

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

A PARISH FAITH COMMUNITY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD

JANUARY 9, 2022 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

47 Pine Street, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089-2817 (413) 739-4779

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John K. Sheaffer **Pastor**

Rev. Michael F. Bernier **Parochial Vicar**

Mr. Joseph W. Kielbasa, Jr. **Permanent Deacon**

Mr. James H. Marcus Permanent Deacon

Ms. Joyce A. Reichelt Administrative Assistant

Mr. Steve Coffey Business Manager

Mrs. Lisa F. LaBrecque Religious Education Coordinator

Mrs. Frances E. DeMont Religious Education Secretary

Mr. Thomas M. Coburn Organist

Mr. Thomas M. Coburn Choir Director

Mr. Mirek Pietras Cemetery Superintendent

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL

Sister Patricia A. Hottin, SSJ **Principal**

Mrs. Joan M. Whitehead School Secretary

> ST. JUDE NOVENA Tuesdays - 7:00 PM

HOLY DAYS Vigil: 4:00 and 6:30 PM Day: 8:00 AM and 12:10 PM "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

Bantism

<u>WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE</u> Saturday 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM Sunday 8:00 , 9:30, 11:00 AM and 12:15 PM

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 102001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM Civil Holidays - 9:00 AM

www.stthomaswestspringfield.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

3:00-3:45 p.m. Saturday (or by appointment)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated the fourth Sunday of the month except for May and November when it is the third Sunday of the month. No baptisms the month of December. Pre-registration is required at the parish office one month before the Baptism. Parents must be registered and participating members of the parish. Parents must also attend a Baptismal Preparation Class held on the second Wednesday of the month and conducted by the Deacon.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office one year prior to the marriage date.

HOSPITAL AND HOME VISITS

Kindly inform the parish office if you or someone you know would like to receive the sacraments.

PARISH CEMETERY

All the arrangements are to be made through the parish office.

PARISH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All items must be presented in writing to the parish office by Monday at 12:00 PM. Thank you.

Parish Offertory Gift - Christmas Parish Offertory Gift - December 26 Parish Offertory Gift (Online Mass) Renovation - December 26 Take & Eat Ministry - December 26 WeShare - Parishioners - December 2021 WeShare - Online Mass - December 2021 Parish Offertory Gift - January 1/2 Parish Offertory Gift (Online Mass) Renovation - January 1/2 Take & Eat Ministry - January 1/2 Solemnity of Mary - January 1 Elms College - January 1/2 Thank you for your generous response to of our parish. Please remember that y	ve rely on	
your commitment of weekly stewa	rasnip.	
Phone and Email:		
Parish Office:	739-4779	
Fax		
School Office:		
Religious Education Office:		
Cemetery Office	/39-4//9	
Parish: stthomassecretary@comcast.net Religious Education: stthomasccd@comcast.net School: phottinssj@comcast.net		



SATURDAY, JANUARY 8		
4:00 PM	+ Lida and + Robert Lodi requested by the Lodi Family	
5:30 PM	+ Marion Thompson requested by her Family	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9		
8:00 AM	+ Anthony Beggetta - Birthday remembrance requested by his daughter, Jeanne Udas, and Family	
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	+ Robert DeMaio requested by his Family + Frank - 64th Anniversary and + Gertrud Groll - 42nd Anniversary requested by their Family	
12:15 PM	+ Carol Bernier requested by her Family	
MONDAY, JANUARY 10		
8:00 ÁM	Birthday blessings for Marilyn Grace Johnson requested by her Family	
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11		
8:00 AM 7:00 PM	+ Rose Davio requested by her Family St. Jude Novena	
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12		
8:00 AM	+ Richard and + Lillian Gagnon requested by	
	their daughter, Theresa Fanelli	
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13		
8:00 AM	+ Andrew Khu, + Mary and + John Nguyen requested by Therese Tenenbaum	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14		
8:00 AM	+ Doreen Maiewski requested by her sister, Theresa Fanelli	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 15		
8:00 AM	+ John F. Piatkowski requested by the Levin Family	
3:00 PM	Confessions	
4:00 PM	+ Richard Rochford - 6th Anniversary requested by his sister, Gail Goodenow	
5:30 PM	+ Richard Padykula - 1st Anniversary requested by his Wife and Family	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 16		
8:00 AM	In thanksgiving for prayers answered requested	
9:30 AM	by the Coutinho Family + Mary Gentile - Birthday Remembrance	
	requested by her sons, Mark and Tom	
11:00 AM	+ Maryann Cowell - 13th Anniversary requested by her Family	
12:15 PM	+ Peter Robillard requested by Alice Riley Doyle	

