

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 Ferraer

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 28, 2008 . 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, September 28

Saturday, September 27

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, September 28

7:30 am Maria DeRogatis - Daughter

9:00 am Edwin May - Friend

10:30 am Alfred Trotola - Wife

12:00 pm Luciano Bosso (1st Anniv) - Family

Monday, September 29

7:30 am Cathryn Coll - Daughter

11:30 am Gladys Mieyr - Friend

Tuesday, September 30

7:30 am John A. Halle, Jr. - Friends

11:30 am Jerome Mulvaney - Friend

Wednesday, October 1

7:30 am Jerry Mulvaney - Friends

11:30 am Edward Flanagan - Friends

Thursday, October 2

7:30 am Daniel O'Connel - Family

11:30 am Jerome Mulvaney - Friend

Friday, October 3

7:30 am Eugene Hutch - Friend

11:30 am Elizabeth Molnar - Family

Saturday, October 4

8:30 am Anna Stevens - Daughter & Family

Sunday, October 5

Saturday, October 4

5:00 pm Carl Massaro - Niece

Sunday, October 5

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Eileen Ward - Friend

10:30 am James Masker - Brother-in-law

12:00 pm Fulvio Grion (1st Anniv.) - Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, Eleanor McKeon
Domenic Mattia, Alex Wessel, Kathy Morris,
Franco & Fasone Families, Nora Moyle

REST IN PEACE:

David Patterson, Sr. Ellen Jean Beronio

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Jerome T. Mulvaney

Rectory: Angelo Melia



***Twenty-sixth Sunday
in
Ordinary Time***

Today we hear the great Christological hymn, which St. Paul included as part of his letter to the Philippians. It fits well in the Sundays of this latter part of Ordinary Time. Be mindful of the liturgy's subtle turn toward a focus on the end times. We will increasingly hear of this coming event for which we long in faith.

Lectionary

■ THE GOSPEL: Today's Gospel presents Jesus telling the parable of the two sons. Each is asked by their father to go into the fields to work. The first one says that he will go but does not. The second says that he will not go out to work but in the end, does. Jesus is obviously applying the parable to the house of Israel - those who promised to be faithful to the covenant and failed, and those who did not initially accept the covenant but whom ultimately do.

■ FIRST READING: Ezekiel proclaims that if the sinful man turns away from his sin then the Lord will preserve his life.

■ PSALM 125: The psalmist pleads for the Lord to remember his compassion and to dismiss the sins of our youth.

■ SECOND READING: St. Paul's letter to the Philippians encourages the Church to take upon herself the mind of Christ. It includes an ancient Christological hymn, which Paul includes in the text of his letter: Christ emptied himself of his divinity and conformed to God's plan. Because of this, God exalted him and put him above everything else in creation.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Philippians 4: 6-9

Matthew 21: 33-43

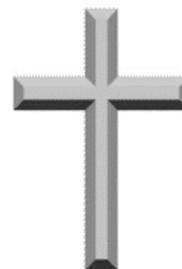
PRAY TO ST. ISIDORE OF SEVILLE

St. Isidore is the proposed patron saint of the internet. Please pray for our webmaster and all people who visit our site. For more information about St. Isidore visit http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isidore_of_Seville.

Have any ideas for the website? Email the ideas to webmaster@stachurchbloomfield.com.

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

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

I was very excited to see so many of our families – the young, the old, and the in-between – having such a good time together at our Annual Parish Picnic last Saturday. The weather, thank God, was perfect and so it was possible to truly enjoy all the outside activities at this year's picnic.

I want to thank all who made it possible, especially Paul Alongi and those who served on the planning committee, those who manned the booths, cooked the food, sold the tickets, and volunteered to help in so many different ways.

I want to give special recognition to the many members of the St. Thomas the Apostle Youth Group, who were so helpful with set-up, clean-up, and providing for the music – it was a great day indeed.

While preparing for the picnic, other parishioners were busy preparing our parish for our Increased Giving Appeal. We all owe our gratitude to George Hayes and Peter Maulbeck for their presentations at our Sunday Masses, and to all those on our Finance Committee, Finance Council, and Stewardship Committee, who have been working hard behind the scenes to prepare our budget, reduce our costs, and provide for a steady and balanced income so we can keep St. Thomas the Apostle going and growing.

