

St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

Rectory/Parish Center: (973) 338-9190 . Fax: (973) 338-4224 . Religious Education: (973) 338-7400
School: (973) 338-8505 . Convent: (973) 338-9118
Address: 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 . Website: www.stachurchbloomfield.com

Rev. Charles J. Miller, M. Div., Pastor

Rev. Philip A. Sanders, S.T.B., Parochial Vicar • Rev. Thomas F. Blind, M. Div., In Residence

PERMANENT DEACONS:

Deacon Albert H. Tizzano • Deacon Dennis J. Besida • Deacon Thomas J. Coyle

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY

Saturday Eve: 5:00pm

Sundays: 7:30, 9:00,
10:30am & 12:00 Noon

Weekdays: 7:30, & 11:30am

Saturday Mornings: 8:30am Only

Holy Days:
7:30, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Holidays: 8:30am Only

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR
ELEMENTARY CATECHETICS:
Tracey Rennie

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
FOR PARISH MINISTRY:
Sister Arleen Crimmins, O.P.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
Ms. Joan Ferrer

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL
MUSIC MINISTRIES:
Nancy A. Cardone

ASSISTANT LITURGICAL
MUSIC MINISTERS:
Paul DiBianca
Kimberley Mesiti

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR FAMILY
& ADULT FORMATION MINISTRIES:
Robert P. Miller

COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY:
Mr. Timothy Dennin

PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Tom Rossano, Chairperson
Vincent Lipoma, Vice Chairperson
Michele Sweetman, Secretary

FINANCE CHAIRMEN:
Peter Maulbeck, Finance Council
Patrick DeCotiis, Finance Committee

SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION:
(Penance/Confessions)
Saturday: 11:00am

MARIAN
DEVOTIONS:
Mondays
Novena Prayer
11:30am Mass

LITURGY OF
THE WORD
WITH CHILDREN:
Sundays: 10:30am Mass
September - June

CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
SERVICES
OFFERING SOCIAL
SERVICE ASSISTANCE
1(800) CCS-7413
Fax: 596-3735

September 14, 2008 . The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Masses for the Week

Sunday, September 14

Saturday, September 13

5:00 pm Nesto - Franco Family - Family

Sunday, September 14

7:30 am Joseph Paul Szajkowski - Sisters

9:00 am Rose Russo - Friend

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Joann Castaldo - Family

Monday, September 15

7:30 am Nicholas & Maria Marchesani - Bequest

11:30 am Norma DiFranco - Friend

Tuesday, September 16

7:30 am Armas & Jean Niemi - Friend

11:30 am Joseph Raimo (38th Anniv.) - Daughter

Wednesday, September 17

7:30 am Pedro & Juliana Cayetano - Family

11:30 am Frank Nardi - Friend

Thursday, September 18

7:30 am Angelina & Ernest Winters - Family

11:30 am Frances Lubben - Husband

Friday, September 19

7:30 am Manuela Villanueva - Friends

11:30 am Frances Scardilli - Daughter

Saturday, September 20

8:30 am Dorothy Young - Friend

Sunday, September 21

Saturday, September 20

5:00 pm Ann DiLaura - Granddaughter

Sunday, September 21

7:30 am James & Janet Fearon (45th Wedding Anniv.)

9:00 am Mamie & Louis DeCicco - Family

10:30 am Frank Veloce - Family

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Paul Strickland, Anthony Meola, Michael Kochka
Cathy McAlvanah, Frank Korec, Claire Mykowski
John Kearney, Franco & Fasone Families

Next Sunday's Readings:

Numbers 21; 4b-9
Philippians 2; 6-11
John 3; 13-17

**Visit our website at
www.stachurchbloomfield.com**

***The Exaltation
of the
Holy Cross***



What a paradoxical faith we live... today's feast exalts the Cross and our faith rests in the victory of the Cross. An instrument of suffering and death becomes our source of life. The Cross as a symbol can be misused and misunderstood. Yet it holds our most profound conviction about suffering, about death, and about life itself.

This day commemorates the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, which is built on the sites of Calvary and the tomb in which Jesus was laid. Empress Helena, the mother of Constantine, is said to have discovered the true cross on September 14, 320. Constantine legalized Christianity in the Roman Empire in 313 AD.

Lectionary

■ THE GOSPEL: In the Gospel according to John, Jesus compares himself to the bronze serpent Moses lifted up for the salvation of the people. Like the Israelites who looked upon it and were saved, those who look with faith upon Christ crucified are saved from all that threatens them. The cross brings salvation.

