

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

April 5, 2009 . Palm Sunday

Masses for the Week

Sunday, April 5

Saturday, April 4

5:00 pm Sal Nesto, Sr. - Wife & Family

Sunday, April 5

7:30 am Thomas DeLorenzo - Daughters

9:00 am Patrick G. Russillo - Friend

10:30 am Thomas F. Wardell (32nd Anniv.) - Daughter

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Monday, April 6

7:30 am Evo Marchetti - Family

11:30 am Eleanor Common - Friend

Tuesday, April 7

7:30 am Joseph Sedlak - Bequest

11:30 am Richard Farrell - Wife

Wednesday, April 8

7:30 am Arthur Udasin - Family

11:30 am Lucia David - Family

Thursday, April 9 **HOLY THURSDAY No Morning Mass**

7:30 pm Peter Rohan, Jr.

Maxine Pilla

George Stoeckel, Sr.

Friday, April 10 **GOOD FRIDAY No Masses**

Saturday, April 11

8:30 am Claire McCarron - Daughter

Sunday, April 12

Saturday, April 11 **HOLY SATURDAY No Masses**

8:15 pm *Easter Vigil*

Veronica Kievit - Husband

Josephine & Philip Coyle - Son

John Frade - Friend

Sunday, April 12 **EASTER SUNDAY**

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Joseph Bianchi and Ernest & Philomena

Cordasco - Family

10:30 am Antonio Mangialavori - Daughter

12:00 pm Nicola Baccala - Friend

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Michael Giuliano, Doris Ross, Harry Shaw, Pam Walsh,
Alex Wessell, Joan Richter, John Walters

REST IN PEACE:

David Townsend, Joseph Mario Belcaro

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Thomas, Lena & Catherine Caputo

Rectory: Joyce Sanchez

Convent: Mildred Ferrara



2009

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

April 6, 7, 8, 2009

Masses at 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Monday, April 6, 8:00 p.m.

Chrim Mass at Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. All are welcome.

*** Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service**

(The Office of Tenebrae is characterized by successive extinguishing of candles. Every word is taken from Scripture.)



Holy Thursday

April 9, 2009

No morning Mass. No morning prayer.

7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

(followed by bread & wine and fellowship in the parish center)

11:00 p.m. Night Prayer (Church closed after this service)

Good Friday

April 10, 2009

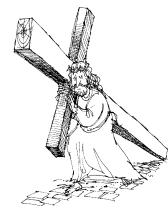
(No Masses; Church will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Passion & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ with Holy Communion.

7:30 p.m. Living Stations of the Cross

Presented by St. Thomas Sr. Youth Group



Holy Saturday

April 11, 2009

(No morning Mass; **No 5:00 p.m. Mass**)

8:30 a.m. morning prayer

8:15 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass

(Satisfies Easter Sunday Obligation)

EASTER SUNDAY

April 12, 2009

Masses in Church at

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

Thank you for using a Church envelope for your gift to your Church at Easter.



* NOTE TIME CORRECTION

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

PALM SUNDAY

The fourth-century pilgrim Egeria provides a vivid early account of a Palm Sunday celebration in Jerusalem:



THAT PARTICULAR PASSAGE FROM SCRIPTURE IS READ IN WHICH THE CHILDREN BEARING PALMS AND BRANCHES CAME FORTH TO MEET THE LORD, SAYING: *BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.* THE BISHOP AND ALL THE PEOPLE RISE IMMEDIATELY, AND

THEN EVERYONE WALKS DOWN FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, WITH THE PEOPLE PRECEDING THE BISHOP AND RESPONDING CONTINUALLY WITH *BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD* TO THE HYMNS AND ANTIPHONS. ALL THE CHILDREN WHO ARE PRESENT HERE, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE NOT YET ABLE TO WALK BECAUSE THEY ARE TOO YOUNG AND THEREFORE ARE CARRIED ON THEIR PARENTS' SHOULDERS, ALL OF THEM BEAR BRANCHES, SOME CARRYING PALMS, OTHERS, OLIVE BRANCHES... FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN AS FAR AS THE CITY, AND FROM THERE THROUGH THE ENTIRE CITY, EVERYONE ACCOMPANIES THE BISHOP THE WHOLE WAY ON FOOT, AND THIS INCLUDES DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND MEN OF CONSEQUENCE, RECITING THE RESPONSES ALL THE WHILE. (*EGERIA: DIARY OF A PILGRIMAGE, 104-105*)

In Rome, meanwhile, the Sixth Sunday of Lent had its own, quite different character. Passion Sunday, not Palm Sunday, was marked by the reading of the Passion according to Matthew and the giving of the creed to the catechumens. It wasn't until the ninth century-doubtless under the influence of pilgrims like Egeria-that the procession with psalms made its way from Jerusalem to the Church in the West (Rome). As often happens in the liturgy, the new element was simply added onto the existing rites. The name that we now give to this solemnity, "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion" acknowledges the dual nature of the celebration. Palm Sunday, as we celebrate it today, is full of liturgical "whiplash": juxtaposition of contrasting moods we will feel over and over again during Holy 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, our contribution from last weekend is compared below to the amount we need this week to meet our budget. You may have noticed this amount will vary. This is because our budget varies by season, just as yours does.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: \$20,875
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: \$22,000