St. Thomas Parish's **Stewardship Appeal** reaches its climax with **Commitment Weekend** during Mass today. As you have heard over the last two weekends, our goal is to increase our ordinary income so that our parish can meet our greatly increased ordinary expenses.

During the Liturgy this weekend, the ushers will distribute an envelope containing a commitment card. We are asking everyone to consider increasing their weekly contribution by \$3.00 to \$5.00. Success will be ours if every family or individual responds with a small sacrificial increase on Commitment Weekend.

We are grateful for the positive response we have seen and heard the last couple of weeks. Additional income is needed to meet the financial challenge of rapidly growing energy, insurance and operating costs. We are confident in a positive response from our great faith community during this Commitment Weekend.

Pray for the success of this appeal to secure our legacy for future generations.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of St. Thomas Parish.

In the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. Charles J. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Charles J. Miller
Pastor

FEAST OF THE ANGELS

Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael
Monday, September 29th
Michael protects, Gabriel Announces, Raphael guides

† † † † † † † † †

Feast of the Guardian Angels Thursday, October 2nd
"See that you do not despise one of these little ones,
for I say to you that their angels in heaven
always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

St. Matthew 18:10

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

October 4th

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master,

Grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

It is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

† † † † † † † † †



**Blessing
of
Animals**

**St. Thomas'
Annual**



**Blessing of Pets Sunday, Oct. 5th at 2pm
in the 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!

ST. THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS Wed., Oct. 1st

After the death of St. Thérèse of Jesus in 1582, a book-
mark was found in her breviary, indicating that the prayer
was recited often. The Spanish saint who founded many
convents of the Carmelite reform amid great and trying
difficulties turned to the Lord of her life for constant strength
and perseverance.

**May nothing trouble you. May nothing frighten you.
Everything passes, but God never changes.
Everything comes through patience.
To those who have God, nothing is lacking.
God alone is enough.**

Stewardship Prayer

S. Marie Schwan

Lord God,

You alone are the source of every good gift,
of the vast array of the universe,
and the mystery of each human life.

We praise You and we thank You
for Your great power and Your tender, faithful love.

Everything we are and everything we have is Your gift,
and after having created us
You have given us
into the keeping of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Fill our minds with His truth
and our hearts with His love,
that in His Spirit we may be bonded together
into a community of faith,
a parish family, a caring people.

In the Name and Spirit of Jesus,
we commit ourselves to be good stewards
of the gifts entrusted to us,
to share our time, our talent,
our material gifts as an outward sign
of the Treasure we hold in Jesus.

Amen.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

USE SHOP RITE GIFT CARDS!!

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



If you already do your grocery shopping at Shop Rite use
Shop Rite gift cards instead of cash! When you purchase
Shop Rite gifts cards **from a member of the STA Home
& School**, St. Thomas the Apostle School will get 5% of
the total amount you purchase at no cost to you! Simply
contact Carol Sause at (973) 893-1302.

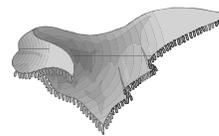
Confirmation dates to remember:



Sacrament of Confirmation (A thru M) Oct. 19th
Sacrament of Confirmation (M thru Z) Oct. 26th

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



Evening meetings will be held in the
Parish Center Oct 1st and Nov 5th from
7 to 9 PM. A Sunday meeting will be
held 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.**



Feel good about yourself
Give blood -- TODAY!!!

St. Thomas' Annual Blood Drive
This 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. If you are 17 years of age, a minimum of 120 pounds, and in basic good health, YOU can donate blood.

