

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

March 1, 2009 . First Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Week

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

Monday, March 2

7:30 am Judith Giostra - Friend

11:30 am Ed Post - Wife

Tuesday, March 3

7:30 am Adele Kovacs - Friends

11:30 am Marianne Stetz - Aunt

Wednesday, March 4

7:30 am Vincent Ricigliano - Sister

11:30 am Collins Family - Family

Thursday, March 5

7:30 am Alice Tomaselli (1st Anniv.) - Cousin

11:30 pm Andrew G. Yanicak (1st Anniv.) - Sister-in-law

Friday, March 6

7:30 am Joseph Pietrowski - Daughter

11:30 am Catherine King - Son

Saturday, March 7

8:30 am Armand & Tomasina Talamanco - Family

Sunday, March 8

Saturday, March 7

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, March 8

7:30 am Jose Granda - Friends

9:00 am Anthony Fabbo - Wife

10:30 am Lawrence Nisivoccia - Sister

12:00 pm Sister Marie Dolores Moore - Cousin

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Alex Wessel, Carole Szep, Mary Ganning, Joan Richter
Harry Shaw, Doris Ross, Paul Strickland, Frank Korec
Fasone & Franco Families, Rosaria Gallo

REST IN PEACE:

Eleanor Gonnella

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Deceased Members of the Amato Family



Spring Ahead One Hour! Daylight savings time resumes next Sunday, March 8th at 2 a.m. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour at bedtime prior to the change.

First Sunday of Lent



No matter which year we are in, on the First Sunday of Lent we hear about the temptation of Jesus. In the sacrifices we make during Lent, we acknowledge that we are tempted, and we are confident that God will give us the strength we need to resist. Just as angels ministered to Jesus in the desert, so in the desert of temptation God will come to us when we call upon him.

Numbers matter in the scriptures, and the number 40 has great resonance. For 40 days and nights water covered the earth during the flood; Moses spent 40 days on the mountain of Sinai, talking to God; for 40 years the chosen people wandered in the desert; for 40 days Jesus was tempted in the desert; and 40 days passed between the Resurrection of Christ and his Ascension into heaven. Our Forty Days of Lent, therefore, have many layers of meaning. We see two of those layers in today's readings.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening throughout Lent beginning March 6, 2009 up until Good Friday, April 10th when the St. Thomas Senior High Youth Group will present the ***Living Stations of the Cross.***



**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 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.*

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

**The 2009
Archbishop's Annual Appeal continues.
Those who have not made their pledge as of yet
are asked to do so this week.**

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 last week: \$19,653
Amount needed per week: \$20,000

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: _____

Email: _____

Please advise who you'd like to sit with

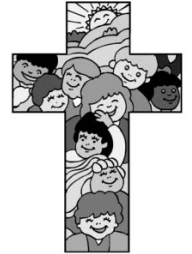
St. Thomas the Apostle School 2009 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!

FEB		
23	\$50	Josephine Martinelli
24	\$150	Joanne Potenzone
25	\$200	Kathleen Dragos
26	\$50	Nancy Ross
27	\$75	Dana Pezzino
28	\$50	The Kehoe Family
MARCH		
1	\$100	John J. Beard

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 Service Project
Set-Up & Clean-Up Irish Night, Fish Fry, and
Women's & Men's Cornerstone
Confirmation Classes Begin 3/15

*We welcome into our Community of Faith
With our prayers and good wishes,
Our newly Baptized...*



- Richard Armand Teran**
Alexander Daniel Teran and
Ashley Karim Teran
Parents: Karim (Hernandez) & Richard Teran
- Gianna Nicole Buckley**
Parents: Diana (Muratschew) & Gerald Patrick Buckley
- Sofia Anne Nole**
Parents: Debra (Shockey) & Anthony Nole
- Heather Grace McIntyre**
Parents: Jennifer L. (Milash) & Michael D. McIntyre
- Kayla Nicole Polifonte**
Parents: Lori (Grabowski) & Pantaleone Polifonte
- Ryan Thomas Sivori**
Parents: Laura (Scurman) & Andrew Sivori
- Emily Regina Sosa**
Parents: Madalene E. (Adams) & Michael Sosa
- Alyssandra Marie Ucol**
Parents: Mary J. (Aala) & Carlo H. Ucol

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

“THIS WEEK”

Monday – 3/2

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

Tuesday – 3/3

Adult Education – 7:30pm in St. Peter

Thursday – 3/5

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 3/6

Tax Preparation – 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter
SCC Friday – 7:00pm in St. Peter
Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm in Church

Adult Education

Bible Study on Romans

Come join us for a study of St. Paul’s letter to the Romans on Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center. For more information call Bob Miller at 973.338.9190 x29.

