

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

January 25, 2009 . Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, January 25

Saturday, January 24

5:00 pm Jacqueline Sefjack - Husband

Sunday, January 25

7:30 am Catherine Caputo - Sisters

9:00 am Anna Stevens - Daughter & Family

10:30 am Marie Reitz - Family

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Monday, January 26

7:30 am Rosalind Berry - Bequest

11:30 am Nicholas Derek - Friend

Tuesday, January 27

7:30 am Gloria Guidone - Friend

11:30 am Angelina & Joseph Ferraro - Daughter

Wednesday, January 28

7:30 am Maria Sarakun - Friend

11:30 am Bridget Dorey - Friend

Thursday, January 29

7:30 am Mary Guzzi - Sister-in-law

11:30 pm Louis Berto - Friend

Friday, January 30

7:30 am Dominick Ottino - Nephew

11:30 am John P. & Mary Healy - Family

Saturday, January 31

8:30 am Gina Safonte - Parents

Sunday, February 1

Saturday, January 31

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, February 1

7:30 am Jose Granda - Friend

9:00 am Patrick Russillo - Friends

10:30 am Elizabeth Doyle - Aunt

12:00 pm Sal Nesto, Sr. (5th Anniv.) - Wife & Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Jack Kearney, Franco & Fasone Families

REST IN PEACE:

Fernande Eliano, Lillian E. Sciarra, James R. Garner
Sr. Rose Austina, Sr. Rita Mercedes

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: David & Donald Stefanelli

Convent: Baby George Brickner

St. Thomas the Apostle turns 70!

On January 26th, 1939, The late Archbishop of Newark, Thomas Joseph Walsh, canonically established the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield. Stay tuned to the bulletin for more St. Thomas history throughout the year!

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Proclaim the message
that I tell you.

Last Sunday we heard about God's call: today we learn how to respond.

Lectionary

■ **FIRST READING:** Jonah preaches an unwelcome message to Nineveh: in 40 days the city will be destroyed. The response is immediate and overwhelming. After just one day, the entire city repents, and more, "believed God" (Jonah 3:5). Because of their repentance and change of heart, God, too, "repented" (3:10) and changed his mind. Nineveh is saved.

■ **PSALM 25:** Psalm 25 praises the God who changes his mind, the God of compassion, love, kindness, and goodness.

■ **THE GOSPEL:** This is the year of Mark, but we have only heard from him three times in eight Sundays so far. Today, though, we begin a long stretch of readings from the Gospel according to Mark. This passage marks the beginning of Jesus' active ministry, and it comes immediately following Mark's account of Jesus' baptism and temptation in the desert. Unlike Jonah, Jesus' message is not about destruction; it is about something new. The "time of fulfillment" (Mark 1:15) promised by the prophets has come. God's kingdom is at hand! This is "Gospel" (1:14)-Good News! It is significant that the very first thing Jesus does in proclaiming this message is call others to him-first Simon and Andrew, then James and John. Jesus, who can do all things, could announce the message by himself, but he chooses to call others. Jesus is no Superman; he has no "fortress of solitude." After his temptation in the desert, he immediately gathers a community around him and shares with them not only the message itself, but the privilege-and responsibility-of preaching this message. Simon, Andrew, James, and John respond as readily to the Good News as did the Ninevites to the message of Jonah. They simply drop their nets and follow Jesus. When the call comes, there must be no delay, and no looking back.

■ **THE SECOND READING:** The Second Reading takes us back to Advent in its message: "time is running out" (1 Corinthians 7:29). This reading is not about being indifferent to wives, weeping, rejoicing, and so on. Rather, it is about Christian detachment. All of the things Paul mentions are good things, but they cannot become our all in all. Even our relationships with other people must not absorb all our energies. We must be aware of what is real and permanent and what is merely "passing away" (7:31). A Christian lives with one eye fixed on eternity.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

St. Thomas the Apostle School Community invites you to join us as we celebrate

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OPENING MASS MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 11:30 A.M.


Thanks to our Parish Community for their support, both financial and spiritual. Your commitment to Catholic education is appreciated by all of our students and their families as well as our faculty and staff.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL


50 BYRD AVENUE, BLOOMFIELD, NJ 07003
 Phone: 973.338.8505 Fax: 973.338.9565
 email: www.staoffice@catholic.org
 www.stthomastheapostlenj.com




Believe ~ Achieve

When you enroll your child, we enroll your family.


Full-Day Kindergarten



Middle States Accredited



Advanced Technology Program



Open House*
 for new families looking for the perfect fit for their child

Tuesday, February 3rd
10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m.

