

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

February 22, 2009 . Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, February 22

Saturday, February 21

5:00 pm Mildred Paul - Family

Sunday, February 22

7:30 am Alphonse Michael Barbieri - Friend

9:00 am Mario Lucciola - Family

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Deceased Members of the
Martucci & Zingaro Families - Family

Monday, February 23

7:30 am Helen McGarry - Bequest

11:30 am Thomas Stile - Wife

Tuesday, February 24

7:30 am Mary DelPrete - Bequest

11:30 am Barbara Spagnoli (3rd Anniv.) - Brother

Wednesday, February 25 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 am Joao Jesus - Friends

11:30 am Gerry Fogarty - Friend

Thursday, February 26

7:30 am Maria Pia Sciara - Friend

11:30 pm Mary & John Walters - Family

Friday, February 27

7:30 am Vincent A. Scaringello - Friend

11:30 am Albert Annucci - Family

Saturday, February 28

8:30 am Raymond Potenzzone - Family

Sunday, March 1

Saturday, February 28

5:00 pm Mary Shelesky - Daughter

Sunday, March 1

7:30 am Alfred Sabella - Family

9:00 am Anthony Meola, Jr. - Family

10:30 am Elizabeth Doyle - Aunt

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Alex Wessel, Carole Szep, Mary Ganning, Joan Richter
Michele Fasone, Paul Strickland, Frank Korec

REST IN PEACE:

Margaret DeMaio, Helen Ryan

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Thomas Guidry

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



Lent is a time of good resolutions and new beginnings, and today's readings will help us to look forward to the season of repentance, which is also a season of hope. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday

February 25, 2009

7:30 a.m. Mass

11:30 a.m. Mass

4:00 p.m. Prayer Service

* 7:30 p.m. Prayer Service



Ashes will be distributed during all Masses and Worship Services on Ash Wednesday.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening throughout Lent beginning March 1, 2009 up until Good Friday, April 10th when the St. Thomas Senior High Youth Group will present the **Living Stations of the Cross.**



* CORRECTED TIME

**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK
2009 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between ages 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those age 14 and over are obliged by the law of abstinence.

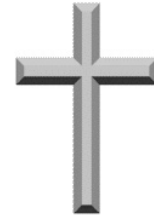
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2009 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, June 7, 2009.**

*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.

From the Pastor's Desk...



Lent: A Sense of Season

The word Lent means springtime. This word comes from the same root as lengthen. Daytime lengthens during Lent. The northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew, the word for repentance is the same as the word that means to turn, like the turning of the earth to the sun, like the turning of the soil before planting.

“Even now, says the Lord, turn to me.” (Joel 2:12) The word sin means separation. We are called to turn from our separate selves, from our sin, to come together in community. Self-denial is the way we express our repentance. In the lengthening brightness from Ash Wednesday until Holy Thursday afternoon, our holy Lent, we turn to God as our source of life.

Self-denial is threefold, advises Matthew’s gospel. We pray: “Go to your room, close your door, and pray to your Father in private.” We fast: “No one must see you are fasting but your Father.” We give alms: “Keep your deeds of mercy secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.” Through the Lenten exercise of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we spring-clean our lives, sharpen our senses, put tomorrow in its place and treasure the day at hand.

Why are there forty days in Lent? It took forty days for sinfulness to drown in the flood before a new creation could inherit the earth. It took forty years for the generation of slaves to die before the freedom could enter the Promised Land. For forty days Moses and Elijah and Jesus fasted and prayed to prepare themselves for a life’s work.

At the beginning of Lent the bishop calls out the names of the catechumens who seek to be baptized at Easter. Their names are written in the book of the elect, the chosen. God has chosen them, and they have chosen to turn to God. Lent is the forty days before the baptism of the catechumens. The already baptized can share the excitement and the struggles of the elect and rediscover the meaning of baptism in their own lives. During the forty days, both catechumens and the faithful journey together to the holy font.

We keep Lent together. We put aside our business-as-usual to support each other in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We turn to God to enlighten us and purify us throughout the lengthening brightness of our holy season of Lent.

“For now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation!”

