

# 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](http://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

July 26, 2009 . 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, July 26**

**Saturday, July 25**

**5:00 pm For the People of the Parish**

**Sunday, July 26**

**7:30 am Carol Ann Longo - Sister**

**9:00 am Peter J. Huryk - Friends**

**10:30 am Ralph Del Pizzo - Friends**

**12:00 pm Eleanor McGrath - Friend**

**Monday, July 27**

**7:30 am Edna A. Carlos - Bequest**

**11:30 am Brian English - Son**

**Tuesday, July 28**

**7:30 am Thomas P. Mahon, Jr. - Mom**

**11:30 am Beatrice McKenna - Friend**

**Wednesday, July 29**

**7:30 am Fred Roberts - Family**

**11:30 am Kevin Sottolano - Aunt**

**Thursday, July 30**

**7:30 am Edward Ganning - Wife**

**11:30 am Alvin Trautfetter - Wife**

**Friday, July 31**

**7:30 am Sister Paula DeRogatis - Sister**

**11:30 am Diana Panila - Friends**

**Saturday, August 1**

**8:30 am Jeffrey Kahn - Friends**

**Sunday, August 2**

**Saturday, August 1**

**5:00 pm Thomas, James, & John Muir - Sister**

**Sunday, August 2**

**7:30 am For the People of the Parish**

**9:00 am Tess Ruffino - Friend**

**10:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Armas Niemi - Parents**

**12:00 pm Bridget Ryan - Friend**

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:**

Cosmo Cocchini, Olga Mitrenga, Barbara Palek, Bill Frunzi  
Frank Korec, Paul Strickland, Franco & Fasone Families

**REST IN PEACE:**

Rafael Noriega

**CANDLE INTENTIONS:**

**Church:** David Kossack

**Visit our website at:  
[www.stachurchbloomfield.com](http://www.stachurchbloomfield.com)**



**17th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

the reading of the great banquet—Jesus provides for five thousand people on a grassy hillside—is the perfect story for a midsummer Sunday.

**FIRST READING:** For the Jewish people. Elisha and his master Elijah were the prophets *par excellence*. In describing certain miracles of Jesus—especially raising the dead to life, and multiplying food—the evangelists knew that their Jewish readers would think of episodes like the one in today’s First Reading. Israel is suffering from famine, and a man brings Elisha a few barley loaves. The prophet tells him to give it to the people instead. Miraculously, the twenty loaves prove to be more than enough for all present.

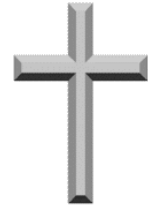
**RESPONSORIAL PSLAM 145** emphasizes the justice of God’s ways—he provides food for every living thing on earth.

**SECOND READING:** The reading from Ephesians is all about unity. The word *one* recurs no fewer than seven times (see Ephesians 4:4-6). Since we are one body, one in faith, one in our Baptism, believing in one Lord and one God, we must be one in heart and mind also. Paul also gives us some advice for how to do this—through qualities like humility, gentleness, and patience. This is not easy, and Paul knows it. Amid the gentle nouns are some strong verbs: we are to “bear with” one another, “striving” to preserve our unity (4:2-3).

**GOSPEL:** Today we begin a sequence of readings from John’s account, which will last five weeks, as we make our way through the Bread of Life discourse. Today’s reading, with its compelling, detailed narrative, is quite different in style from the readings that lie ahead, but it is closely connected in theme. Jesus feeds his people with bread and fish; in the weeks to come, he will gradually introduce them to the much more profound way in which *he* will be their bread. Notice the telling detail at the beginning of the reading: “the Jewish feast of Passover was near” (John 6:4).