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 Jesus Christ and give honor to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. 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.

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 Friday Prayer Group at 973-338-1821 or 973-202-8431



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.

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

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

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 10AM TO 12 NOON.

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.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH, 9:00 A.M. - 12 NOON

Topics of discussion will include:

- Resumes: what type is best for you?
- Proactive job-hunting: what really works?
- Networking: the #1 way to find work!
- What you should be doing to manage your career while employed
- Reinvigorating a long job-search
- Points for mature job-seekers

Please join 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. All discussion are confidential.

The event is led by **Julie V. Burkey, MAPM**, Director of the Center for Workplace Spirituality at Seton Hall University where she is also an adjunct professor. Julie has led numerous workshops on issues of employment; previously, she spent many years in her own business as an executive search consultant to major industrial companies.

Light refreshments will be 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.

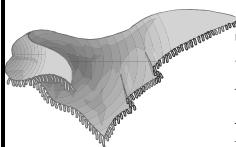
Find out about activities scheduled for spring - informative talks, parties, day trips, overnights, etc.

Refreshments will be served.

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

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

A big thank you to our youth group and the ladies of our Ministry for again making the St. Valentines Day project of cookies and scarves for Broadway House a big success.



Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 22nd at 1PM. Those who wish to learn to crochet, please bring a skein of wool and a crochet hook size J, L or N

Our project to make baby items suitable for children up to 2 years old is very successful. Keep them coming. 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 Sister Arleen 973-338-9190
Alicia 973-473-6633

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

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

Make checks payable to STA Rosary Confraternity

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: \$ _____



The Rosary Confraternity

A reminder our monthly meeting will take place on Mon. March 2nd at 7pm in St. Peter's room at the Parish Center.

Please join us to pray the Rosary.

All are welcome.

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.

BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS

Bloomfield Nursing Division is offering the following. 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)

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE
OPEN TO ALL NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS

Have you lost your health insurance, lack prescription drug coverage or in the Medicare benefit gap period? The Partnership for Prescription Assistance maybe able to help you. The Partnership brings together America=s pharmaceu-tical companies, doctors, other health providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get the medicines they need through the public or private program that=s right for them. Many will get them free or nearly free. Through this site, the Partnership for Prescription Assis-tance offers a single point of access to more than 275 public or private patient assistance programs, including more than 150 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies.

Access the Partnership for Prescription Assistance by phone toll-free at 1-888- 4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669).

Archdiocese of Newark Anniversary Masses

It is an annual tradition to honor the couples in the Archdiocese who are celebrating five, twenty-five, fifty or more years of marriage. These liturgies are celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

- Sun., March 25 - 50 years (Essex & Union Counties)
- Sun., April 15 – 50 years (Bergen & Hudson Counties)

All Masses will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m.

To register, call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190

*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

Thanks from the heart!

A Grateful Heart –

*Two kinds of gratitude,
the sudden kind we feel for what we take,
and the larger kind we feel for what we give.*

- Robert H. Schuller

On behalf of our parishioners here at St. Rose of Lima, I would like to express our most sincere appreciation for the Christmas gifts that you and your parish families gathered to assure that our families here in need would have a joyous and festive holiday.

Please let the parishioners know that you were all remembered with a special prayer at Christmas. Your kind-heartedness and compassion exemplifies what the holiday season is all about.

We are most grateful for your support, enthusiasm and dedication.

May God bless you always.

Sincerely,
Madge Wilson

St. Rose of Lima Outreach Services, Newark, NJ

Thank you so much for your generosity! Again we were inspired by the number of people who so generously donated new clothing, toys, food and monetary gifts at Christmas time. You made it possible for many to enjoy a wonderful holiday! Because of you kindness, many people had warm clothing, hot meals and gifts for their children. In the true spirit of Christmas, you shared with those in need!

May this New Year bring you many blessings!

Sister Jacinta Fernandez and Staff

St. Joseph Social Service Center, Elizabeth, NJ

Mary Pat Bogart, a long time member of our parish community, has been selected to be a Deputy Marshal in the W. Orange St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held Sun., March 15th on Main St. in W. Orange at 12:15 p.m. Parade begins with Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1 Eagle Rock Ave. at 9:30 a.m. Mary Pat invites you to Mass and to cheer on the parade.