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Sunday, February 8th, began the 2009 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Those who have not made their pledge as of yet are asked to do so this week.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



Hawaiian Luau

Tricky Tray

Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.
At the Bethwood, Totowa, NJ

Join us for an evening of fun and prizes!



All proceeds to support the children of St. Thomas the Apostle School! \$35 ticket includes admission, dinner which includes salad, main course, dessert and coffee/tea, and a chance to win incredible prizes! Doors open at 6:30 pm

Admission tickets will not be sold at the door!

This event is open to adults (21+). Please fill out form and drop off to the school or parish center with STA Home and School Association/Tricky Tray Ticket Order on the envelope.

If you have any questions regarding ticket reservations, please contact Amy Hoffman at 973-338-9513, sub-committee chair.

I would like # _____ admission tickets @ \$35 each

Total enclosed: \$ _____

(check payable to STA Home and School Association)

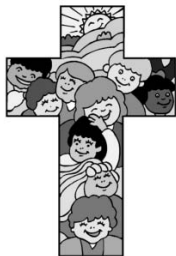
Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Religious Education News

Volunteers are needed to help out at our First Communion Gathering on Saturday, March 7th in Herron Hall. If interested, please call Tracey Rennie at 338-7400.

Reminder to all First Communion Parents to mark their calendars for our Gathering on March 7th, 2009 in Herron Hall.



Confirmation Parents Meeting...

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

Confirmation Service Project

Set-Up & Clean-Up Irish Night, Fish Fry, and Women's & Men's Cornerstone

St. Thomas the Apostle School 2009 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!

FEB		
16	\$75	Sharon Kievit
17	\$50	C. & B. Masullo
18	\$75	Lena Nisivoccia
19	\$250	Nancy Frequenza
20	\$50	Francis X. O'Sullivan, Jr.
21	\$150	Angela Karydes
22	\$75	Deb Korczakowski

CONGRATULATION TO ALL WINNERS!!!

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Sunday, February 22nd President Washington's Birthday

"Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism."

- GEORGE WASHINGTON



"THIS WEEK"

Monday - 2/23

September Club - 11:30am in St. Peter
Eucharistic Adoration - 12:00pm to 7:30pm in Church
Respect Life - 7:30pm in Church
Men's prayer and Bible Study - 7:30pm in St. Matthew

Tuesday - 2/24

Adult Education - 7:00pm in St. Peter

Thursday - 2/26

SCC Thursday - 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday - 2/27

Tax Preparation - 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter
SCC Friday - 7:00pm in St. Peter
Separated, Divorced, Widowed - 8:00pm in St. Thomas

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:

Collection week of Feb. 8: \$19,653
Amount needed per week: \$20,000

Adult Education - Bible Study on Romans

The Bible study on St. Paul's letter to the Romans scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, has been postponed to Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center.

Women's Cornerstone
March 20 & 21, 2009

"Be Still and Know That I Am Your God"

Psalm 46

Women's Cornerstone Retreat is coming next month!

You are invited to enter the silence, be touched by quiet stillness, and become aware of God's presence in ordinary moments.

If you have any questions, please contact one of our team members:

Sr. Arleen Crimmins	973-338-9190		
Alicia von Schaumberg	973-473-6633		
Carol Zieleniewski	973-744-5681		
Karen Cortese	973-787-7485		
Hedi Kovacs	973-338-0722	Millette Padilla	973-338-9414
Marty Levine	973-566-0416	Priscilla Trias	973-338-4402
Gerry Neville	973-661-3453	Ellen White	973-338-8308

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

2/22 LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- 3/ 1 BE THE EIGHT!
- 3/ 8 MATT MAHER CONCERT MIDLAND PARK
- 3/11 STATIONS PRACTICE BEGINS
- 3/27 COTILLION

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

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary

Alliance of the Two Hearts

Communion of Reparation Vigil

First Friday – First Saturday

March 6-7, 2009 (7:30 p.m. – 3:30 a.m.)



Lent is a time of penance throughout the universal church. At this holiest season of the church year, let us truly prepare ourselves.



Come, let us adore the Great Healer, our Lord, Jesus Christ and give honor to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Vigil begins at 7:30 p.m. with Stations of the Cross followed by the Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Mass for the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be at Midnight.