If you donate through our Electronic Giving Program: Please note that if you are considering making a special gift to St. Thomas for Easter, the automatic withdrawal on that weekend will only be for your regular weekly amount. Anything you wish to contribute over and above that will have to be made by cash or check in an Easter envelope. We apologize for any inconvenience.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

St. Thomas the Apostle School 2009 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!

MARCH

30 \$50 Mary F. Russo
31 \$75 Eileen Colby

APRIL

1 \$50 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Perez
2 \$75 Miss Zoe DeVito
3 \$50 McHugh Family
4 \$100 Linda DeFrances
5 \$50 Mr. Matthew J. Schatteman

IMPORTANT DATES

FIRST EUCHARIST PRACTICES

Every child making First Holy Communion **MUST** attend practice. All practices for children receiving First Eucharist are from 3:45-5:00PM in the church as scheduled below:

| COMMUNION DATE: | PRACTICE DATE: |
|---------------------|----------------|
| April 25 5:00 Mass | April 20 |
| April 26 9:00 Mass | April 20 |
| April 26 10:30 Mass | April 22 |
| April 26 12:00 Mass | April 23 |
| May 2 8:30 Mass | April 28 |
| May 2 5:00 Mass | April 27 |
| May 3 9:00 Mass | April 27 |
| May 3 10:30 Mass | April 29 |
| May 3 12:00 Mass | April 30 |

All Banners due on the day of your child's practice

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

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.

Volunteers Wanted

The Wellness Ministry is looking for volunteers to occasionally run an errand or drive a parishioner to the store or doctor's appointment. The commitment is small. The reward is great. If you are interested, please call the parish center and leave your name and number on the Wellness line at extension 20.

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

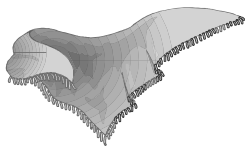
"THIS WEEK"

HOLY WEEK

A.K.A. QUIET WEEK

There are no events being held in the parish center. Please refer to the Holy Week schedule for services.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

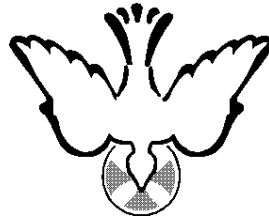


Our next meetings are scheduled for Wednesday evenings May 6th and June 3rd from 7 PM to 9 PM and Sunday afternoon, April 19th, May 17th and July 19th from 1PM. to 3 PM We wish to thank

all of our members who have continually supported us by prayerfully using their talent. Our project to make baby items suitable for children up to 2 years old is very successful. We now have some lovely laps and shawls. Keep them coming. If you wish to give someone a shawl, please contact the Ministry. All are welcome to work and pray with us. If you have any questions call 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

Sixth Annual Faith and Family Conference



St. Thomas the Apostle will hold its sixth annual Faith and Family Conference on Saturday, May 2, in the Parish Center from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This year's theme is ***The Mission of Marriage: Heaven on Earth.***

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Bill Donaghy. Bill has done missionary work in Haiti, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic, as well as parish and young adult ministry in the United States. He has a Masters in Systematic Theology and teaches at Malvern Prep in Philadelphia and is an adjunct professor at Immaculata University. For more information about Bill and his work go to his website www.missionmoment.org.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

- 4/ 5 PALM SUNDAY STATIONS DRESS REHEARSAL
- 4/10 GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS 7:30PM
- 4/12 EASTER SUNDAY - NO MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 4/19 SENIOR NIGHT I
- 4/26 SENIOR NIGHT II
- 5/ 3 SENIOR NIGHT III

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

~ ~ 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.

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.

- May 31 50 Anniv. (Essex & Union Counties)
- June 7 50 Anniv. (Bergen & Hudson Counties)
- June 14 25th and 5th Anniversaries (All 4 Counties)

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

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

You are invited

Cornerstone Women Mark your Calendars!

An invitation goes out to all who have taken part in the Women's Cornerstone retreats in the past,

- Cornerstone I "Windows of Hope"
- Cornerstone II "Imagine"
- Cornerstone III "Journey Together"
- Cornerstone IV "Be Still and know that I am your God"

We are having a wine and cheese gathering Friday evening, May 15th in Herron Hall at St. Thomas the Apostle School. More information will follow.

Women and Heart Disease

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for all women in NJ and our country. In fact, more women than men die of heart disease. The good news is that 80% of heart disease can be prevented if women know their risks and take steps to reduce these risks.