- 🔔 Grades Pre-K 3 through 8
- 🔔 Before & After School programs available
- 🔔 Pre K options include full-day and/or half-day sessions
 (Minimum requirement of two sessions per week)

*Does not include registration
Registration begins March 2, 2009

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL SHOPRITE GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

HELP THE STA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION REACH THEIR FUNDRAISING GOALS BY PURCHASING *SHOPRITE* GIFT CARDS.

YOU RECEIVE THE FULL DOLLAR VALUE OF THE CARD AND STA SCHOOL RECEIVES 5% OF YOUR PURCHASE (FROM SHOPRITE).

SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS CAN BE USED . . .

- AT ANY SHOPRITE STORE OR SHOPRITE PHARMACY
- TO PURCHASE OTHER STORE GIFT CARDS SUCH AS DISNEY, KOHL'S, SEARS, HOME DEPOT, BEST BUY, TOYS R US, RED LOBSTER, OLIVE GARDEN, ETC.
- SHOPRITE ALSO SELLS ELECTRONICS INCLUDING TV'S, DVD PLAYERS, GAME CONSOLES, ETC. (SEE THE SHOPRITE CIRCULAR FOR ADVERTISED SPECIALS)

THERE ARE 3 EASY WAYS TO PURCHASE SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS:

- AFTER EVERY MASS (IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH)
- FROM JUDY IN THE PARISH CENTER
- BY CALLING THE STA SCHOOL OFFICE @ 973-338-8505.



EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

St. Thomas the Apostle Home and School will be collecting "Box Tops for Education" and "Labels for Education"

A collection box is located in the back of the Church. A list of the products participating in the program is available at the STA Home and School table which is also located at the back of the Church.

St. Thomas the Apostle School CAREER DAY

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

St. Thomas School will be hosting its annual Career Day in which children in grades 5-8 are treated to a series of demonstrations by professionals of various occupations. Past Career Days have included doctors, artists, chefs, pilots, police officers, firefighters, nurses, teachers, etc.

Career Day begins at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast for all participants and concludes at 12:30 p.m. with a light lunch.

Please share your expertise with our students. If you or someone you know can donate their time for this worthwhile event, please fill out the form below and send it to STA School A.S.A.P. If you have any questions, contact Donna Elsby or Colleen Re at 973-338-8505.

NAME: _____

CAREER: _____

PHONE: _____



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
Invites you to

PASTA NIGHT

Saturday, January 31, 2009
6:00 – 10:00 p.m. in Herron Hall

*Please join us for a Family-Fun Evening of
Fine Food, Italian Music & Dancing!*



**Three Types of Pastas, Meatballs
Antipasto/Salad/Bread
Italian Pastries & Coffee
50/50 Raffle, Door Prizes, Gift Raffle**

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

.....
Checks Payable to St. Thomas the Apostle H&S Assoc.

Family Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Adult Tickets ____ @ \$15/pp Child Tickets ____ @ \$10/pp

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

For further Info, please call Charlene Perrone at
(973) 893-1304. Please Return Form to School Office
Addressed to: Charlene Perrone

Please note seating requests on back of this sheet.

THIS IS AN "ALCOHOL-FREE" EVENT.

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 1/26

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

Tuesday – 1/27

Adult Education - 7:00pm in St. Peter

Thursday – 1/29

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 1/30

Tax Preparation - 10:00am to noon in St. Peter
SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter

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.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

1/25 MEETING REGULAR TIME

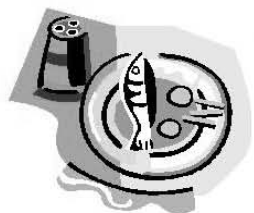
2/1 NO MEETING SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

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

Confirmation Parents Meeting

In the Parish Center after all Masses 2/15 and 2/22.
Confirmation Classes Begin 3/15.

Saint Thomas the Apostle Rosary Confraternity's



Annual Fish & Chips Dinner

catered by

Argyle Restaurant

Friday, March 13th

5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Herron Hall

Adults: \$11 Children*: \$5

*Chicken available for children only

- **Dessert & Beverage Included**
- **Bring Your Own Beer or Wine**
- **Eat In or Take Out**

(please indicate on the reservation form)

**RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY
FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH.**

PLEASE, NO WALK-INS.

Baked goods (cookies/cupcakes/brownies, etc.) are needed for the Dessert Table. Please drop off baked items in Herron Hall on Friday, March 13th, after 2:00 p.m.

