

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

November 16, 2008 . 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, November 16

Saturday, November 15

5:00 pm Rose Russo - Friend

Sunday, November 16

7:30 am Marguerite R. Winans - Family

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:30 am Rodger Ryan - Friend

12:00 pm Mr. & Mrs. Niemi - Friends

Monday, November 17

7:30 am Agnes Murphy (12th Anniv.) - Daughter

11:30 am Potenza Family - Family

Tuesday, November 18

7:30 am Antonio Russo - Wife

11:30 am John & Mary Walters - Children & Family

Wednesday, November 19

7:30 am Kenneth Sharry - Family

11:30 am Veronica Kievit (2nd Anniv.) - Family

Thursday, November 20

7:30 am Mark Zieleniewski - Family

11:30 am Sadie & James Burns - Family

Friday, November 21

7:30 am Mark Zieleniewski - Family

11:30 am Frances Lubben - Husband

Saturday, November 22

8:30 am Albert Muller - Son

Sunday, November 23

Saturday, November 22

5:00 pm Anthony Zoppi - Friends

Sunday, November 23

7:30 am Arrigoni & Montuori Families - Family

9:00 am Harry & Frances Scardilli - Daughter

10:30 am Deceased Members of Klenk Family - Bequest

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Marian Palagano, Joanna Vignola, Jane Mirenda Finch
Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, John McCue, Alex Wessel
Harry Shaw, Lillian Donatello, Eleanor McKeon

REST IN PEACE:

Mary J. Barbone

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Rosemarie Salvo
Rectory: Julius Morthier
Convent: Michael Sefjack

***Thirty-third Sunday
of Ordinary Time***



In these last two weeks of the liturgical year, the readings and texts of the liturgies keep before us the end times and the return of Christ in glory. Today's readings and those for next Sunday - the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King - focus in a particular way upon this longed-for event. They create a seamless transition to the season of Advent and another year of Grace.

Lectionary

■ **THE GOSPEL:** Today's gospel is the parable of the talents. Jesus tells of a man who goes on a journey and entrusts his money to his servants to care for while he is gone. Of course, the one who did nothing with the silver pieces that he was given incurs the wrath and punishment of the master upon his return.

■ **FIRST READING:** The First Reading from the book of Proverbs informs us of the one who, like a good wife, lives a life balanced between care of her spouse, her family, and the poor.

■ **PSALM 128:** The psalmist sings of those who fear the Lord - those ones are happy and prosperous.

■ **SECOND READING:** The Second Reading which is from 1 Thessalonians indicates that the day of the Lord may come like a thief in the night. Be ready and live in the light of the Lord.

Next Sunday's Readings:

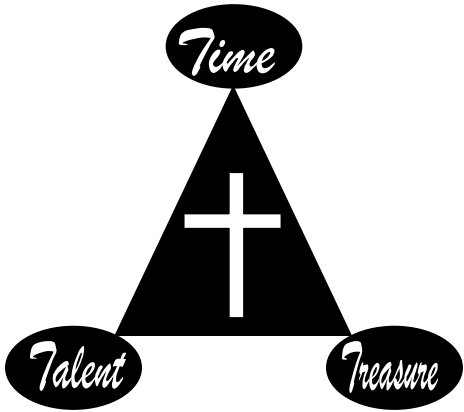
Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17

1 Corinthians 15: 20-26,28

Matthew 25: 31-46

Visit our website at www.stachurchbloomfield.com

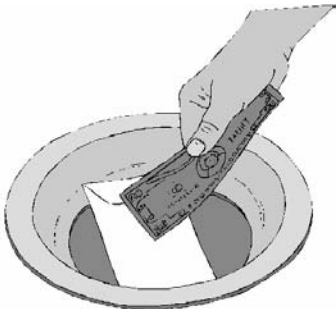
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE APPEAL



This report is the last concerning the STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN now completed. The people of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish are to be thanked for a truly outstanding response. At the beginning of our Appeal we asked every member of our parish family to prayerfully consider what they are giving back to their parish and to the Lord. The weekly increase at St. Thomas Parish, based upon your wonderful response, is \$4,693. Our parish has experienced a renewal of faith and stewardship. Thank you.

