

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

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Philip A. Sanders, S.T.B. • Rev. Andrew N. Onyemaobi, M.Div., M.A.
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 & 7:30pm

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:
Eileen Conte, Chairperson
Jean Barbetta, Vice Chairperson
Mark Pasquale, 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

June 28, 2009 . 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, June 28

Saturday, June 27

5:00 pm Frank Lee, Jr. - Family

Sunday, June 28

7:30 am For the people of the Parish

9:00 am Glenn J. Stickles - Friend

10:30 am Rose Nisivocchia

12:00 pm Edward L. Post, Jr. - Brother

Monday, June 29

7:30 am Deceased Parishioners of Saint Thomas

11:30 am Deceased Parishioners of Saint Thomas

Tuesday, June 30

7:30 am Deceased Parishioners of Saint Thomas

11:30 am Deceased Parishioners of Saint Thomas

Wednesday, July 1

7:30 am Special Intention

11:30 am Special Intention

Thursday, July 2

7:30 am Gertrude M. Norton - Bequest

11:30 am Anna & Jerry Parcaro - Daughters

Friday, July 3

7:30 am Michael Dobransky - Family

11:30 am Tony & Rocco Ciampi - Family

Saturday, July 4

8:30 am Joseph Ciuba

Sunday, July 5

Saturday, July 4

5:00 pm Glenn Stickles - Friends

Sunday, July 5

7:30 am Regina Zimmerman - Family

9:00 am For the people of the Parish

10:30 am Edward L. Post, Jr. - Family

12:00 pm Estelle Horoschak - Daughter

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Eileen Hunt, Frank Korec, Paul Strickland,
Franco & Fasone Families, Harry Shaw, John Walters, Jr.

REST IN PEACE:

Marie Bavceovich, Vincent De Maio

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Samuel Louis Alvino

Rectory: Gerard Sabella



**13th Sunday
in
Ordinary Time**

Last Sunday we saw Jesus commanding the wind and the waves with a word. This week, we see Jesus in control of an even more elemental force - death itself. Our prayers and readings recall God's loving care for every human creature, even - especially - those who seem rejected by others.

THE FIRST READING is from Wisdom, one of the "newest" books in the Old Testament - scholars believe it was written only about fifty years before Christ. Here is a God who gives life, and only life: "God did not make death," the writer boldly asserts (Wisdom 1:13). Everything God created was intended to be "wholesome" (1:14). The second part of the reading recalls Genesis. Since God created human beings in the divine image, human beings ought to share in God's immortality; but through the devil, death came into the world. The world is, or was, fundamentally good.

RESPONSORIAL PSLAM 30 gives voice to the two women who are healed in the Gospel today: "I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me" (refrain).

THE SECOND READING In 2 Corinthians, Paul is addressing the subject of the collection for the needs of the Church in Jerusalem. Christ became poor for our sakes - and we have the privilege of becoming like him. The goal is equality. We share our abundance with those in need, and others will share with us in our turn. Paul quotes Exodus 16:18, the story of the manna in the wilderness. Our giving should be modeled on God's giving, neither too much nor too little, but enough to satisfy the needs of all. In making reference to this passage, Paul also implies that Christian giving is a way to express out trust in God to provide for us tomorrow as he has provided for us today.

THE GOSPEL: In the Gospel we catch a glimpse of the whirlwind of activity in which Jesus lives his ministry. He has just calmed the storm at sea, and how he crosses the sea again, only to encounter a synagogue official named Jarius, whose daughter is gravely ill. Where was Jesus headed when the synagogue official asked him for help? The evangelist doesn't tell us; all we know is that Jesus willingly sets aside his plans to go to this child who needed him. On the way, a sick woman comes forward and touches Jesus' cloak. (Scripture scholars call this intercalation, the "sandwiching" of two stories together to make a point.) Jesus senses that "power had gone out from him" (Mark 5:30): it would seem that in giving life to others, he empties himself. Jesus takes time to find the woman, to speak with her, and to bid her go in peace. Then Jesus finally reaches the little girl. Although it seems too late, he takes the child by the hand and raises her to life. He then tells the people to give the girl something to eat. In so doing he demonstrates that she is truly alive (he would himself ask for something to eat after his Resurrection) and at the same time shows a tender awareness of all her needs.

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

Happy 4th of July!



**Independence Day is next Saturday!!!
On Friday, July 3rd, 2009,
there will be only one Mass at 8:30 a.m.
The Parish Center will be closed as well.**



PLEASE NOTE

The new Parish Center
office hours are:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**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.

SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: \$20,926
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: \$22,000

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Want to skip writing checks to St. Thomas each week? Sign up for our electronic giving program. Once a month your gift to the parish is automatically charged to your designated credit or debit card. It's convenient and totally secure. Call the parish center to request info.



Moving? Please let us know.

