

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

January 3, 2010 . Epiphany of the Lord

Masses for the Week

Sunday, January 3

Saturday, January 2

5:00 pm Jean Powers – Family

Sunday, January 3

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Marie & Charles Pisarcik – Family

10:30 am Ted Wohlbold – Wife

12:00 pm Georgette Nader – Friend

Monday, January 4

**7:30 am Edward & Andrew Cerracchio – Family
(Living Special Intention)**

11:30 am Tim Buckley – Friend

Tuesday, January 5

7:30 am Loretta DiMichelle – Bequest

11:30 am Joseph Marcheel – Sister

Wednesday, January 6

7:30 am Naomi Schaffer – Friends

11:30 am Thomas J. McGarry – Bequest

Thursday, January 7

7:30 am Bridget Agnes Owens – Bequest

11:30 am Joseph Marcheel – Sister

Friday, January 8

7:30 am Thomas J. Owens – Bequest

11:30 am Ann Riley – Bequest

Saturday, January 9

8:30 am Thomas Devine – Family

Sunday, January 10

Saturday, January 9

5:00 pm Thomas P. Mahon, Jr. – Mother

Sunday, January 10

7:30 am Millie Ciampi

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:30 am Joseph Shelesky – Daughter

12:00 pm Brian Mescall – Family

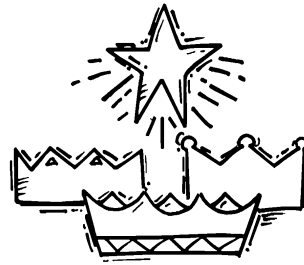
PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Christine Stile-Mazzeo, Theresa Ferreri, Patricia DeMarco
Sandra Lurhrf-Shaw, Ryan Joseph, Frank Korec,
Noelle Angela, Dan Fongaro, Elizabeth Dennin

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Melissa Hubert
Rectory: Stella Giampapa
Convent: Carmella Baldassarre

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



Epiphany of the Lord

Today is the solemnity that celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the nations, the showing forth of the glory of God, a past event, a present reality, and an object of hope.

The story of the Magi coming from the East is only reported in Matthew (2:1-12). Matthew's account of the Gospel says nothing of their names. So where did the traditions and folklore originate? Three Magi have prevailed because of the three gifts mentioned, and the names of Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar persist because they appeared in a ninth-century Italian manuscript. The representation of these Magi as kings comes from the references in both the First Reading from Isaiah and today's psalm, Psalm 72.

This solemnity, which dates to the third century, was the original feast of Jesus in the East, and one of the two dates for the initiation of catechumens in the early Church.

FIRST READING: The prophet Isaiah proclaims that the glory of the Lord will shine upon Jerusalem and make of God's people a light to the nations. The tribute of the nations will be laid at the feet of God's people and all will proclaim the greatness of the Lord. As Christ is made manifest today, we lay the gifts of our lives before him, so that his body, the Church, may be more fully a light to the nations.

RESPONSORIAL: In Psalm 72 the church proclaims the glory of Jesus, the Messiah and King who rules the world with justice and rescues the poor who cry out to him.

SECOND READING: Paul writes to the community of Ephesus of God's revelation to him concerning the gift of salvation to all peoples. The gentiles have been established as coheirs with the Jews, and share in the blessings of the promise manifest in Christ. The gift of conenatal love revealed in Christ Jesus is offered to all. Jesus enables us to live together in harmony and peace.

GOSPEL: In their search for the newborn king of the Jews, the Magi are assisted by Herod, who assembles the priests and scribes to unfold the meaning of the scriptures. Bethlehem, the least of the cities of Judah, is the birthplace of the shepherd of God's people, of the one who comes in humility to save the poor of the earth. The Magi lay their precious gifts before God's anointed who has emptied himself for our salvation.

The Gospel tells us that the Magi found Christ "on entering the house." The door to your home is a holy threshold. You can bless those who come in and go out by inscribing above the door in chalk, or putting up a sign, the first two number of the year (20) + C + M + B + the last two number of the year (10). Tradition tells us that the letters stand for the names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. Adolph Adam points out that it may also mean "*Christus mansionem benedicat*" or "May Christ bless this dwelling." It's appropriate to bless your door in January – *janua* means "door" and the first month is the door to the new year.