Please call the parish office if you are interested in the Electronic Giving program or if you are interested in receiving offering envelopes.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



The main source of operating funds for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is our weekly offertory contribution. To assist us in being good stewards of God's gift of treasure, here is what we contributed last weekend compared to what we need to meet our budget:

Last's week collection:	\$18,993
Amount Needed:	\$20,000

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 Bail-Out Package for Your Soul

Afraid there are no bright spots next year? Here's one. Men's Cornerstone. A chance to take a break and hang out for a while with a great bunch of ordinary men you see from time to time in church. In just 26 hours, you'll get to know more about them, about God and about yourself. It's a bail-out package for your soul – and it won't cost \$700 billion -- even though it's worth much more.

Say yes, when someone invites you to the unique Cornerstone retreat. March 27 and 28. Or if you can't wait, contact:

- John Barbetta (973) 338-5086
jbarbetta2@verizon.net
- Pat DeCotiis (973) 896-5739
pdecotiis@att.com
- William J. Padilla (973) 338-9414
wiji777@aol.com



Men's Cornerstone. A gathering of ordinary men for an extraordinary retreat.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

Session Dates for Baptism for 2008

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

In the St. James Room in the Parish Center

Nov 2	1:00pm
Jan 25	1:00pm
March 29	1:00pm
May 17	1:00pm

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS FOR 2008

Nov 16	1:30pm
Dec 7	1:30pm
Jan 11	1:30pm
Feb 1	1:30pm
Feb 22	1:30pm
April 18	During Mass at 5:00pm
April 19	1:30pm

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS



Right to Life

For those who await their execution on death row: that God might teach us how to love and protect them;

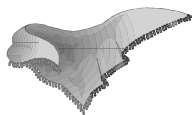
We pray to the Lord



THANKSGIVING OUTREACH!

Are you planning to donate a turkey or a ham for a family less fortunate than yours this Thanksgiving? If so, we need to have the donations **on or before Sunday, Nov. 23rd** at the Parish

Center. Defrosting and deliveries need to take place *before* Thanksgiving Day, which is Thursday, Nov. 27th. Thank you for your concern and compassion for others.



Come join us in a special celebration of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

This Sunday, Nov. 16th our handmade items will be blessed at the 9AM Mass.

We will also be hosting "Hospitality Sunday" in the Parish Center and hope all of our parishioners will feel welcome to join us. If you are interested in participating in our ministry, but do not know how to knit or crochet, there are members who are willing to help you get started. If you have any questions or you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact Bernadette @ 973-893-0114 Sister Arleen @ 973-338-9190 or Alicia @ 973-473-6633 *Let us continue to pray for those making shawls and those who receive them*

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.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING – THIS WEEK

Blood pressure screenings will be held this weekend, Saturday, Nov. 15th, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass and Sunday, Nov. 16th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 11/17

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

Thursday - 11/20

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday - 11/21

SCC Friday - 7:00pm in St. Peter

SIGN UP for the...

**Children's Christmas Event
Epiphany Pageant**

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH
Ages Pre-K4 – Grade 3

Plan now for your children to participate!

As always, we will be looking for Angels and Shepherds to join our Nativity and Epiphany scene.

Shepherds and Angel costumes will be provided if needed.

If interested please complete the form below and return to the Parish Center by November 30th attention: "Children's Pageant".

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____

_____ I would like to help with costumes.

_____ I would like to help with the Three Kings Reception.

Parent Name: _____

Phone: _____



**St. Thomas the Apostle's
Senior High Youth Group and
Respect Life Committee
are proud to present**

Catholic Recording Artist

KARA KLEIN

This Weekend

Saturday evening, at 7:00 p.m. Kara will be hosted by the Youth Group at a teens-only pizza party in the St. Peter room in the parish center. Kara will speak about Christian purity.

Sunday Masses Kara will sing at all Masses. She will be available between Masses to meet parishioners during our monthly hospitality in the parish center hosted by the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Sunday Evening, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The Youth Group and Respect Life Committee will host a special Respect Life Holy Hour in the Church. All parishioners are encouraged to participate in this special hour of prayer for the protection of the dignity of life.

Sunday Evening, 7:00 p.m. Following the Holy Hour, Kara Klein will be featured in an evening of song in the Church. A free-will offering will be taken benefiting the STA Youth Group.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please note that there will be **NO** Eucharistic Adoration this month.
The Respect Life Holy Hour will take place on Nov. 16th at 5:30 p.m. with special guest Kara Klein.



MEN'S CORNERSTONE - MARCH 27 & 28

"Cornerstone made me realize how truly blessed I am in life."