Within the parish - to update new address
Out of parish - to discontinue mailings
Call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

USE  GIFT CARDS!!

The St. Thomas Home and School Board would like to extend our sincere "Thanks" for supporting the ShopRite Fundraising program by the purchasing of ShopRite cards after each Mass. During the summer, we will be taking a break from selling the cards after Masses. We look forward to seeing you again in the Fall.

Session Dates for Baptism 2009

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center
August 16 1:00 p.m.
October 25 1:00 p.m.
December 6 1:00 p.m.

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

July 5 1:30 p.m.
July 19 1:30 p.m.
August 9 1:30 p.m.
August 30 1:30 p.m.
September 20 During Mass at 12:00 p.m.
October 11 1:30 p.m.
November 1 1:30 p.m.

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Thursday - 7/2

SCC Friday - 6:30pm in St. Peter
SCC Thursday - 7:00pm in St. Matthew
Prayer Shawl Ministry - 7:00om in St. Thomas

Saturday - 7/4

HAPPY JULY 4TH!!!

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~



The September Club is planning a trip to Villa Roma, Catskills, NY, September 21-25, 2009.

Why not join us for some fun.
If interested, please call for particulars.
V. Jean Molinaro, 973-777-2278.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

THE AARP AND THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY ARE CO-SPONSORING THE POPULAR AARP DRIVER'S SAFETY PROGRAM (FORMALLY THE 55 ALIVE MATURE DRIVERS PROGRAM) FOR ALL ST. THOMAS PARISHIONERS.

THE TWO-DAY COURSE IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 18, AND 19, 2009 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. IN THE PARISH CENTER. THE COST IS \$12.00 FOR AARP MEMBERS AND \$14.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS. CHECKS ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE AARP.

THE 3-HOUR COURSE CLASSES YOU FRESHER ESPECIALLY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF CONCERNS REGARDING INSURANCE DISCOUNTS AND ELIMINATION OF DRIVING POINTS WILL BE COVERED AT THE TRAINING SESSIONS.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO 20 STUDENTS. TO REGISTER, EITHER LEAVE YOUR CHECK WITH THE RECEPTIONIST IN THE PARISH CENTER OR MAIL IT TO:

DUE TO THE LIMITED CLASS SIZE, ENROLLMENT WILL BE BASED ON THE ORDER OF CHECKS RECEIVED. PLEASE CALL FRANK HELMSTETTER AT (973) 338-5872.

SOLD OUT

The Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle Patron saint of our parish - July 3, 2009



"My Lord and my God!" FOUND IN THE NAVE OF THE CHURCH

St. Thomas, our parish patron Saint, was one of the Twelve Apostles. He was a Jew from Galilee called by Jesus to accompany him on his mission to proclaim the kingdom of God. When Jesus' life was threatened as he went to raise Lazarus from the dead, Thomas said to the others, "Let us also go, that we may die with Jesus'.

Thomas doubted that Jesus had truly been raised from the dead. The Resurrection was proven to Thomas when Jesus appeared to him. Thomas said, "My Lord and My God".

St. Gregory the Great once said, "The unbelief of Thomas has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples. Our doubts are answered by the demand of St. Thomas to know that Jesus' resurrection was real.

Bereavement Session

THIS SUNDAY, June 28, 2009

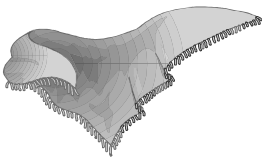
in the St. Thomas Room in the parish center
Please note summer sessions will be held
on Sunday morning, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

THEME: SIGNS OF NEW LIFE

Please call Sister Arleen with any questions
at 973-338-9190

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE



An energy saving decision has been made: our ministry will meet on Sunday afternoon, July 19th, from 10 AM to 12 Noon instead of 1pm to 3pm.

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*

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will stop for the summer months and return again after Labor Day.

We would like to thank the team, parents and children who participated this past year.

Have a safe summer and we will see you in September.



Going Fishing

Monday, August 31, 2009

On the Mi - Jo II Atlantic Highlands, NJ



Cost: \$50 per person - includes bait, rod and reel

Send your check payable to St. Thomas the Apostle with your name(s) and phone number and drop off at Parish Center. Reserve your spot now as space is limited

For further info, contact Parish Center 973-338-9190 or Frank Diveny 973-748-0519.

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.

St. Thomas the Apostle Mission Statement

The Roman Catholic faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle recognizes God's call to be a sign of His Kingdom in the communities we serve. We respond to this call by:

- † Leading people to a deeper relationship with Christ by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, renewal, education, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the worship of God in the sacred liturgy;
- † Encouraging a commitment to justice and to service of those in need;
- † Promoting good stewardship of our time, talent and treasure;
- † Building a community of hospitality and support in the daily living out of Christian ideals by nourishing mutual respect and understanding within our Church, our families, our community, and other faith traditions.

