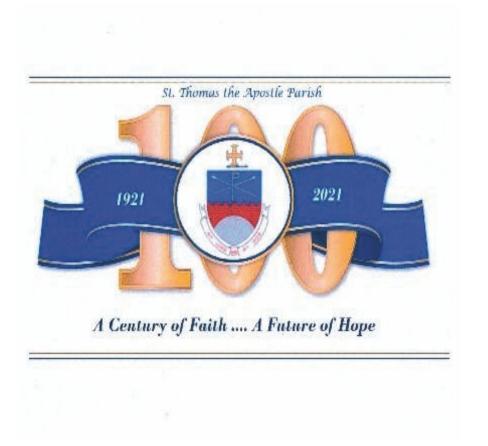
Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 23, 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!



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 23, 2022

| SATURDAY | January 22 –U.S. Day of Prayer for Legal | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Protection of Unborn Children | | |
| | Vigil | | |
| 4:00pm | Patricia Higgins r/o Kathy/Dave Simon | | |
| SUNDAY | January 23 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | |
| 8:00am | Parishioners, Living and Deceased | | |
| 10:00am | Thelma Mcpeek r/o Anna Florencio | | |
| 12:00pm | William/Agnes Thoma r/o Deacon Bob Bonfante | | |
| MONDAY | January 24 - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop/Doctor | | |
| | of the Church | | |
| 8:00am | John Tschinkel r/o Tom Tschinkel | | |
| 12:15pm | Monthly Memorial | | |
| TUESDAY | January 25 - Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle | | |
| 8:00am | George Schikschneit r/o St. Thomas PREP | | |
| 12:15pm | Frank Doyle r/o Lucy Abersano | | |
| WEDNESDAY | January 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus/Bishops | | |
| 8:00am | Kevin Lynch r/o Bob Erickson/Family | | |
| 12:15pm | Mary B. McKeown (11th Anniv.) r/o Children/ | | |
| | Grandchidren | | |
| THURSDAY | January 27 - St. Angela Merici, Virgin/Religious | | |
| | Founder | | |
| 8:00am | Eleanor Dudek r/o Ed/Lois Bachonski | | |
| 12:15pm | Joan Karl r/o Ench/Howley Families | | |
| FRIDAY | January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest/Doctor | | |
| | of the Church | | |
| 8:00am | Donald Satorski r/o Joyce Sanchez | | |
| 12:15pm | David Furey r/o David/Karen/Scher/Family | | |
| SATURDAY | January 29 | | |
| Vigil | | | |
| 4:00pm | Peter McPartland r/o Catherine/Thomas O'Brien | | |
| SUNDAY | January 30 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | |
| 8:00am | Marion Johnson (20th Anniv.) r/o Grace/Chet | | |
| | George | | |
| 10:00am | Parishioners, Living and Deceased | | |
| 12:00pm | Walter Tier r/o Considine Family | | |

DECEASED + LOVED ONES

Salvatore Muce, Mary Anne Ossner, Richard Aboussleman, Ann Huber, Frank D. Morse, Patricia Barabas, Marie Wilson,

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 088 | 57 | |
| | Tel: 732.251.4000 |) Fax: 732.251.4946 | |
| Office Hours: | : Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm | | |
| | Saturday-Sunday 1 | L0:30am-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 Christcentered 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 Altar Bread and Wine this weekend is offered in loving memory of: Audrey/Richard Lohse r/o Cathleen/Scott Fitzgerald

The Mary Candle this week burns in loving memory of: Maria Taracatac r/o Marantino Family



THIS WEEKEND: SECOND COLLECTION Foundation for Catholic Education ...

... a diocesan fund that offers more Scholarships for academically excellent, values-based Catholic education to the children of the Diocese of Metuchen. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you!

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 registered and practicing member of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish or the parish you are registered in.

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

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

All parishioners are asked to <u>check the box</u> of recently mailed weekly envelopes for the coming year. <u>Please be</u> <u>certain that the number on the mailing label matches the</u> <u>printed number on the envelopes</u>. 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**.



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, NJ 08857 *Online Giving... Visit our website to get started:* <u>www.saintthomasob.com.</u>

Collection: January 16 -Organ Collection: - \$10,135.00 996.00 3



PREP <u>Special needs classes resume tomorrow, Mon-</u> day, January 24 at 4:30pm.

First Reconciliation has been <u>rescheduled to Saturday</u>, January 29th at 9:00am and 10:30am.

Confirmation: PREP candidates only: Our next mandatory session is tomorrow, Monday, January 24 from 6:45pm-8:30pm in St. Thomas School. Please arrive promptly.



Diocesan EUCHARISTIC 40 HOURS AND LISTENING SESSIONS

Sunday, January 23, 2022 + Solemn Opening of 40 Hours

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Sung Evening Prayer 6:00pm

Monday, January 24, 2022

Mass 8:00am (Exposition after Mass until 12 noon) Recitation of the Rosary 9:30am St. Thomas Parish School Mass 12:15pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Sung Evening Prayer 6:00pm

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Mass 8:00am (Exposition after Mass until 12 noon) Mass 12:15pm

Solemn Closing:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Sung Evening Prayer 6:00pm

Following Sung Evening Prayer/Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Listening Session will begin at 7:00pm in the Auditorium.

