

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:
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
Michael 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

Masses for the Week

Sunday, November 22

Saturday, November 21

5:00 pm Veronica Kievit - Husband

Sunday, November 22

7:30 am Marguerite R. Winans (25th Anniv.) - Family

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:30 am Albert Muller - Son

12:00 pm Louis Occhetti - Family

Monday, November 23

7:30 am Frances & Harry Scardilli - Daughter

11:30 am Deceased Members of Klenk Family - Bequest

Tuesday, November 24

7:30 am Lepore Family - Family

11:30 am Andrew G. Yanicak - Sister-in-law

Wednesday, November 25

7:30 am Cathy M. McAlvanah - Friend

11:30 am Louis Occhetti - Family

Thursday, November 26 ~ THANKSGIVING DAY ~

ONE MASS ONLY

9:00 am Isabella Kovacs - Family

Friday, November 27

ONE MASS ONLY

8:30 am Josephine Raimo (46th Anniv.) - Daughter

Saturday, November 28

8:30 am Mark Zieleniewski - Family

Sunday, November 29

Saturday, November 28

5:00 pm Trevon Taylor - Family

Sunday, November 29

7:30 am Antonette DeLorenzo - Daughters

9:00 am Paul Brady - Family/Friend

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Louis Occhetti - Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Frank Korec, Paul Strickland,
Franco & Fasone Families

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Thomas Guidry
Rectory: Bridget Kochuk
Convent: David Kossack

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King



When Pius XI established this feast (1925), the rise of totalitarianism all over the world must have made it seem that apocalyptic forces had been unleashed on the world. Bolshevism reigned in Russia, Fascism in Italy, the blood of civil war flowed in many places, and from every quarter came ominous forebodings of new dictatorships. So the pope proclaimed: *Pax Christi in regno Christi*: "The peace of Christ in the reign of Christ!" At century's end, is the world very different?

Some totalitarianism walls have crumbled, but in many places new forces of oppression have rushed in, no longer enslaving bodies and minds but hearts and souls in the bondage of consumerism. Thus, the feast is appropriate here at the turning point of the church's year of worship and witness. All Western Christian churches share it now - sometimes under different titles, but with the same scriptures, proclaiming in every cycle of the lectionary the unique kingship of Jesus the Lord.