January 9, 2022

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SATURDAY, JANUA 4:00 PM	RY 8
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8:00 AM	79 Health and blessings for Michael O'Neill
MONDAY, JANUARY 8:00 AM	Y 10 + Deceased Members of the D'Souza and Veigas Families
TUESDAY, JANUAR 8:00 AM	
WEDNESDAY, JANU 8:00 AM	JARY 12 Blessings and good health for Choly Sanche requested by Connie Terrado
THURSDAY, JANUA 8:00 AM	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8:00 AM	14 + Tita Basaca requested by Lily Anne Veridiano
SATURDAY, JANUA 8:00 AM 4:00 PM	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8:00 AM	

ST. ANN SOCIETY will have their monthly meeting Sunday, January 16, at 2 p.m. in the Club Room. If members of St. Thomas Parish are interested in possibly joining the Society, please call Nancy at 737-8641.



Groundskeeper/Maintenance position available. Year-round lawn care, snow removal, minor repairs and maintenance. Experience preferred - full time and part time available for St. Thomas Cemetery. Please contact Mirek Pietras at 736-2334.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is donated this week in loving memory of

John Veneroni

from the Vosburgh Family



Please call the Parish Office, 739-4779, to donate the candle. The donation is \$15 per week.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL OFFERS OPPORTUNITES FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION FOR 2022-2023 TO BEGIN ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Our faculty and staff look forward to meeting many new families at our Open House on Sunday, January 26. For families interested in our preschool program, please plan to attend from 12:30-1:30. Families interested in kindergarten and other grades are asked to come from 1:30-2:30.

We are always excited to show our perspective families our preschool classrooms, as they are bright and welcoming. Children must be 3 by December 1 for our 3 year old program, 4 by September 1 for our 4 year old program and 5 by September 1 for our kindergarten program.

St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Springfield comes alive each day as students from preschool to grade 8 walk its hallways. Each student is offered a wonderful opportunity to grow and learn from a program that encourages academic excellence, character development and a commitment to serving others with a foundation in gospel values.

Our building houses 20 classrooms, computer lab, large gymnasium, activity room, science lab and library. We have a safe, spacious field for soccer and running, a blacktop area for games and basketball hoops. We also have a fenced-in play-yard with a play-scape for our younger children.

Our regular school hours are 7:35-1:45. We offer an After School Program for students in preschool – grade 8. The preschool After School program runs until 4:00 and the program for kindergarten – grade 8 runs until 5:00.

Please call the school office for more information at (413) 739-4131 or email us at jwhitehead@stthomasapostleschool.org.

WOMEN'S GROUP



- Ladies, we hope you can join us for our next meetings to be held on Monday, January 10th, and January 31st, from 6:15-7:45 p.m. in the Club Room. We will be starting, "Walking with Purpose - Living in the Father's Love".
- Please email Christon Marini at <u>christonmarini@gmail.com</u> if you have any questions.

Baptism of the Lord

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

<u>CCD REGISTRATION</u> - The Office of Religious Education has regular office hours on Monday 9-3 (on CCD days we are available until 7p.m.), Wednesday 9-3 and Friday 9-2. Please call the office at 737-8267 for any questions/ concerns.

<u>CCD CLASSES:</u> Grades K-6 will meet Sunday, January 9th, 9:30 -10:30 a.m. Grades 1-6 will meet Monday, January 10th, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Grades 7 & 9 will meet Monday, January 10th 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION:

ones.

Class will meet on Sunday, January 9th, 2022, in the Parish Center from 6:00 -7:30pm. Sponsor forms are due at this class.



PRAYERS FOR DECEASED - John A. Wilson and Rita A. Clark. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

THANK YOU to Sue Avondo and John and Christine

Farrell who have donated flags in memory of loved

SNOWBIRDS For all those lucky parishioners flying south for the winter, please call Joyce at the parish office, 739-4779, so that I can stop your envelopes while you are enjoying those warm sunny days in Florida. Just remember to call me when you return so that I can start your envelopes up again.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, or if there is a delay, **please make sure to check your local TV station to see if Mass has been cancelled.** However, Mass will be celebrated online each and every day, no matter what the weather conditions are.

