

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 8, 2009 . Second Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Week

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

Monday, March 9

7:30 am Elizabeth Treichler - Friend

11:30 am Mary & John Walters - Family

Tuesday, March 10

7:30 am Mary Montesano - Daughter

11:30 am Lucy & Sal Cerbone - Family

Wednesday, March 11

7:30 am Robert Bey - Mother

11:30 am Rose McGarry - Bequest

Thursday, March 12

7:30 am James Kamphausen - Family

11:30 pm Joseph Ciuba - Friend

Friday, March 13

7:30 am Thomas J. Owens - Bequest

11:30 am Edward Taylor - Aunt

Saturday, March 14

8:30 am Dolores Schauer - Friend

Sunday, March 15

Saturday, March 14

5:00 pm Amy M. Poster - Mother

Sunday, March 15

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Aldo & Iris Arrigoni - Friend

10:30 am In Thanksgiving - Mother

12:00 pm Paul W. McDonald - Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Alex Wessel, Harry Shaw, Doris Ross, Paul Strickland, Frank Korec, Fasone & Franco Families, Rosaria Gallo

REST IN PEACE:

Norma Lospaluto, John Patrick Murphy

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Angelina Catalano

Second Sunday of Lent



On the Second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear about the Transfiguration of the Lord. We join Peter, James, and John, the chosen three who witnessed the Transfiguration, because we, like them, need to draw strength for our Lenten journey from this vision of Christ in glory. The cross is coming; but the cross is not an end in itself. Suffering will give way to glory.

In the Gospel according to Mark, the Transfiguration comes immediately after Peter's confession at Caesarea Philippi and Jesus' first prediction of the Passion. Peter had reacted strongly to Jesus' words, taking Jesus aside and rebuking him (see Mark 8:32). Jesus had reacted equally strongly to Peter's rejection: "Get behind me, Satan" (8:33)! From the first moment when Jesus mentions the cross, it is a source of scandal for his disciples.

That is the context for today's reading. We know something wonderful is going to happen from the first lines of the Gospel, since, in scripture, only good things happen on a "high mountain" (9:2), the place where prophets encounter God. The vision of Christ in glory is so wonderful that Peter wants to remain there forever. The voice of God comes from a cloud, urging them to listen to Jesus. Jesus is the "beloved son" (Genesis 22:12) of Abraham. The Passion is the only way to the glory they have seen.

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.*

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Drop in to the Parish Center after the 9 and 10:30 a.m. Masses next week for a little coffee and conversation and some special treats. Our Pastoral Council will be the host, so it is also an opportunity to speak to and to thank these important advisors to our pastor.



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 week's collection: \$19,777
Amount needed per week: \$20,000

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

This is it!! Last Chance!!



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!

Proceeds to support the STA children! \$35 ticket includes admission, dinner (salad, main course, dessert, coffee/ tea), and a chance to win prizes! Doors open 6:30 pm

Admission tickets will not be sold at the door!

This event is open to adults (21+). 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 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!**

MARCH

2	\$75	C. Tomaiko
3	\$50	Sheila Rossi
4	\$75	James Santangelo
5	\$50	Javier Muñoz
6	\$75	Kelly Bogad
7	\$200	Paul M. Candido
8	\$50	Maureen Ferrari

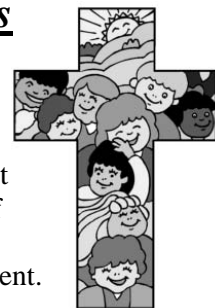
Confirmation Service Project
 Set-Up & Clean-Up Fish Fry, and
 Women's & Men's Cornerstone

Confirmation Classes Begin 3/15

Religious Education News

This weekend we will have First Communicants at all of the masses handing out their handprints.

We ask each family to take a handprint and pray for that child as well as all of the other children who are working so hard to prepare for this special sacrament.



A special reminder that this year we will also celebrate First Holy Communion with our special needs class. These children, their families, and their teachers have been working so hard to get ready for their big day. The children are going to church each week with their families and trying to sit patiently and peacefully through the entire mass – we ask that our fellow parishioners pray for these beautiful children and give them a smile and encouragement – because this is not easy.

