

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

October 19, 2008 . 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, October 19

Saturday, October 18

5:00 pm Thomas Bieksha - Wife

Sunday, October 19

7:30 am Esterina & Silvester Fusco - Family

9:00 am Madeline Freeman - Daughter

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Michelina & Nicholas Fasone
(55th Wed. Anniv.) - Son

Monday, October 20

7:30 am Margaret Butler - Friend

11:30 am Grace Iradi - Friend

Tuesday, October 21

7:30 am Agnes Hahn - Friends

11:30 am Deceased Members of Begley Family - Bequest

Wednesday, October 22

7:30 am Genevieve Petruccione - Sister

11:30 am Wm. Fred Roberts - Family

Thursday, October 23

7:30 am George Kuhn - Friend

11:30 am Robert Imfeld - Family

Friday, October 24

7:30 am Roger Fanti - Family

11:30 am Amparo Jimenez - Friend

Saturday, October 25

8:30 am Rev. Edward McGrath

Sunday, October 26

Saturday, October 25

5:00 pm Rose Russo - Friends

Sunday, October 26

7:30 am Marguerite G. Revene - Daughter

9:00 am Ann & Peter McHugh - Family

10:30 am Louis Meier - Family

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, Ester Caruso,
Franco & Fasone Families, John Janiec, Dominick Mattia

REST IN PEACE:

Marie F. Claps

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Fracois Maniere

Convent: Lester & Eileen Baer



**Twenty-ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

The scriptures continue to shape the conclusion of the liturgical year. The Gospel records the mounting tensions between Jesus and the religious authorities. Today in the Second Reading we begin St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians.

Lectionary

■ THE GOSPEL: The Pharisees try to trap Jesus in his speech. They ask if it is lawful to pay the emperor a tax. Jesus responds by calling them hypocrites and poses his own question: Whose image is on the coin? When they respond that it is Caesar's, Jesus concludes: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21).

■ FIRST READING: The Prophet Isaiah indicates that God chose Cyrus the Persian to free his people from exile. It was Cyrus and his army who marched on Babylon and released the Israelite exiles.

■ PSALM 96: The psalmist sings praise of the Lord's glory.

■ SECOND READING: The Second Reading is the beginning of St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians. After the customary greeting, Paul praises the Thessalonians for their faith, hope, and love.

**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.

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE APPEAL

HOW DO AMERICANS SPEND THEIR TIME?

Americans have, on average, about 40 hours of leisure time each week. They spend it in the following manner:

- 12 hours a week watching television
- 6 hours a week socializing and eating out
- 5 hours a week shopping and self-improvement
- 4 hours a week watching movies and reading
- 3 hours a week on hobbies
- 2 hours a week on sports and exercise
- 1 hour a week on volunteer work & religious activities**
- 7 hours a week on other activities

How do you use your leisure time? Where do your priorities lie? How much time do you give back to God?

{Source: Jim Spring, "Seven Days of Play," American Demographics.}

WASHINGTON—Cardinal Justin F. Rigali, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and Bishop William E. Lori, chairman, U.S. Bishops Committee on Doctrine, issued the following statement:

Recently we had a duty to clarify the Catholic Church's teaching against abortion, to correct misrepresentations by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Again on "Meet the Press," **Senator Joseph Biden** made some statements about that teaching that also deserves a response.

Senator Biden did not claim that Catholic teaching allows or has ever allowed abortion. He said rightly that human life begins "at the moment of conception," and that Catholics and others who recognize this should not be required by others to pay for abortions with their taxes. However, the Senator's claim that the beginning of human life is a "personal & private" matter of religious faith, which cannot be "imposed" on others, does not reflect the truth of the matter. The Church recognizes that the obligation to protect unborn human life rests on the answer to two questions, neither of which is private or specifically religious.

The first is a *biological* question: When does a new human life begin? When is there a new living organism of the human species, distinct from mother and father and ready to develop and mature if given a nurturing environment? While ancient thinkers had little verifiable knowledge to help them answer this question, today embryology textbooks confirm that a new human life begins at conception. The Catholic Church does not teach this as a matter of faith; it acknowledges it as a matter of objective fact.