SCRIPTURE STUDY AT ST. THOMAS offered by Sister Maryann Cantlon is now combined into one group. The group will meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the **Club Room** from 6:30 until 7:45 p.m. Please consider attending. We examine passages from both the Old Testament and the New Testament, look for the underlying theology, and how the passage can speak to our own lives and experiences. For the month of January, we will be starting a study of the Creation Stories in Genesis. **The next meeting will be on January 13th.** If you plan on attending, please call Joyce at the rectory, 739-4779, or email <u>stthomassecretary@comcast.net</u> to reserve your spot.

MONTHLY "PRO-LIFE" ROSARY AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT at St. Michael's Cathedral, State Street in Springfield on the second Thursday of every month (January 13th) beginning at 10 a.m. and sponsored by Catholics for the Unborn. Join fellow pro-life advocates from around the Diocese in praying the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction, followed by the 12:10 Mass at the Cathedral.

Come for some, or all of the time! Prayer and your time are our greatest assets!

ECUMENICAL OUTREACH SUPPER will be on Wednesday, January 26, 5:30-6:30 p.m. and the **ECUMENICAL OUTREACH BREAKFAST** will be on Saturday, January 29, 9:00-10:00 a.m. at 20 Lathrop Street, West Springfield. Masks required. Free new seasonal clothing available for adults and children. They are in dire need of new adult winter coats. If you can help, please drop them off at 27 Woodmont Street.

COLORING CORNER

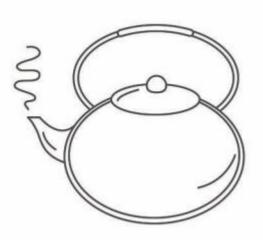


Wednesday, January 12th, Is National Hot Tea Day!

Tea has been around for 5,000 years and originated in China. It is the second most popular drink

in the U.S. The legend is that a few leaves fell into a pot of boiling water and the emperor drank it. He found it to be a delicious and relaxing drink.

Decorate and color the teapot in your favorite colors. You can even draw a face on it.



Serving the greater West Springfield community.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Holy Trinity Church on Elm Street in Westfield has Eucharistic Adoration **Wednesday evenings** from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the presence of The Blessed Sacrament.

"In Me alone is peace to be found in The Blessed Sacrament. Mankind must know Me. I want men to know My love. Do they know what I have done for them? For this I have come, that they may know that they will never find true happiness except in Me."

Visit us Online

Our parish website:

StThomasWestSpringfield.org

Our "official" Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stthomas01089





BETHLEHEM HOUSE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS Bethlehem House in Easthampton needs volunteers helping out on weekdays. Hours need for

assistance are: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Tuesday or 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. The ministry is also in need of a car for picking up supplies. If you can help out or might have a vehicle to donate, please call 413-527-2861 or 413-262-8517.

BAPTISMS Next baptisms will be on **Sunday, January 23, 2022.** Parents must be registered, participating members of the parish. To make arrangements, please call the parish office at 739-4779.

The American flag in the cemetery needs to be changed a couple of times each year due to the wind conditions. If you have a flag that you have received in memory of a loved one, and would like to have it flown in our cemetery, please call Joyce, 739-4779. The size

needed for the cemetery is 5 ft. x 9 ft. You can donate the flowers on the altar each week in

memory/honor of a loved one. The cost is \$75. Please call Joyce, 739-4779, for more information.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

St. Thomas parishioners, who have students in our parish school (preschool exempt) can have St. Thomas sponsor the student. Sponsorship is determined by participating in weekly Mass along with an annual envelope contribution of \$750, the prior calendar year.

The Michael J. Dias Foundation offers sober housing to those in recovery. Do you know someone who needs a safe supportive place to stay while battling addiction? Go to the MJD website at <u>www.mdiasfoundation.org</u> for more information or call directly at 413-788-0270.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED FOR ALL MASSES We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers for all of the Masses; especially for the 8 and 11 on Sunday morning. If you are able to volunteer, please speak with Fr. Jack or call the parish office at 739-4779.