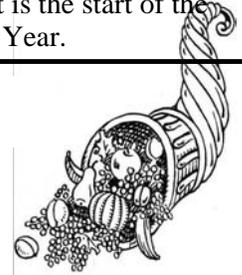
~~~~~ **Looking Ahead** ~~~~~

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008, begins the  
ADVENT SEASON.**

The First Sunday of Advent is the start of the  
New Liturgical Year.

**Happy Thanksgiving**

November 26, 2009



On this day may we give thanks to God  
for earth and its bounty, its harvest and promise.  
May we care for all his gifts,  
especially our family and friends.

**Thanksgiving Mass is at a special time: 9:00 a.m.**

Friday, Nov. 27 there will be one Mass at 8:30 a.m.

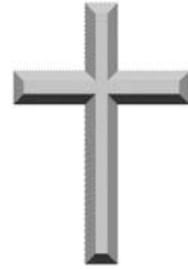
The parish center will be closed on  
Thursday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

There will be Eucharistic Adoration this Monday,  
Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>, from Noon to 7:30 PM followed by the  
Life-Awareness Holy Hour. All are invited to spend  
some time before the Blessed Sacrament.



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



Dear Parishioners,

Thanksgiving Day is almost upon us! It's amazing how quickly another year passes. The wonderful thing about Thanksgiving Day is that it can act as a kind of "speed bump" in our very busy lives. It forces us to slow down and notice what's going on around us and what we might easily take for granted – how blessed we really are.

As pastor, I am always amazed at the priests, deacons, staff members and volunteers who give of their time and talents, day after day and week after week, to make our parish flourish.

I want to thank our parish trustees, Jim McKittrick and Joanne Hayes. Joanne recently completed her service as a trustee. I am grateful for her many years of dedication to the needs of our parish and her thoughtful advice to me and her support of all the activities here at St. Thomas. I also want to thank Bernadette Lipoma for agreeing to serve as our new trustee and I look forward to working with her and Jim for the benefit of our parish.

I am grateful for the priests I live and work with – Fathers Philip, Andrew and Tom. They inspire us all with their dedication and love for the people of St. Thomas. We are all blessed by our Sisters and Deacons who continue to touch the lives of so many with their lives of witness and service to our parish family.

Like all of you, I am grateful for the life and vitality brought to our parish by our school through the efforts of our wonderful principal, teachers and staff. We are greatly blessed by a dedicated professional staff that provides for the continuing needs of our people with programs in catechetics, parish ministry, music, adult formation and very active youth ministry.

Most of all, I am aware of my blessings as pastor when I see the amazing number of volunteers who, often unseen, give of their time and talents to keep the various ministries, committees, councils, parish organizations and sports programs alive and growing.

This Thanksgiving Day I will have much for which to give thanks and praise to God. I want to invite you to stop and notice your blessings – the gifts of life, faith and each other. Even in the midst of problems and difficult times, noticing your blessings can bring a healthy balance to your life.

So I invite you to plan to join me and other members of this wonderful parish, as we give thanks to God this Thanksgiving morning at 9:00 a.m. in our church.

In the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Father Charles".

Father Charles  
Pastor

**STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS**



**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
PARISH SCHOOL**

*Happy Thanksgiving*  
to all our parishioners and  
*Thank You*  
for your continuous support



**ATTENTION STA ALUMNI**

Please check out the Alumni Registration page on our website - [www.stthomastheapostlenj.com](http://www.stthomastheapostlenj.com).

**St. Thomas the Apostle School  
Home and School Association**



**Breakfast With  
SANTA**

**Saturday, December 12, 2009,  
9:30 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle School.**

**MENU: Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, French toast, Bagels, Fruit salad, Desserts, Coffee, Tea, Juices**

Photo with Santa, DJ, crafts, & fun for kids of all ages!

No phone reservations.

Seats will be assigned when money is received

**Reserve by Friday, December 4, 2009**

Christine Licciardello  
973-303-2112

Tricia Polizzi  
973-202-7334

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TICKETS: \$11.00 Adults \$6.00 Children

# ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_ # CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to sit with someone, please note:

Please seat with \_\_\_\_\_

**STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS**

**JOB SEEKERS GROUP** Looking for a job? Come to a meeting of the St. Thomas the Apostle job seekers on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center where you will get a chance to network, get some advice, and pray with other members of the parish who are searching for a job. If you're not looking for work, but are looking for a good worker, come to one of our meetings and you'll meet plenty of them!

**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: \$19,873**  
**AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: \$20,500**



**PLANNED GIVING**

Here are some other ways you can help Saint 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 of there has been appreciation in their value and they are transferred to Saint Thomas the Apostle Church.

A bequest in your will assure 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 Saint 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 owner-ship to Saint Thomas the Apostle Church.

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS**

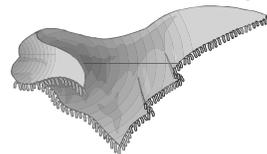
MEETINGS EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT IN THE PARISH CENTER FROM 7-9PM. ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ARE WELCOME

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- 11/20-21 PAUL TATE WEEKEND