The Wellness Ministry and the St. Thomas Home and School Assoc. invite all women, but especially pre-menopausal women in their 30's, 40's and 50's to attend.

Women and Heart Disease presented by
St. Joseph's Women's Heart Center
April 23, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at
STA School in Herron Hall

BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS

Bloomfield Nursing Division is offering the following. Appointments required, please call 973-680-4058.

PAP SMEAR & MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING

TUES., MAY 19, 9:00 A.M.-12 NOON
FREE TO UNINSURED WOMEN AGE 40 AND OVER.

BONE DENSITY SCREENING

FOR WOMEN AND MEN
TUESDAYS, APRIL 28, MAY 26, JUNE 30
10:00 A.M. - 12 NOON
BONE DENSITY - \$10 (\$8 FOR THOSE OVER AGE 55)

SKIN CANCER SCREENING

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 12 NOON - 2:00 P.M.
Free confidential skin cancer exam
for those without a dermatologist.

BODY FAT/ BODY MASS INDEX SCREENING

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 10:00 A.M. - 12 NOON
Learn your body fat percentage & BMI score
NO CHARGE / NO REGISTRATION

GET THE TRUE MEANING OF LENT

FEEL WHAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN LIKE TO
WITNESS AND EXPERIENCE CHRIST'S LIFE
EXTINGUISHED BEFORE YOU.

**Tenebrae service will be celebrated
at St. Thomas the Apostle Church
on Tuesday, April 7th at *7:30 p.m.**

What is a Tenebrae Service?

The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows and dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. There are candles lit and a Christ Candle. As we pray, our voices rise to God like incense and the candles are extinguished one at a time until all that is left is the Christ Candle. The Christ Candle is then hidden for a time, thought not extinguished, to signify that death could not really obtain dominion over Christ even though it appeared to do so. The congregation is left in near total darkness—and near total devastation. At this point, the service ends. There is no benediction and the people leave in silence. (The lights are turned up but remain dim so that people can see their way out.)

The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. Everyone exits in silence.

All are welcome.

*Please note time has been corrected.

THE GIFT OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

A Spiritual Director Helps You:

- grow in intimacy with God
- when struggling with your faith, God, the Church
- express life's struggles, pains, joys, and gratitude to God
- notice God's response and desire to you deeper into God's heart
- face and work through decisions, transitions and challenges
- bring those secrets often held in our heart to healing
- through the pain of abortion issues, grieving, sadness, confusion
- Spiritual Direction can help another in finding other ways to pray when prayer has become difficult or dry.

Spiritual Direction affirms God's unconditional love and acceptance of all people regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status.

Call: Anna Graziano, cSD (973) 338-9538
All calls and appointments confidential



LACORDAIRE ACADEMY

Spring Cleaning?

**Donate Used Books for a Great Cause
- Educating Young People!**

Lacordaire Academy is accepting donations of gently-used hardcover, paperback and audio books for its annual book sale to benefit technology upgrades at the Academy. *It's So Easy!* Think of us during spring cleaning and drop off your books any time under the covered porch at the front door of the high school—155 Lorraine Ave., Upper Montclair. Lacordaire's Annual Used Book Sale will take place Thursday-Sunday, May 14-17, 2009. For more information, contact Teresa at LacoBookSale@msn.com.



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

GETTING THE PIECES RIGHT

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being pestered by his daughter. To keep her busy, he tore a sheet out of the magazine that had a picture of the world printed on it. He tore the picture into small pieces and said, "Here, go into the other room and put this picture of the world back together again."

A few minutes passed and the daughter returns to the room handing him the picture correctly fitted together. The father was surprised and asked how she fit all those little pieces of the world back together again so quickly.

"Oh..." she said. "On the other side of the paper was a picture of Jesus and once I got Jesus in the right place, then the world just turned out right."



Right to Life

For all who are tempted to sin against life, that they might turn from darkness and embrace the infinite love and light of God;

We pray to the Lord

Prayer for Life

Through the workings of the Spirit, Father, we turn to You to ask You to open our minds through wisdom, our hearts through love, to better understand to support all those whose lives are affected by misunderstanding of the sacredness of life.

May we see in them an extension of Your love for all peoples of the world. Bless our efforts on their behalf. Give us the grace to persevere in the face of opposition, discouragement, and apathy, so that one day soon all will be saved to experience and to share the beauty, the goodness, and the happiness of Your great gift of life.

Amen



Moving?

Please let us know.

Within the parish –
to update new address
Out of parish –
to discontinue mailings

Please call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.

Did you know?

REGISTRATION FOR

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

If you are presently not on our mailing list, receiving envelopes and the various parish mailings, the chances are that you are not a registered member of our parish. You are not automatically a registered member because you were married here or even if you were brought up here and lived in the parish with your parents—or went to school here. Membership is by formal registration only. Just call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190 and let us know that you wish to register and the registration form will be mailed to you. Thank you.