■ FIRST READING: Exodus tells the story of the serpents attacking the Israelites in the desert. As an antidote to their bite, God directs Moses to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole, which Moses is to lift high. Anyone who had been bitten need only look upon the bronze serpent and he or she would be saved. The symbolism of the cross of Christ cannot be missed. It is Christ "lifted up" on the cross that offers salvation to anyone in need.

■ SECOND READING: St. Paul's letter to the Philippians includes an ancient hymn to Christ that probably predates the letter itself. The text of this hymn praises Christ's self-emptying, by which he accepted even death - death on a cross. Because of this God exalted him.

*"he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death,
even death on the cross.*

Because of this, God greatly exalted him..."

(Philippians 2:6-11)



**PLEASE NOTE
our Sunday afternoon Mass has been
PERMANENTLY CHANGED
to 12:00 Noon.**

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Presents

Sunny Sicily & Italy

\$2498

12 day vacation travel experience!

November 10 thru 21, 2008.



*Mosaic of Christ Pantocrator
in the apse of Monreale
Cathedral Sicily*



*Basilica of Saint Peter
Vatican City Rome*

Round Trip Airfare & Hotel Transfers
19 Meals Included with Special Welcome & Farewell Celebrations
Baggage Handling & Portage at First Class Hotels.

Tour includes visits to Palermo, Monreale, Segesta, Trapani, Marsala, Agrigento, Taormina, Syracuse & Catania, Messina, Calabria, Sorrento with an optional side trip to Capri. While in San Giovanni Rotondo we will also visit the tomb of Padre Pio and then continue on to Rome. While there we will visit the historic sites of Ancient Rome including the Colosseum, the Vatican with a special tour of St. Peters including mass and a visit to the burial crypt of the popes, including the tomb of John Paul II. And subject to the Holy Father's schedule, a Papal Audience with Pope Benedict XVI.

**Call the Parish Center 973-338-9190 Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.- 8 p.m.
for a copy of the full Italy Color Brochure with all the details!**

A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States

A series of excerpts that we will share with you on the weekends between now and Election Day.

The following is an excerpt from *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*. This document, issued by the bishops in November, 2007, suggests key issues for our prayerful reflection as we prepare to fulfill our responsibilities as voters in the national election this November 4. The full text of the document can be found at www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/FCStatement.pdf. Additional resources for families, groups and individuals are available at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

Solidarity

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions and requires us to eradicate racism and address the extreme poverty and disease plaguing so much of the world. Solidarity also includes the Scriptural call to welcome the stranger among us—including immigrants seeking work, a safe home, education for their children, and a decent life for their families. In light of the Gospel's invitation to be peacemakers, our commitment to solidarity with our neighbors—at home and abroad—also demands that we promote peace and pursue justice in a world marred by terrible violence and conflict. Decisions on the use of force should be guided by traditional moral criteria and undertaken only as a last resort. As Pope Paul VI taught: "If you want peace, work for justice" (World Day of Peace Message, January 1, 1972). (section # 53)

American Bishops Respond to US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's Misrepresentation of Catholic Teaching on Abortion

NEW YORK CARDINAL EDWARD EAGAN

"What the Speaker had to say about theologians and their positions regarding abortion was not only misinformed; it was also, and especially, utterly incredible in this day and age. ...Anyone who dares to defend that they may be legitimately killed because another human being "chooses" to do so for any other equally ridiculous reason should not be providing leadership in a civilized democracy worthy of the name."

FARGO BISHOP SAMUEL AQUILA

"Catholics who support so-called abortion rights support a false right, promote a culture of death, and are guided by the 'father of lies' rather than by the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Out of respect for the teaching of Jesus Christ and the Church, any Catholic who supports abortion rights has placed himself or herself outside of visible unity with the Church and thus should refrain from receiving Holy Communion. Catholics have a responsibility to study the teaching of the Church on human life and when life begins. ...I ask all of you in your presentations, teaching, or preaching to state the truth of this teaching in an unequivocal manner."

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



**ST. THOMAS THE
APOSTLE SCHOOL**
www.stthomasprek.org

Opening School Liturgy,
Mon., 9/15, at 11:30 a.m.

- Openings are still available grades Pre-K – 7
- Pre-K, full-day, and/or half-day sessions.
- FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

If you are interested, please call the
School Office at (973) 338-8505.



**USE SHOPRITE
GIFT CARDS!!**



**Help St. Thomas the Apostle School
earn 5% of your Shoprite purchase.**

If you already do your grocery shopping at Shoprite use
Shoprite gift cards instead of cash.

When you purchase Shoprite gifts cards
from a member of the Home & School,
St. Thomas the Apostle School
will get 5% of the total amount you purchase
at no cost to you!

