Michael J. McGivney, on earth, according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen



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