<u>ONLINE MASS</u> Masses are posted to YouTube at Midnight Eastern Time each day. Our Saturday Vigil Mass is posted on YouTube at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. All Masses on YouTube are available any time after they have been posted.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS....MARK YOUR CALENDARS....the Western MA Charity DanceAthon is February 11 and 12 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center, 127 Holyoke Road,

Westfield. All proceeds will go to two local charities: KEV'S Foundation and Rick's Place. If you're ready for 13 hours of non-stop music, dance, games, and challenges, then you'll find more information and can register at <u>www.wmcd.org</u> to join us!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY AT ST. THOMAS

We will meet the second Wednesday of the month (January 12th) in the Parish Center, 89 Pine Street, from 9 - 11 a.m. to knit Prayer Shawls. A shawl wraps and warms the one who wears it, but a prayer shawl provides more - it embraces and comforts the wearer with the love and prayers of the maker and the faith community. The purpose of this ministry is to present the shawls and enfold the recipients in prayer. Recipients of the shawls may be people who are sick, who are undergoing medical procedures, who are grieving, our homebound, or who need to feel the love and support of the community during a difficult time in their life. It is a ministry for everyone; men, women, young and old, all can participate according to their ability. Many who do not knit or crochet support the ministry by contributing yarn to knit the shawls and/or gift bags for the shawls. Everyone can participate by praying with the makers of the shawls. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jeanne Wainwright, 785-5567, or Joyce Reichelt, 739-4779.

Visit our website for more information: www.stthomaswestspringfield.org

WEST SPRINGFIELD ST. PATRICK'S COMMITTEE **Recognition Dinner** to honor 2020 Colleen & Court

and the Award Winners

January 29, 2022

Carriage House @ Storrowton 5:00 p.m. Social / 6:00 p.m. Dinner



Choice of Yankee Pot Roast Chicken Francaise Baked New England Scrod

Donation of \$30.00 Limited Tickets Available

Help us get back in the spirit of St Patrick's Day!



Music and Dancing Fun and Raffles



Make your reservations by January 24, 2022

Contact : WS St. Patrick Committee P. O. Box 203 West Springfield, MA 01090



or text President at 413-222-3280 Sponsored by PeoplesBank



LOAVES AND FISHES St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is hosting a meal on Tuesday, January 18th, at the soup kitchen at South Congregational Church at 45 Maple Street in Springfield. The menu is a meatball

grinder, vegetables, chips, and cookies.

Food donations can be dropped off at the school cafeteria entrance in the back of the school on Monday, January 10th, and Monday, January 17th, between 5-6 p.m.

For pick up, contact Paul by phone at 413-333-2191 or email paulmarai66@yahoo.com or Barbara at 285-7819 or email barbarian24@yahoo.com.

Monetary contributions are welcome. Checks should be made payable to Loaves and Fishes at St. Thomas **Parish** and can be submitted in the weekly collection basket in a plain white envelope.

Staff of the Open Pantry will assemble the meal in containers that will be distributed by them to patrons at the entry door of the church at 5:00 p.m.

Thanks to all those who contributed to this ministry in 2021 with donations of food, time, and monetary contributions.

WEST SPRINGFIELD RESIDENTS ONLY Weekend Mass is now available on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. on the Town of West Springfield's Public Access Channel 15.

WEST SPRINGFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING

WEEKDAY LUNCH PROGRAM Don't forget that 60+ individuals from all communities can get a great lunch every weekday at the Center for just \$3.00! Call 263-3264 to reserve a lunch no later than noon the prior business day. Lunch is served between 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Menus are available in the Record, in the COA newsletter and on the COA website.

FRIENDS OF WS SENIOR CENTER LOTTERY TREE Support the Friends of West Springfield Senior Center by purchasing a ticket to win \$100 worth of MA lottery tickets, which could turn into something more! Tickets are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20 and can be purchased at the Center. Cash or check only, please. The drawing will be held on Monday, February 14, and you need not to be present to win. All proceeds benefit the Friends. Please call 263-3264 with any questions.

FRIENDS 2022 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE It's time to join or renew your Friends of West Springfield Senior Center, Inc. membership! Memberships to Friends, Inc. help provide needed resources to our Town's adult population and improvements to the Center. Please consider making your \$10 tax deductible donation this year and support a great cause. Payments can be mailed to the Senior Center at 128 Park Street or dropped off at the Office. Questions! Give us a call at 263-3264. Thanks for your support!



TAKE & EAT MEALS MINISTRY At this time, we will be preparing Take and Eat meals on the third Take & Eat / Saturday of each month. Our next meal offering is being planned for Saturday, January 15th. If you are aware of someone in the community who may have difficulty preparing meals for themselves without assistance, or if you yourself are in need of a meal on the weekends for similar reasons and would like to receive a meal through the Take and Eat Ministry, please contact the Parish Office, 739-4779, and let

us know. We will be happy to help.



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