The Home & School will have a booth at the Parish
Picnic where you may purchase your gift cards.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL.

Religious Education News

CCD classes will begin the week of Sept 22nd.
Grades 5-8 will meet on Mondays and grades
1-4 will meet on Tuesdays from 3:40 – 5:00
each week. We need two teachers for Monday
afternoons. We will provide training and guidance – no
experience necessary. Please consider sharing your faith
with a child. Call Tracey or Maria in the Religious
Education office at 973-338-7400.



**Confirmation dates
to remember:**

Sept. 23rd - Penance Service at 7pm
Sacrament of Confirmation (A thru L) Oct. 19th
Sacrament of Confirmation (M thru Z) Oct. 26th

Session Dates for Baptism 2008

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

In the St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center

Oct 12	1:00pm
Nov 2	1:00pm
Jan 25, 2009	1:00pm
March 29	1:00pm

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

September 14	during 12:00pm Mass
October 4	during 5:00pm Mass
October 5	1:30pm
November 16	1:30pm
December 7	1:30pm
January 11, 2009	1:30pm

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

“THIS WEEK”

Monday – 9/15

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter
Men’s prayer and Bible Study – 7:30pm in St. Matthew

Tuesday – 9/16

Lecture Series on St. Paul – 7:30pm

Thursday – 9/18

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 9/19

SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter

Wellness Ministry Cares... Assistance Program

The Wellness Ministry phone line is available Mon-Fri,
9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Call the Parish Center at 973-
338-9190 ext. 20. A return call will be made within 24
hours. A Parish Nurse will provide limited confidential
health counseling & referrals to Community health
resources & services. Volunteers are available for errands,
home visits and phone contacts.

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
RESUMES NEXT WEEK**

Blood pressure screenings will resume next weekend,
Saturday, Sept 20th, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass and
Sunday, Sept 21st, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

**Adult Enrichment
LECTURE SERIES ON ST. PAUL**

In honor of the 2,000 year of St. Paul’s birth, Pope
Benedict XVI has declared June 28, 2008 – June 29,
2009 “a year of Jubilee.” Declaring this the “Year of St.
Paul” Pope Benedict said, “As in early times, today too,
Christ needs apostles ready to sacrifice themselves. He
needs witnesses and martyrs like St. Paul.” In honor of
this jubilee year, we will offer a lecture series on St. Paul
beginning Tuesday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the
parish center. For more information call Bob Miller at
973.338.9190 x29.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

MEETINGS EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT IN THE PARISH CENTER FROM 7-9PM. ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ARE WELCOME

9/17 TRUST NIGHT

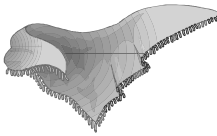
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

9/20 PARISH PICNIC - WITH SQUARELASH

9/26 STEVE ANGRISANO CONCERT IN RIDGEFIELD PK.
50-IN-15 TUNA FISH

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT TIM DENNIN AT tdennin@att.net

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our evening meetings will be held in the Parish Center on the first Wednesday of the month, Oct 1st and Nov 5th from 7 to 9 PM. The Sunday meetings are held the third Sunday of the month, Sept. 21st and Oct. 19th 1-3PM. We have simple patterns for shawls, lap robes, scarves, hats and gloves. If you are interested in participating but do not know how to knit or crochet, there are members willing to help you get started. If you have questions or wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact Bernadette @ 973-893-0114 Alicia 973-473-6633 or Sister Arleen @ 973-338-9190.

Let us continue to pray for those making shawls and those who receive them.

SPORTS FANS DON'T MISS THIS!

**This Wednesday, September 17, 2008
@ 7:30 p.m. in the St. Peter room**

The Holy Name Society
is sponsoring a presentation by...

Steve Politi



**Sports writer of the Newark Star-Ledger,
just returned from 2008 Summer
Olympics in Beijing, China!**

Steve will share his experiences in covering the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing and the NY Giants victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII, as well as other baseball and basketball events.

There will be a Q & A session immediately following the presentation. For more info, please call Don Powers at (973) 667-5791.

Blessing of Animals



**St. Thomas' Annual Blessing of Pets
will be held Sunday, Oct. 5th at 2pm
in the side parking lot of the School.**

Bring your winged, four legged, belly crawling, and finned pets to receive this special blessing.
We look forward to seeing you there!



Feel good about yourself ...Give blood

**St. Thomas' Annual Blood Drive
Sunday, September 28, 2008
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Herron Hall**

Our blood banks are in need of all types of blood. Please consider this as your gift for life. Come to our blood drive and donate. We welcome our "regulars" and those of you who will be "first timer donors".