Join us as we intercede for our world, our parish, our families, friends and one another. Come to whatever part you can. There will be a break during the evening for refreshments in the Parish Center. For further information, please contact the St. Thomas the Apostle Friday Prayer Group at 973-338-1821 or 973-202-8431

**17th Annual Irish Night
February 28, 2009**

The Holy Name Society of St Thomas the Apostle is holding its

**17th Annual Irish Night on Saturday, Feb. 28
from 6:30-10:30PM in Herron Hall.**

Ticket price: \$25 per person.

Ticket sale deadline is Sat., 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.



THIS JUST IN!

Scott Sim, parishioner at St. Thomas the Apostle, has been elected to be Grand Marshall at the St. Patrick's Day parade in Nutley on March 7th @ 1pm on Franklin Ave.

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

ELIGIBILITY:

- 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...
 - ✓ 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

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.

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. NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.



Please remember in your prayers our RCIA candidates who are preparing for reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. Cindy Hill, Anthony Collins, Emily Evangelista, Paige Issac, Elsa Latheef.

Employment Workshop
Finding Work & Managing Your Career
in Tough Economic Times

Please join us on Sat., March 7th from 9 a.m. to noon in the Parish Center to learn the best ways to find work in today's job market, and learn what you should be doing to sustain your career, even while you are working. Topics include: resumes; proactive job-hunting; networking; etc. The event is led by Julie V. Burkey, MAPM, director of the Center for Workplace Spirituality at Seton Hall University. Light refreshments served. Cost is \$10.00 per person payable at the door. To register call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.

Loyola Retreat House
161 James St Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 539-0760

WEEKEND RETREAT for Men and Women
Healing – Wholeness - Wellness
Body, Mind & Spirit
Thurs., March 12th to Sun., March 15th
Presenters: Anna Graziano, cSD
Fr. Bill Rakowicz S.J.

"May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of Our Lord, Jesus Christ."

1 Thess 5:23

~ ~ *September Club News* ~ ~

St. Thomas the Apostle September Club cordially invites all seniors (55 or over) to attend the March 9th meeting.

Find out about activities scheduled for spring - informative talks, parties, day trips, overnights, etc.

Refreshments will be served.

For information, call Grace Seber at 973-338-6018.

Old and new members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry please join us at our next meeting, Sunday Feb., 22 at 1pm at the parish center.

All are welcome to work and pray with us. If you have any questions or you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact the ministry, Bernadette 973-893-0114 Alicia 973-473-6633, Sister Arleen 973-338-9190

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

Belleville Knights of Columbus Council #835

The 8th Annual Tricky Tray, March 28th in St. Peter's School gym, 152 William St., Belleville. Tickets are \$15 per person which includes coffee, tea, assorted desserts and 1 sheet of tickets. Doors open 6pm. For tickets call Joe 862-220-1160 or 973-759-9656.

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

RESERVATIONS DUE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH

PLEASE, NO WALK-INS.

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: \$ _____

BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS

Bloomfield Nursing Division is offering the following events.

Appointments required, please call 973-680-4058.

PAP SMEAR & MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING
TUES., MARCH 24 & TUES., MAY 19, 9AM-12NOON
FREE TO UNINSURED WOMEN AGE 40 AND OVER.

BLOOD CHEMISTRY & PSA BLOOD TYPE

SAT., MARCH 14, 8AM-10AM

BLOOD CHEMISTRY - \$25

PSA - \$35

BLOOD TYPE - \$15

BONE DENSITY SCREENING

FOR WOMEN AND MEN

TUES., MARCH 31, 10AM-12NOON

BONE DENSITY - \$10 (\$8 FOR THOSE OVER AGE 55)

Fr. Peter Funesti and the
Church of the Nativity Welcome
Matt Maher March 8, 2009

For an evening of Music & Ministry
Matt will be present at all Sunday Masses and
perform a live concert Sunday Evening at 7pm in
Church. All are Welcome

Tickets \$15 available through Tim Dennin or at the door.

Pastor Fr. Peter Funesti Church of the Nativity 315 Prospect St. Midland Park, NJ 07432 (201) 444-6362