The second is a *moral* question with legal and political consequences: Which living members of the human species should be seen as having fundamental human rights, such as a right not to be killed? The Catholic Church's answer is: Everybody. No human being should be treated as lacking human rights, and we have no business dividing humanity into those who are valuable enough to warrant protection and those who are not. This is not solely a Catholic teaching, but a principle of natural law accessible to all people of good will. The framers of the Declaration of Independence pointed to the same basic truth by speaking of inalienable rights, bestowed on all members of the human race not by any human power, but by their Creator. While in past centuries biological knowledge was often inaccurate, modern science leaves no excuse for anyone to deny the humanity of the unborn child. Protection of innocent human life is not an imposition of personal religious conviction but a demand of justice.

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

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.

Caring for God's Creation

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of God's creation. Care for the earth is a duty of our faith and a sign of our concern for all people. We should strive to live simply to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We have a moral obligation to protect the planet on which we live—to respect God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for human beings, especially children at their most vulnerable stages of development. As stewards called by God to share the responsibility for the future of the earth, we should work for a world in which people respect and protect all of creation and seek to live simply in harmony with it for the sake of future generations. (section # 54)

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5b
Matthew 22: 15-21

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our church
October 19th and 26th at 3 p.m.
with Most Rev. David Arias.

Please remember our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers as they welcome the Holy Spirit into their lives.

Session Dates for Baptism 2008

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

In the St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center
Nov 2 1:00pm
Jan 25, 2009 1:00pm
March 29 1:00pm

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

November 16 1:30pm
December 7 1:30pm
January 11, 2009 1:30pm
February 1 1:30pm
February 22 1:30pm

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 10/20

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

Thursday – 10/23

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 10/24

SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter



Right to Life

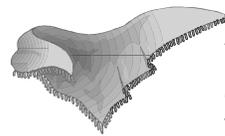
For all members of our Supreme Court: that a respect for our inalienable right to life might guide them in all their decisions;

We pray to the Lord

Wellness Ministry Cares... Assistance Program

The Wellness Ministry phone line is available Mon-Fri, 9am to 8pm. Call the Parish Center 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.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



An evening meeting will be held in the Parish Center Nov 5th from 7 to 9 PM. A Sunday meeting will be held Oct. 19th 1-3PM. Further schedule to follow in coming weeks. 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.**

Pack 22 Cub scouts Pancake Breakfast



WHEN: October 26, 2008, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
WHERE: Herron Hall in St. Thomas School

ROSARY CONFRATERNITY SOCIETY



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 Maturri 973-338-8935**

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

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Attending: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____



St. Thomas the Apostle's Senior High Youth Group

is proud to present
an Evening of Song with special guest:

**Catholic Recording Artist
KARA KLEIN**

November 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church
All are welcome. Kara Klein will also be with us at all
the Masses that weekend.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

10/19 SPECIAL GUEST
FR. SANDERS LEADS DISCUSSION ON THE MOVIE BELLA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

10/24 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS KARAOKE
10/26 HALLOWEEN MEETING / RECOGNITION SUNDAY
11/15 KARA KLEIN PIZZA NIGHT

50-IN-15 ... MAC-N-CHEESE

CONGRATULATIONS!!

ALEX PODKUL - EAGLE OF THE CROSS AWARD
STEVEN GRABOWSKI - PARISH YOUTH RECOGNITION AWARD

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



St. Thomas Movie Night

I Am David

Movie night returns Tuesday, October 21 with *I Am David*. The story is adapted from the internationally acclaimed novel *North to Freedom*. It is the story of a 12-year-old boy, David, who escapes a Communist concentration camp with little more than a compass, a sealed letter, and a loaf of bread. David is thrust into the free world and embarks upon a spiritual voyage of discovery, where he slowly loses his mistrust of humanity. Starring Jim Caviezel of *The Passion of the Christ*. Movie starts at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center and is 90 minutes long. Free admission, good-will offering graciously accepted. For more information, call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.



**The St. Thomas
Annual Blood Drive
was a huge success!**

The annual blood drive was a huge success. We had 69 wonderful people step up to donate their blood, nine of which were first time donors! Thanks to all of you who gave this "gift for life." You have made a difference to those of us who depend on a transfusion in order to live a healthy life.