Complimentary Cholesterol screening for all blood donors. **Also, (NEW!) \$15 BP gas card for all donors compliments of the Blood Center.** For more info call the blood center of New Jersey at 973-676-4700.



Right to Life

For a growing respect for the self-evident right to life of every human being, from conception to natural death;

We pray to the Lord

There will be a...

Morning of Remembrance



St. Valentine's Parish is joining St. Thomas to provide a Morning of Remembrance on Saturday October 4th at 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon at St. Valentines Parish. This Morning of Remembrance will be for all those who have experienced loss in their lives.

If you have any question, please call Sr. Arleen at 973.338.9190 ext. 34.

How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

**Ministry of Spiritual Direction
St Thomas the Apostle Parish**



**Retreat in Everyday Life
The Nineteenth Annotated Retreat
The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius**

In these "Spiritual Exercises" the retreatant prays with the life, passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ using designated scriptures journaling. Retreatant meets with a spiritual director each week to process their prayer. **Retreat extends from October to May.** It is important to call as soon as possible for preparation & instruction. For further information call Anna (973) 338-9538

THE BLOOMFIELD DEPT. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVCS.

ANNOUNCES THAT A REPRESENTATIVE FROM NJ FAMILYCARE WILL BE IN THE NURSING DIVISION FROM 9:30AM-11:30AM WEDNESDAYS IN SEPTEMBER DURING CHILD HEALTH CLINIC.

THEY WILL BE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR UNINSURED BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS WITH CHILDREN.

Bloomfield Nursing Division - 973-680-4058

A Note of Thanks...

From St. Pius X Catholic Church in Conyers, Georgia

Dear Fr. Miller:

I am so glad and impressed with the kindness and generosity of the people of your parish on the weekend that I came to make a mission appeal. This is a short letter to convey to you my heartfelt thanks and appreciation and through you to the entire people of your parish who had heard of my message and responded to it in such a wonderful and generous way.

On behalf of our Bishop Dominic Nguyen Chu Trinh and the people of the diocese of Xuan Loc, we cannot say enough our deepest thanks. We are so thankful to you for your great support, and kindness in making this missionary appeal a real success. I am asking you to kindly put this note in your parish bulletin in the next publication.

May God bless you and your people always and reward you many folds for what you have done for my diocese. I really believe that the people of the diocese of Xuan Loc will pray for you and your parish in return. With my best wishes, and regards, I remain

Fraternally yours in the Lord,
Rev. Peter Duc Vu, Parochial Vicar

Archdiocese of Newark High School Expo 2008

Is your child currently in grades 6-8? If so, now is the time to start learning about our Catholic secondary schools and what they have to offer you and your family. The Catholic secondary schools of the Archdiocese of Newark are sponsoring two evenings at the Archdiocesan Center at 171 Clifton Ave., in Newark, Sept. 24th and Oct. 8th 7:00-8:30pm. To learn which schools will be present each evening please visit our website at: <http://www.rcan.org/schools>.

These evenings are conducted in a college fair style. Staff and student representatives from the schools will be on hand to share information and answer your questions. With so many schools to choose from, this evening affords your family an excellent opportunity to see many schools at once.

Finding the right school for your son/daughter is most important to ensuring a successful future for them. Don't put off an important decision until the last minute. Please join us. For directions or more information please call 973-497-4258 or email cristila@rcan.org.

► **Catholic High School Open Houses** ◀

Bergen Catholic High School

1040 Oradell Avenue, Oradell, NJ, (201) 261-1844
www.bergencatholic.org
Thursday, September 25th, from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Queen of Peace High School

191 Rutherford Ave., N. Arlington, NJ (201) 998-8227
www.qphs.org
Sunday, September 21st, 1:00 p.m. Timed Program

Oratory Preparatory School

One Beverly Rd., Summit, NJ, (908) 273-5771
www.oratoryprep.org
Sunday, September 28th, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



CUB SCOUTS - PACK 22 SIGN-UPS

All 1st - 5th grade boys are invited to our Pack meeting Sept. 25th, 2008. The meeting will be at Herron Hall in St. Thomas school at 7:00 p.m.

MINISTRY OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

ST THOMAS PARISH CENTER

DAY RETREAT -- SAT., OCT. 4 9AM – 3PM

HEALTH & WHOLENESS HEALING:
BODY, MIND, SPIRIT

***SICK & TIRED
OF BEING SICK & TIRED?***

Coffee & bagels, etc. Please bag a Lunch.

Presentations include prayer, quiet reflection, group sharing, healing prayer service. Anna - (973) 338-9538
Registration Helpful by Oct 2