Are you a Writer . . . Editor . . . Proof Reader . . . Web Developer? **We need you!**

THE VOICE, the St. Thomas the Apostle Newsletter, is published several times a year and we are looking to expand our ministry.

We are also looking for people to help update the website, keep it current and brainstorm ideas to advertise our parish.

You can be part of our committee, which meets a few times a year or you can choose to simply donate your particular talent as needed.

Please drop us a line in the Communication/Newsletter mailbox in the Parish Center or email us at thevoice@stachurchbloomfield.com.

You can visit us online by following the Newsletter link on our website.



**ANY ADVERTISEMENTS
FOR THE BULLETIN
MUST BE SUBMITTED
TO THE PARISH CENTER BY
10:30 A.M. ON THE MONDAY
PRIOR TO THE BULLETIN DATE.**

**ALL BULLETIN ENTRIES FOR THE
JULY 5TH BULLETIN
MUST BE SUBMITTED
TO THE PARISH CENTER BY
TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH AT 10:00 A.M.**



KEEP CHRIST IN YOUR VACATION

During the summer months, let us remember to keep the Lord in our lives. The opportunity to witness His message through Scripture and to be strengthened by the Eucharist is a necessity in our relationship with God and with each other.

As you travel on vacation, take time to visit and worship the Lord in a nearby Church. For those remaining at home in your Parish, and to all visitors, the invitation for continued worship at St. Thomas's is extended and will certainly serve to enrich your summer. For Nationwide Mass Times & Locations, call 1-410-676-6000.



**Free Ministry to Traveling Catholics
For Nationwide Mass Times & Locations
Call 1-410-676-6000
or visit www.masstimes.org**

PLANNED GIVING

Here are some other ways You can help St. Thomas the Apostle Church continue its mission of serving God's people. Give a gift of cash or check for general use or a specific purpose. Give a gift of stocks or bonds. There could be a significant tax advantage to you if there has been appreciation in their value and they are transferred to St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

A bequest in your will assures that your possessions are distributed as you desire. When making a bequest, use the full legal name and address: Saint Thomas the Apostle Church, 60 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Make St. Thomas the Apostle Church partial or primary beneficiary of a life insurance policy that is no longer needed for family security. Ask the insurance company for the forms necessary to change the beneficiary or to transfer the ownership to St. Thomas the Apostle Church



Moving? Please let us know.

Within the parish – to update new address
Out of parish – to discontinue mailings
Call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.



Right to Life

For fathers who are struggling to support their families, that God bless them with peace of mind, a hopeful heart, and the strength of will to persevere;

We pray to the Lord

St. Thomas
"Welcome Back from the Summer"



Save the Date!

September 19th, 2009
2pm-7pm in Vassar Field
More details to come in the following weeks!

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

Can't get away for Retreat?
Consider an...

At Home Summer Retreat



**Monday, July 13 - Thursday, July 16 or
Monday, August 24 - Thursday, August 27**

Many people can not get away for a weekend for a variety of reasons yet desire to experience a weekend Retreat.

This "At Home Retreat" provides you with being guided in the same manner as being away at a retreat house. Each day you will meet privately with your spiritual director, be given specific prayer exercises and "surprises" from our Generous God.

For information call: Anna Graziano-973-338-9538

And He Said

Today, I will be handling all of your problems for you. I do not need your help. So, have a nice day. I love you, and remember... if life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it yourself! Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. I will get to it in MY TIME. All situations will be resolved, but in my time, not yours. Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it by worrying about it. Instead, focus on all the wonderful things that are present in your life now, and continue to serve Me by serving others.

Saturday is Independence day!



PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Heavenly Father
Send forth Your Spirit
To heal our land, and calm our fears,
hold in Your arms all who
have been affected by senseless violence.
Heal the hearts and minds
of all who have been scarred by hate.
Welcome into the peace of Your Kingdom
all those who have died.
May the light of Christ shine forth
through Your faithful people
and become a beacon of hope.
May the justice and peace
that only You can bring,
Reign in our hearts, and in the world.

AMEN

R. JENSEN

BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS:

The Bloomfield Department of Health & Human Services is proud to announce the arrival of the Essex County Welfare Mobile Office Van. This state-of-the-art van contains a reception room and three offices so that Essex County personnel can visit Bloomfield and directly serve the residents in a professional and confidential manner. Applications can be taken and processed for the following:

- Food Stamp program
- Medicaid programs (e.g. Family Care)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
- Other helpful programs

The van will be stationed in the Bloomfield Township Municipal lot on a monthly basis. To inquire about obtaining an appointment or for more information, please contact the Bloomfield Human Services Division at 973-680-4017. Limited slots are available.

Division of Human Services
One Municipal Plaza - Room 213, Bloomfield, NJ