Please consider making your gift a frequent one and keep in mind our next annual blood drive in September of 2009. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers, who helped to make this drive a success. Without your help we could not have done it. May God bless each of you.

"Enjoy this parish-wide social event catered by Nightingale, the original beefsteak caterer... try your luck at winning one of the many, many fabulous prizes... catch up with old friends..."

**Saint Thomas The Apostle
Home and School Association's**

**Beefsteak
Dinner**

to benefit the academic and technological programs of STA

**Saturday
November 8th • 6:00pm
Herron Hall**

Saint Thomas the Apostle School

\$35. per person

Includes: Dinner, & Beverages (Beer, Soda & Coffee)

For Tickets Call:

MaryAnn Garner at 973.338.1868

Advance Reservations Only!

► **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.

Don Bosco Prep

492 N. Franklin Tpk., Ramsey, NJ (201) 327-2049
www.donboscoprep.com

Sunday, October 19th, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Oratory Prep

1 Beverly Rd., Summit, NJ (908) 273-1084
www.oratoryprep.org

Wednesday, October 22nd, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Bergen Catholic High School

1040 Oradell Ave., Oradell, NJ (201) 261-1844
www.bergencatholic.org

Sunday, October 26th, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Queen of Peace High School

191 Rutherford Ave., N. Arlington, NJ (201) 998-8227
www.qphs.org

October 19th, 11:00 a.m. - Timed Program

Eighth graders and their families interested in attending a Catholic high school in September 2009

COOPERATIVE ADMISSIONS EXAM

...for participating Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of Newark will be administered on Friday, November 7, 2008.

Application forms and handbooks for this test and a listing of all Catholic High Schools and their admission requirements are available from:

- MCS/CTB at their website, www.coopexam.org or email support@coopexam.org
- Catholic Elementary Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark
- Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark

Please call 1-888-921-2667 or visit www.coopexam.org.

*SERRA INTERNATIONAL, DISTRICT 22
THE FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2008

Mass will be held at 9:30am at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 217 Prospect St., South Orange, NJ and will be celebrated by Bishop Edgar da Cunha. The breakfast will be in the Main Lounge, Student Ctr, Seton Hall University. Guest speaker will be U.S. Attorney Chris Christie

COST: \$20.00 per adult -- \$10 children under 12

Several St. Thomas parishioners are members of the West Essex Serra Club. Father Danik, an earlier priest at St. Thomas is our chaplain. Serrans promote, encourage, and foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life. For additional information, please call John Rennie at (973) 338-4615 or leave your name and number at the parish center and someone will contact you.

A Note of Thanks...

Dear Rev. Miller and parishioners of St. Thomas:

*"If you give food to the hungry
and satisfy those who are in need,
then the darkness around you
will turn to the brightness of noon" Isaiah 58*

On behalf of the Emergency Food and Nutrition (E.F.N.N.), I wish to extend my thanks to you for your donations of food collected by the members of your congregation in June, July, August, and September. Your assistance at this difficult time when families are the hard pressed for food was a blessing.

Many of the families we serve face hunger on a daily basis and would not have anything to eat if it were not for the generous support of donors like you. Surely this is a visible witness of God's love working through His people.

We are grateful to the members of St. Thomas that Apostle Church. Your continued support is essential to the E.F.N.N. as we strive to ease the pain of hunger and poverty. May God continue to bless you for your kindness and sharing.

Gratefully yours,
Sharon Reilly-Tobin
Director E.F.N.N.

Christmas Pageant Epiphany Workshop

Saturday, November 1st in the parish center
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For all you moms who have not involved your child[ren] in the pageant because you just could not handle any costume pressure so close to Christmas - this morning is for you! Parishioner, Judy Donahue has extensive seamstress experience and has a pattern [simple] and will provide most materials etc. Angel costumes, shepherds and even Kings and Queens for the courts of the Earth - will be made and planned for in this hands-on workshop.

Please register for this free workshop by emailing Judy at donahue.J@verizon.net or by calling Nancy Cardone at 973-338-9190 ext. 42. Let them know if you have a portable sewing machine you could bring.

So no more excuses - we want to see many more children involved in this short but wonderful pageant!

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 to get your Shop Rite card today!