- 11/29 BOWLING DAY
- 11/29 THEOLOGY OF THE BODY WITH DAVID HAJDUK
- 50 IN 15 MAC - N - CHEESE

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT TIM DENNIN AT [tdennin@att.net](mailto:tdennin@att.net)

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry**



**Please note changes:**

We'll meet Wednesday evening, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30-9PM. Our Sunday meeting, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> is cancelled.

The next Sunday meeting will be Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:30-2PM. We meet in the Parish Center. If you cannot attend the meeting but wish to participate, please contact Alicia. We are in great need of shawls measuring **at least 22" x 60"**. 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, or Alicia @ 973-473-6633

# St. Thomas Christmas Cards



St. Thomas Altar (1)  
5 1/2 (H)  
8 1/2 (W)

Limited Quantity!



St. Thomas Manger (2)  
8 1/2 (H)  
5 1/2 (W)



Order soon while supplies last!



St. Thomas Manger (3)  
5 1/2 (H)  
8 1/2 (W)



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

| Christmas Card Selection   | Quantity | Price  | Total |
|----------------------------|----------|--------|-------|
| St. Thomas Altar (1)       |          | \$1.00 |       |
| St. Thomas Manger (2)      |          | \$1.00 |       |
| St. Thomas Manger (3)      |          | \$1.00 |       |
| Total Christmas Card Order |          |        |       |

Email Questions to:  
[ChristmasCards@stachurchbloomfield.com](mailto:ChristmasCards@stachurchbloomfield.com)

Please make checks payable to:  
 "St. Thomas Home and School Assoc."

Orders may be placed in the collection basket at Mass.  
 Please submit order form and payment at the Parish Center

**Men's Cornerstone Meeting**  
 Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.  
 In St. Peter Room.



Support St. Thomas'



## Annual Christmas Concert

Be a sponsor for the St. Thomas the Apostle Annual Christmas Concert and Reception Saturday, December 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Featuring the Garden State Concert Band With Father Charles Miller as narrator

### Contribute to the Souvenir Program Journal

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Back Cover -         | \$400.00 |
| Inside Back Cover    | \$200.00 |
| Inside Front Cover   | \$200.00 |
| Gold Page            | \$150.00 |
| Full Page            | \$100.00 |
| Half Page            | \$ 75.00 |
| Quarter Page         | \$ 50.00 |
| Listing of Name Page | \$ 25.00 |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I want to contribute \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ page or \$25 for a name listing.



Make all returns with copy to  
 Paul Alongi, 21 Leo Terrace, Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
 973-338-4665 or to the St. Thomas Parish Center

GIVING TREE  
 At St. Thomas  
 The Apostle



December  
 13<sup>th</sup>  
 2009

'Tis the season for giving

Beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, next weekend, there will be two Christmas trees in the front of the church on either side of the altar. The trees will be adorned with gift tags. On the gift tags will be gift suggestions. If you choose to donate a gift for the giving tree, please be sure to bring your gifts - *unwrapped* - into the church *only on Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup>*.

PLEASE NOT BEFORE OR AFTER THIS DATE.

Gifts will be sorted and packed on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> after the 12 noon Mass and will be delivered on Monday December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Helpers are needed to sort and pack on Sunday Dec. 13. If you can help, please call Bernadette Lipoma at 973-893-0114.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE'S  
MUSIC MINISTRY AND  
YOUTH GROUP  
ARE PROUD TO PRESENT:



THE RETURN OF:

PAUL TATE

COMPOSER OF:  
*JESUS, HOPE OF THE WORLD*  
WITH AN EVENING OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP

NEXT WEEKEND  
NOVEMBER 21 - 22, 2009

PAUL WILL BE PRESENT  
AT ALL MASSES  
NEXT WEEKEND, NOV. 21-22, 2009,  
AND  
WILL PRESENT A CONCERT  
SUNDAY EVENING 7:00 P.M. IN CHURCH  
FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.



**Right to Life**

For all Catholics: That we may be united in faith and spirit in working to uphold the dignity of every human life under our one Lord Jesus Christ the King;

*We pray to the Lord*

Reflection on the Advent Sunday  
Readings begin this Tuesday,  
November 24 at 12:45pm till 2:00pm.  
All women of the parish are invited.  
Will meet each Tuesday Nov. 24-Dec. 22  
in St. James room in the parish center.  
Come pray, share and reflect with us.

**NUNNBETTER DANCE THEATER**  
25 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVE., BERGENFIELD, NJ  
PRESENTS:

**The Nutcracker**

Friday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, December 12 at 2 pm and 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 p.m.

At **MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM**  
**MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY**  
1 NORMAL AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NJ

Reserved seat tickets \$30 Children under 12 years \$25  
Group Rate (for organized groups of 10 or more) \$15

Tickets available on line at [www.nunnbetterdance.com](http://www.nunnbetterdance.com)  
or by calling 201-385-9638.

Group sales contact: Patricia Yeh at (917) 885-6546  
or at [patriciayeh1970@yahoo.com](mailto:patriciayeh1970@yahoo.com)

**Thanksgiving Proclamation**

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God: to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon: and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by his divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven: we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last *Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving* and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

- Abraham Lincoln, 1863



*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*