Saturday, March 7 was the First Communion Gathering. This was a special day of prayer, reflection, and fun for the families of children preparing for First Communion. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave so freely of their Saturday to spend time with our children – John Colby, Frank Karkut, Gerrie Michalek, Kim Baldasare, Cecelia Volkert, Janice Mandra, and Maria De Rosa. A special thank you, also, to all the Confirmation Candidates who helped make this day a big success.

CCD classes will be going to penance on Monday March 9 and Tuesday March 10 (grades 3 and 4 only). Please make sure your children are on time to class.

Summer CCD is closed – we will not accept any additional registration forms. We are in need of a teacher for Grade 5 – if interested please call the Religious Education office at 338-7400.

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 3/9

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

Thursday – 3/12

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 3/13

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
Separated, Divorced & Widowed - 8:00pm in St. Thomas

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:

3/8 NO MEETING TONIGHT
3/11 STATIONS PRACTICE BEGINS
3/15 CARROTS?
3/22 GUEST SPEAKER
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 10 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.

Women's Cornerstone

March 20 & 21, 2009

"Be Still and Know That I Am Your God"

The women of the Cornerstone Team, ask you to join us for 26 little hours to see what a difference a day makes, a day that is based in spiritual reflection, in healing, and in renewing our relationship with God. Be comforted by great food and greater company. You're invited to join us as we pray for the strength, wisdom, and courage to keep on "doing." But first, together, ponder the words of Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am your God."

Information and registration brochures can be found in the parish center and at all exits at church.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

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



The Rosary Confraternity

A reminder our monthly meeting will take place on Mon. March 23rd at 7pm in St. Peter's room at the Parish Center. Please join us to pray the Rosary.

~ ~ 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.

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~

The September Club welcomes you to a bus ride on April 15th to **Renault Winery** with lunch and wine tasting and then on to **Atlantic City** for more fun. For more information please call Jean 973-777-2278.



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

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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.)

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 Lenten Sacrifice

You'll Feel Guilty Over

Hey, Guys, remember when you were a kid and tried to give up something like Brussels sprouts for Lent? Somebody always told on you. But this Lent, here's your chance to pull that off:

Men's Cornerstone.

Give up 26 hours – Friday night through Saturday – on March 27 and 28, and you'll find you're ahead on the deal. Sure, you'll go with the intention of examining your faith and improving your relationship with God – and you'll do all that. But you will also meet friends you never knew you had and swap stories with them. You'll have a good time.

No need to give up beer or watching CSI this Lent. Your sacrifice is Men's Cornerstone. We won't tell on you. But you must hurry! 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.*

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



LOST AND FOUND BOXES ARE LOCATED IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AS WELL AS IN THE PARISH CENTER. THERE ARE READING GLASSES, KEYS, GLOVES ETC. PLEASE STOP IN TO SEE IF ANYTHING MAY BELONG TO YOU.

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, 9:00 A.M.-12NOON
FREE TO UNINSURED WOMEN AGE 40 AND OVER.

BLOOD CHEMISTRY & PSA BLOOD TYPE

SAT., MARCH 14, 8:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.
BLOOD CHEMISTRY - \$25
PSA - \$35
BLOOD TYPE - \$15

BONE DENSITY SCREENING

FOR WOMEN AND MEN
TUES., MARCH 31, 10:00 A.M. - 12 NOON
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 pharmaceutical 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 Assistance 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).

**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



Queen of Peace High School Theater Presents:



**Fri, April 24
Sat, April 25
Fri, May 1
Sat. May 2**

Professional Orchestra and Costumes
at

Queen of Peace High School
191 Rutherford Place, North Arlington, NJ

Tickets \$10 - Curtain 8:00 p.m.

For tickets, call 201-998-8227 x39

Order forms and playbill ad forms
available at www.qphs.org

**ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
Apply now through April 30th**



**Low income Home Energy Assistance Program
(LIHEAP)
1-800-510-3102**

LIHEAP is now taking applications to help you pay your winter bills. You must apply every year. To qualify, you must meet the following income guidelines:

Number in Household*	Monthly Gross Income
1	\$1,950
2	\$2,625
3	\$3,300
4	\$3,975

*Visit www.pseg.com/liheap for households of more than 4

LIHEAP income limits have increased, so people who previously did not qualify may now qualify!

More money is available, so more households can benefit from LIHEAP this heating season.

**HE WAS LASHED -
and we were healed!**