Questions, please contact:

Bernadette Lipoma - 973-893-0114

Rosalie Mescall - 973-893-8186

=====

Fish & Chips Reservation Form

(Please return to Parish Center)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Eat In **or** Take Out

(Please check one box only)

of Adult Dinners ____ @ \$11 each

of Child Fish ____ @ \$5 each

of Child Chicken ____ @ \$5 each

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to
STA Rosary Confraternity.)

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FREE FEDERAL AND NJ STATE INCOME TAX PREPARATION FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED MEMBERS OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SERVICE, YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED MEMBER OF ST. THOMAS, AT LEAST 62 YEARS OF AGE OR DISABLED, NOT ACTIVELY EMPLOYED AND REQUIRE NO MORE FORMS AND SCHEDULES THAN THOSE LISTED BELOW.

INCOME TAX RETURNS WILL BE PREPARED BY EXPERIENCED TAX PREPARERS WHO ARE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY, VOLUNTEERING THEIR TIME AND TALENT IN THE SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP.

INCOME TAX RETURNS WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING FORMS AND SCHEDULES:

- FEDERAL FORMS 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ
- FEDERAL SCHEDULES A, B, D, E (RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ONLY), AND R.
- NJ STATE FORMS 1040NJ AND 1040NJHR
- NJ SCHEDULES B, C, AND HR-A

THE TAX PREPARATION PROCESS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL OR MARRIED COUPLE WILL INCLUDE AN INTERVIEW, REVIEW OF YOUR 2007 TAX RETURN AND TURNOVER OF YOUR TAX DOCUMENTS (1099'S). COMPLETED RETURNS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN ABOUT ONE WEEK.

TAX PREPARERS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER EVERY FRIDAY EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2009.

IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT. COME IN TO THE PARISH CENTER TO GET YOUR TAXES DONE OR TO SPEAK TO A TAX PREPARER.

17th Annual Irish Night February 28, 2009

The Holy Name Society of St Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield is holding the seventeenth Annual Irish Night on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 6:30-10:30 PM at the Parish's Herron Hall. Ticket price: \$25 per person. Ticket sale deadline is Saturday Feb. 21. Tickets will not be available at the door. Entertainment will include Irish Dancers from the Peter Smith School of Irish Dancing, Bagpiper Scott Sim, and a sing along led by balladeer Mike Albert and the Parish Priests.

Corned beef and cabbage dinner, Irish soda bread, beer, wine, soft drinks and setups (BYOB) are included. For information, call Rich Bevere at 973-338-6444 or Frank Helmstetter at 973-338-5872.



Are you and your family being squeezed by these tough economic times? The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and New Jersey SHARES programs can help with your energy bill. To find out which of these programs will best meet your needs, call 2-1-1 (all calls are confidential) to learn more and where to apply.

Women's Cornerstone March 20 & 21, 2009

"Be Still and Know That I Am Your God"

Psalm 46

Cornerstone is a 26-hour retreat which provides you with the opportunity to reflect, renew and strengthen your faith while meeting other women in our parish community.

You may share in discussions as much or as little as you choose, or not at all, if that is your preference.

There will be great food, great conversation and an opportunity to meet some great women.

For more information, pick up a brochure at all church entrances or at the parish center.

Registration Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

NAME ON YOUR BADGE: _____

ANY DIET RESTRICTIONS OR ALLERGIES?

Suggested Registration Fee: \$50

Adult Enrichment

----- NEW DATE -----

The workshop entitled, "Finding Work and Managing Your Career in Tough Economic Times" has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 7th. Details about this workshop will be posted closer to its scheduled date.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sun., Feb. 22 at 1PM. Please note we are not meeting in the evening of Feb 4th. Our Ministry is working on two projects. We hope to fill a request for 60 red scarves. (Please call us if you are participating in this project so we can have a count of the scarves to date.) We are also working on baby items for children up to 2 years old. We are again short of prayer shawls. If you have completed one please drop it off at the parish center with Sr. Arleen. If you have any questions or you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, contact the Ministry: 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.*

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

2009 Calendar Sweepstakes

90 Chances to Win!

**TIME IS
RUNNING
OUT!**



**Drawings
begin on
Feb. 2, 2009**

\$10,000 in Cash Prizes!

**Proceeds to benefit the children and
educational programs of
St. Thomas the Apostle School**

**All sold tickets and money are due no later than
January 31, 2009**

**If you need additional raffle tickets or have any questions,
please call Gen Pezzino at (973) 771-0463**

Sponsored by St. Thomas Home & School Association