The miracle Jesus works is on a much larger scale than Elisha’s. Here are five thousand men (we can only imagine that, with women and children, that number was only larger). A child is the only one who seems to have brought anything to eat; he gives his five loaves and two fish to the disciples. Jesus blesses this tiny offering, and the disciples carry the food to the people. It is not in the blessing but in the distribution that the miracle occurs. The abundance is so great that twelve baskets of fragments are left over after all have eaten their fill. The people see only the surface of the mystery, and of course they want to make Jesus their king. Imagine a king who can make something out of nothing, who can miraculously supply all their wants! But Jesus slips away to the mountain, alone.

## *From the Pastor's Desk...*



The summer can be a wonderful time for vacations and for extra time for families to enjoy being with each other. I hope that this is true for you. Summer is also a wonderful time to address issues facing our parish that cannot easily be done during the very busy school year from September to June.

The reduced summer parish activity has made it possible for us to make some important changes and repairs. We have recently completed the replacement of a dangerously worn sidewalk along the rectory side of the Church. As part of this project we were able to remove some over-grown bushes, which blocked the vision of pedestrians and cars. This greatly improved safety for our adults, elderly and children.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce operating costs, we are now installing new energy efficient lighting in our school and other buildings. Soon we will be complete the repairs on the Church rose window above the main doors with the installation of new protective materials which will protect the window from the elements and at the same time increase the amount of light making the window more vibrant.

Our one growing problem this summer is the severe drop in our Sunday collections due to families being away and also the slump in our national economy. We need your help to keep our budget balanced. I ask you to consider two things:

1. Make every effort to continue your weekly collection commitment throughout the summer. If you are away for a week or two, make up for it when you return.
2. Consider supporting our special fund-raiser Super 50/50 raffle. Only 600 tickets will be sold greatly increasing the chance of winning. Tickets are \$50. The raffle drawing will take place during our Parish Picnic in September. I'll be sending you more information soon.

Recently our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, announced that this is the *Year for Priests*. The Pope has declared St. John Vianney the Universal Patron of Priests on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the death of the Curé d' Ars. "This Year, meant to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world, will conclude on the same Solemnity in 2010."

As part of our parish observance of this special year, we will have a concelebrated mass on the Feast of St. John Vianney, August 4, 2009 at 11:30am. We will also have a parish trip to the major cities of France, which will include stops at the shrines of the **Curé d' Ars** and **Our Lady of Lourdes**. Also we invite you each week of this year to add the **Prayer for Priests**, which will be printed in our bulletin, to you weekly prayer life.

Enjoy the Summer!

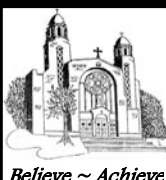
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Charles J. Miller".

Rev. Charles J. Miller,  
Pastor

**SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS**

**SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
PARISH SCHOOL**

50 BYRD AVENUE, BLOOMFIELD, NJ 07003  
Phone: 973.338.8505 Fax: 973.338.9565  
email: staoffice@catholic.org  
[www.stthomastheapostlenj.com](http://www.stthomastheapostlenj.com)



*When you enroll your child, we enroll your family.*

**Openings in Grades  
PK 3, PK 4, K, 1, 3, 4, 5, 7**

*Applications for Grades 2 & 6  
are being accepted for a waiting list.*

**Full-Day or  
Half-Day  
Pre K 3 & 4**



**Full-Day  
Kindergarten**

**Middle States Accredited**

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



*Andrew Jeremiah Rudel*

*Parents: Orieta Gutierrez) & Keith Rudel*

*Olivia Ambry Budnick*

*Parents: Laura (Cricco-McCormack) & John D. Budnick*

**Session Dates for Baptism 2009**

**CATECHESIS PREPARATION**

St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center  
**August 16** 10:30 a.m.  
 October 25 1:00 p.m.  
 December 6 1:00 p.m.

**BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS**

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

**LOOK!**  
↓ ↓ ↓

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS SCHEDULED FOR  
AUGUST 16, 2009 WILL TAKE PLACE AT 10:30 A.M.**

**Religious Education News**

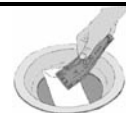


All students need to register for Religious Education classes each year. If you have not done so yet for the Fall please call our office at 338-7400. Classes for the Fall Session begin on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Have a wonderful, relaxing summer!

**STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS**

**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: \$16,666**  
**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 for more info.

**Going Fishing**

Monday, August 31, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.  
 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 and phone number and drop off at Parish Center.

**Get your deposit in now as space is limited**

For further info, call Parish Center 973-338-9190, Frank Diveny 973-748-0519 or Jim McKittrick 973-338-3145.

## **"THIS WEEK"**

**Thursday – 7/30**

SCC Friday – 6:30pm in St. Peter  
SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

### **HOLY NAME SOCIETY ANNUAL RETREAT**

THE MEN'S RETREAT AT SAN ALFONSO RETREAT HOUSE, WHERE GOD AND SEA COME TOGETHER, IS SET FOR SEPTEMBER 25-27.



SINCE THE CHURCH IS CELEBRATING THE 2000<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, THE THEME FOR THE 2009 RETREAT IS THE LIFE, MINISTRY AND LETTERS OF ST. PAUL.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN SPENDING THIS MOST ENJOYABLE AND SPIRITUALLY SIGNIFICANT WEEKEND AT THE NEW JERSEY SHORE SHOULD CONTACT FRANK HELMSTETTER AT 973-339-5872.

### **Bereavement Session**

**SUNDAY, August 2, 2009**

**at 10:30 a.m. in the St. Thomas Room  
in the parish center**

**THEME: VOICES OF GRIEF  
VOICES OF HEALING**

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



### **Right to Life**

For teenagers:  
That their parents will live up to their responsibility to educate and encourage them to follow the moral teachings of the Church concerning human sexuality;

***We pray to the Lord***

### **MORNING OF REFLECTION For Women of Wisdom of our Parish**



THEME: A Listening Heart  
WHEN: Saturday, October 24, 2009  
WHERE: St. Thomas Parish Center  
TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch is included  
Suggested Donation: \$6.00

Please call Sister Arleen with any questions at  
973.338.9190 ex. 34

*~ ~ 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.



The September Club is planning a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Bethlehem, PA for August 19, 2009. Cost is \$19 per person.

Please call Jean for details at 973.777.2278

### **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.

## Ministry of Spiritual Direction

Can't get away for Retreat?

Consider an...

### At Home Summer Retreat



**Monday, August 24 – Thursday, August 27**

Many people cannot 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**

## 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.

## ARE YOU GOING INTO THE HOSPITAL? DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER IN THE HOSPITAL?

We would like to visit our parishioners who are homebound, in the hospital or other health care facility. Because of patient confidentiality laws, however, the only way we can know is if someone informs us. Call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190, leaving your name and number so we may return your call, or you may leave the information at the Parish Desk on Sunday mornings.

## Prayer for The Year for Priests

O Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests; for Your unfaithful and tepid priests; for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Your tempted priests; for Your lonely and desolate priests; for Your young priests; for Your dying priests; for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to You the priests dearest to me; the priest who baptized me; the priests who absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.

Amen.



## Moving? Please let us know

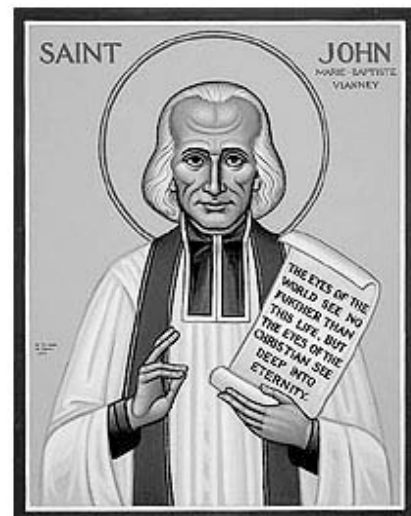
Within the parish – to update new address  
Out of parish – to discontinue mailings

**Call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190.**

## 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.



**St. John Vianney, pray for us;  
obtain for us many and holy priests.**