-- Greg Piegaro

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

11/16 KARA KLEIN EVENING OF SONG

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- 11/22 COFFEE HOUSE
- 11/23 A NIGHT WITH BISHOP DACUHNA
- 11/30 YOUR PLACE IN TIME
- 12/5-7 FALL RETREAT

50-IN-15 ... SPAGHETTI SAUCE

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

Service Project Hours:

Nov. 22 - 6 p.m. Help - Annual Coffee House

Nov. 29 - 12 Noon Changing books in Church



Third Annual Coffee House!

Sponsored by the St. Thomas Senior High Youth Group Saturday, Nov. 22nd, at 6pm in Herron Hall. All Parishioners are welcome!



**Support
St. Thomas' Annual
Christmas Concert**



**Be a Sponsor for the St. Thomas the Apostle
Annual Christmas Concert & Reception
Saturday, December 13, 2008 - 7PM**

Featuring the **Garden State Concert Band**
And guest narrator **Father Charles Miller**

How - Contribute to the Souvenir Program Journal

- Back Cover - \$400.00
- Inside Back Cover - \$200.00
- Gold Page - \$150.00
- Inside Front Cover - \$200.00
- Full Page - \$100.00
- Half Page - \$75.00
- Quarter Page - \$50.00
- Listing of Name Page - \$25.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I want to contribute _____ for _____ page or \$25.00 for a name listing.

Make all returns with copy to:

Paul Alongi, 21 Leo Terrace, Bloomfield, NJ 07003,
973-338-4665 or Parish Center 973-338-9190.

**Are you a Writer . . . Editor . . . Proof Reader . . .
Web Developer? *We need you!***

THE VOICE, the St. Thomas the Apostle Newsletter, is published several times a year and we are looking to expand our ministry.

We are also looking for people to help update the website, keep it current and brainstorm ideas to advertise our parish.

You can be part of our committee, which meets a few times a year or you can choose to simply donate your particular talent as needed.

Please drop us a line in the Communication/Newsletter mailbox in the Parish Center or email us at thevoice@stachurchbloomfield.com.

You can visit us online by following the Newsletter link on our website.

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.

~ ~ *September Club Travel* ~ ~

**Join us for a Playhouse Christmas at the
Hunterdon Hills Playhouse**



November 21, 2008 Price... \$70.00

Bus leaves at 9:30 a.m. & returns at 4:30 p.m.

For reservations

call Diana Del Vecchia 973-338-8545

Organ Dedication concert to be held at

St. Anthony of Padua Church

**of Silver Lake / Belleville at 63 Franklin St.
Sunday Evening, November 30th at 7pm**

Featuring Guest Organist Frank J. Faro
performing on the Beaty & Associates Pipe Organ
with "hybrid" technology

Reception to follow - Free-Will Offering

Tips from the Wellness Ministry

Guidelines for Proper Disposal of Household Medication

Over the counter and prescription medications should not be disposed down the drain because waste-water treatment facilities are not designed to remove pharmaceutical compounds and they may end up in your local waterways, and may eventually be found in drinking water. Properly disposing of unwanted and expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications in the trash promotes a healthy aquatic environment and prevents accidental poisoning and intentional abuse.

4 Steps for Proper Disposal

1. Keep medicine in original container. Mark out personal information on prescription bottles.
2. Mix liquid medicine with undesirable substances like coffee grinds, cat litter, or dirt. Dilute pills with water, then add coffee grinds, cat litter, or dirt.
3. Place bottles in an opaque container, like a yogurt container, and secure lid; or wrap in a dark colored plastic bag.
4. Hide the container in the trash. Do NOT recycle.

Improper disposal in your trash allows others to divert the substance and consume medication that was not prescribed to them. Do not keep excess or expired medication around your home. For more information, contact DEP Solid & Hazardous Waste Program at (609) 633-1418.

**"Easy, fun and reverent ways to celebrate
the coming Advent season, and how doing so
reinforces home as the domestic church.**

**With first in our
Guest Speaker Series
Meredith Gould**



AUTHOR OF
*THE CATHOLIC HOME:
CELEBRATIONS AND TRADITIONS
FOR HOLIDAYS, FEAST DAYS,
AND EVERY DAY*

AND COLUMNIST FOR
FAITH AND FAMILY
AS WELL AS *FAMILY MAGAZINE*

**THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 2008
HERRON HALL, ST. THOMAS SCHOOL**

Home & School Meeting 7:30-8:00pm

Q&A afterwards from 8:00-8:45pm

Book signing (books available for purchase)

***** Free Admission *****

Refreshments available for purchase

Presented by Home & School Assoc. for more info contact

Alicia Schatteman 973-743-3436 or

aschatteman@comcast.net