Did YOU know that the blood supply can vary depending on the time of year? As donor qualifications continue to become stricter and as the donor population ages, our community is a risk of a low blood supply. If YOU are eligible, YOUR blood donations are needed. The actual donation takes about 5-10 minutes. The entire donation process, from registration to post-donation refreshments, takes about one hour. 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, \$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.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

9/28 RETREAT & CONCERT REVIEW

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

10/12 MOVIE NIGHT BELLA 10/17 FRIGHT FEST

50-IN-15 TUNA FISH

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

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 9/29

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter
Women's Cornerstone - 7:30pm in Parish Center
Men's prayer and Bible Study – 7:30pm in St. Matthew

Thursday – 10/2

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 10/3

SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter

Adult Enrichment

LECTURE SERIES ON ST. PAUL

Guest Lecturer: **Dr. Chris Carr**

Topic: **The Mystical Body of Christ**

Next Lecture: **Oct. 14th, 7:30 p.m. in Parish Center**

For more information
call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.

There will be a...

Morning of Remembrance

Saturday October 4th. 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon



St. Valentine's Parish is joining St. Thomas to provide a Morning of Remembrance on Sat. Oct. 4th at 9:30am to 12Noon at St. Valentines Parish. This Morning of Remembrance will begin with bagels and coffee for all those who have experienced loss in their lives. If you have any question, call Sr. Arleen at 973-338-9190.



St. Thomas Jubilatz Chimers Bell Choir

GRADES 5 – 8

All St. Thomas the Apostle students, grades 5-8 (CCD and STA School) are invited to join our Bell Choir. If interested, please call Nancy Cardone in the music office at (973) 338-9190 x42 and leave the student's name and phone number. Those who leave a message will be contacted by Mrs. Anne Bellotti, our Bell Choir Director.

ROSARY CONFRATERNITY SOCIETY

"Hail Mary full of grace..."

Our meeting and installation of new members will take place on Mon., Oct. 6th at 7pm in St. Peter's room @ parish center. Please come and join us as we pray the Rosary and welcome our new members.

Contact Lorraine @ 973-893-1405.

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COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 26th following 9:00 a.m. Mass

Glen Ridge Country Club

555 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ

GUEST SPEAKER: FR. PHILIP SANDERS

Tickets - \$27.00

All parishioners are welcome

Reservations by October 19th

Please call Shirley Drexler 973-338-5938

or Grace Matturri 973-338-8953

Or complete and return this form to the parish center
Attn: SHIRLEY DREXLER or GRACE MATTURRI

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Attending: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____

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.

Rights and Responsibilities

Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible, and a right to access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, freedom of religion and family life. The right to exercise religious freedom publicly and privately by individuals and institutions along with freedom of conscience must be constantly defended. In a fundamental way, the right to free expression of religious beliefs protects all other rights. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society. Rights should be understood and exercised in a moral framework rooted in the dignity of the human person.

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

St. Thomas Parish Center



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

**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

► Catholic High School Open Houses ◀

Mt. St. Dominic Academy

3 Ryerson Ave., Caldwell, NJ, (973) 226-0660 ex. 1122
www.msdacademy.org
2 Sundays, October 19th and 26th at 1:30 p.m.

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.

Paramus Catholic High School

425 Paramus Rd., Paramus, NJ (201) 445-4466
www.paramuscatholic.org
Wednesday, October 15th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

St. Mary High School

64 Chestnut St., Rutherford, NJ, (201) 933-5220
www.stmaryhs.org
October 14th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Filipino Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark
invites you to the celebration of the Feast of**

**San Lorenzo Ruiz
de Manila**



Final mass and novena to be held at the
Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark,
Sun, Sept. 28th at 3:00 PM.

**Main celebrant and homilist:
REV. JOSE S. PALMA, DD, SThD,
Archbishop of Palo, Leyte, Philippines.**

**St. Thomas the Apostle
Mission Statement**

The Roman Catholic faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle recognizes God's call to be a sign of His Kingdom in the communities we serve. We respond to this call by:

- Leading people to a deeper relationship with Christ by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, renewal, education, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the worship of God in the sacred liturgy;
- Encouraging a commitment to justice and to service of those in need;
- Promoting good stewardship of our time, talent and treasure;
- Building a community of hospitality and support in the daily living out of Christian ideals by nourishing mutual respect and understanding within our Church, our families, our community, and other faith traditions.