+

Raritan Bay Deanery St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Old Bridge, NJ

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY OF ST. THOMAS Presents:

JANUARY

The Month Dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus

Prayer can have a major impact on saving the world from ruin. The Holy Name of Jesus gradually fills our souls with a peace and joy that we have never had before. Furthermore, the Holy Name of Jesus gives strength to bear out our sufferings and make them lighter and easy to bear. The Holy Name is explicitly exalted by saint Paul: "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth, and under the earth"

WANTED

... DYNAMIC YOUNG CATHOLICS!

St. Thomas is excited to announce the coming of three new youth ministries.

Faith - Social - Service all wrapped up in one!

More information coming soon!

ST. THOMAS SENIORS VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE February 12 and 13, 2022



St. Thomas Seniors will host a Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of February 12 and 13.

Thank you for your support!

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Any adult, 18 years of age or older, who has received First Communion but not Confirmation, and is interested in Adult Confirmation, please contact **Fr. Frank** at the Parish Office -732.251.4000.

ADVERTISING IN OUR BULLETIN!

Did you know we have 4,000+ families registered here at STA? What better way to advertise your business? We need and appreciate your help!

Our thanks to all current advertisers!

This weeks ... Good Deeds in Action:

- Hold open the door for someone. ٠
- Volunteer on a Tuesday.
- Add quarters to someone's parking meter.

Taken from: gentwenty.com/the-kind-list-52-random-acts-of-kindness

WINE TASTING ANNOUNCEMENT



We regret to announce that our 1st Annual Wine Tasting, set for February 12th, will be re-

scheduled due to the uptick in COVID cases and the ease of its spread. As soon as a new date is secured, we will announce it. If you have paid in advance for your tickets, we will reach out to refund you.

Once again, we apologize, as everyone's health and safety is our top priority.

_____ "St. Thomas Parish and St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Council 4815 wish to thank all Shank those who came out in the cold to either assist with or donate blood to our annual Winter Blood Drive. Through your efforts, we



were credited with 114 units of blood. NJ Blood Services is also extremely grateful for the donations because blood supplies are critically low and donations are desperately needed. Please save the date, August 6, 2022, and join us at our Summer Blood Drive."

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.

..... **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

LAZARUS MINISTRY

The Lazarus Ministry here at St. Thomas the Apostle is comprised of Catholics who give their time in order to assist other parishioners through the difficult times of loss. They assist families with the preparation of the Funeral Mass. We are always looking for volunteers who are available to help when these Masses come up. If you are interested, contact Deacon Pat at 732.251.4000 ext. 8218.

2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Please complete/return this form to the Pastoral Center or place in the collection or mail to: St. Thomas Church, One Saint Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 Please do not phone the office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone # Envelope:

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THANK YOU FROM: Community House A home for persons with disabilities

Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas,

The residents of Community House at St. Thomas thank you for remembering them this past Christmas. The gift cards are being put to good use and those cozy blankets are coming in real handy now that the cold weather has hit!

The little goodies and puzzle books were an added treat and helped to make Christmas morning just a little more bright.

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year! Thank you and God bless you!

Sincerely, Susan A. Kuzma, Supervisor Community House at St. Thomas

THANK YOU FROM: Roosevelt Care Center

On behalf of the residents at Roosevelt Care Center, I would like to say, Thank your for your recent donation. The residents loved the cups, word search books and blankets for this holiday season. Thanks again for putting smiles on their residents faces so they could have a great holiday.

> Sincerely, Keri Lynn Williams, ADC 2B Recreation Therapist



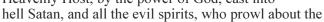
Sunday, March 20 - 7:00pm State Theatre, New Brunswick

Noreen DeCarlo is getting a group together to go to see *CATS* on **Sunday, March 20 -7:00pm** at the State Theatre in New Brunswick. Kelliann DeCarlo, understudy may have the opportunity to play Grizabela. If not, she will be doing her job singing in the pit, but will still be thrilled that you have come to support her and the cast. Cost is \$62.50 per ticket, and all seats are in the lower center balcony as of right now.

Before you commit to this, please note that the State Theater has a very <u>strict protocol with regard to COVID</u> and she <u>strongly recommends that you view their rules and regula-</u> <u>tions</u>. You can access them at https://www.stnj.org/about/ policies. If you are interested in tickets or have any questions, please email her at noreen.decarlo@gmail.com. She will confirm your order by email and advise how payment can be made at this time. <u>The deadline to get your</u> <u>tickets is February 10th.</u>

ST. MICHAEL 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





Fr. Nalaka Silva's Installation and Mass - Saturday, January 15, 2022 -Nativity of Our Lord, Monroe Twp., NJ





MASS FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

A Mass for Engaged Couples will be celebrated on Sunday, <u>February 13, 2022</u> at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi at 4:00pm. Fr. Timothy Christy will be the celebrant. Light refreshments will be served after the Mass. Visit diometuchen.org/ engaged couples-mass or email: <u>amarshall@diometuchen.org</u>.

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.



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

Our 2021-2022 Annual Giving Campaign is ongoing. 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.*

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymously Recommended, Lucy Alversano, Beatrice, Bob Andrews, Ronald Atlak, Sr, 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, 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, Rudy Maurer, 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, Den-ise Tuite, Mark Vern, Isilio Villa, Adele Weiner, Pati Wert, Andrew Wolf, Nell White, Peter Wysheff, Mary Yuhas, Candida and Edward Zglobicki.

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

LIFE CHOICES RESOURCE CENTER

Clothing needed for children (up to size 7) winter/ spring clothes. Contact: Maureen Nigro (732-591-8914).

Education is a Journey... and Where it Begins Matters