Cruise to Bermuda

**Only
\$1599**

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
A CRUISE TO BERMUDA
Sailing on Holland America's *MS Veendam*
June 27, 2010

Interested!
Call the Parish Center and ask for a
Full-Color Brochure
with all the details

973-338-9190

Mon – Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm / Sat 9:00am – 1:00pm

Included:

- Roundtrip Transport to Ship's Pier in NYC
- Seven Luxury Days and Nights
- in a beautiful Outside Stateroom
- All meals with Elegant Dining – Afternoon Tea – Midnight Buffet
- 24 Hour Room Service – In Room Movies
- 2 Days in Hamilton, Bermuda
- 2 Days in St. George, Bermuda
- Relaxing Days at Sea with Las Vegas Style Casino
- Nightly Broadway Style Entertainment – Dancing
- Meet the Captain & Tour Group Cocktail Receptions
- Gala Farewell Dinner Party
- Also Available:
 - Spa – Gym Fitness Center – Internet Café – Culinary Arts Center – Beauty Salon – Duty Free Shops – Cocktail Lounges – Indoor and Outdoor Pools –
 - Optional Land Tours with Guides

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 10:00 A.M.
Please come and explore our school and see for yourself what a wonderful place STA School is to enroll your child.

Pre K3 through 8th grades

Middle States Accredited

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

Full-Day or Half-Day Kindergarten

BeforeCare & AfterCare programs

Advanced Technology

Jr. High Science / Synergistics Program

Physical Education for all grades

Spanish & Italian Classes - Art & Music Classes

Wide Variety of Extra-Curricular Activities



ATTENTION STA ALUMNI

Please check out the Alumni Registration page on our website www.stthomastheapostlenj.com.

Tickets for the 2010 Calendar Raffle are on sale!

You should have received your tickets in the mail by now. Additional tickets are available on the desk in the Parish Center or by calling Gen Pezzino 973-771-0463. All proceeds from the Raffle will go directly to benefit the educational programs of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish School.

SAVE THE DATE! 33rd Annual STA Tricky Tray

Thursday, March 18, 2010 at The Bethwood, Totowa, NJ

\$35 per person (advance ticket sales only) includes admission, full-course dinner (chicken francaise) and dessert plus coffee/tea/soda/water. Adults only. Basket raffle tickets will be sold throughout the evening. Doors open at 6:30pm. All proceeds to support the educational programs of St. Thomas the Apostle School. For tickets, send/drop off check to St. Thomas the Apostle School and include your name, phone number, address and total tickets requested. For more information, contact Shana Polak, Tricky Tray Chair, at 973-771-1760 or shanapolak@aol.com.

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Religious Education News

Our Summer CCD program will run from Tuesday, July 6th through Friday, July 16th 9:00-12:30 each day. Children in grades 3 - 8 are eligible. **Space is very limited.** The program is only available to our parish families.



No notices will be sent home about Summer Registration. An announcement will be made in the church bulletin some-time in January when registration packages become available. Please do not call the Religious Education Office until the announcement has been placed in the bulletin.

We need summer teachers for grades 3, 6, 7, & 8 – if interested please call the Religious Education Office at 338-7400. Please note if you volunteer to teach in our summer program, your children are automatically accepted into the program.

VBS

If you have children ages 4-12, mark your calendars for our popular Vacation Bible School program. It will run from Monday, June 28th 'til Friday, July 2, 9:00-12:00 each day. We need volunteers to help out for the whole week – Confirmation Candidates are welcome. Please watch the bulletin for further information and registration forms.

CCD Christmas recess ends January 3rd. ALL classes will resume the week of January 4th, 2010. Please remember that children in grades 1-7 are only allowed six absences and if your child is close to that mark you should call the Religious Education Office.

A happy & healthy New Year to all of our students, families, volunteers, and teachers.

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.

DECEMBER 20TH COLLECTION \$15,501
Dec 27th & Jan 3rd collections will be in Jan 10th bulletin.
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 if 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 Ave., 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.

Session Dates for Baptism 2009-2010

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| January 24, 2010 | 1:00 p.m. |
| March 28 | 1:00 p.m. |
| May 16 | 1:00 p.m. |
| June 13 | 1:00 p.m. |

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| January 10, 2010 | 1:30 p.m. |
| January 31 | 1:30 p.m. |
| February 14 | 1:30 p.m. |
| April 11 | 1:30 p.m. |
| April 17 | during 5:00 p.m. Mass |
| May 2 | 1:30 p.m. |

MEN'S CORNERSTONE – MARCH 12 and 13, 2010

“Reluctant to attend; unsure of what to expect, I was deeply moved by Cornerstone. It was a gift to me from the men of the parish and my family who encouraged me to go.”
-- Patrick DeCotiis

The Institute for Christian Spirituality, Center for Workplace Spirituality, *presents the workshop...*

Finding Work & Managing Your Career in Tough Economic Times,

Saturday, January 30, 2010 - St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Parish Center, St. Peter's Room, Bloomfield, NJ, Mass at 8:30am (optional), 9:30a – 12:30p (light breakfast will be served), *Topics of discussion will include:*

- Proactive job-hunting: what really works?
- Networking: the #1 way to find work!
- What you should be doing to manage your career while still employed
- Resumes: what type is best for you?
- Reinvigorating a long job-search
- Points for mature job-seekers
- AND...where is God in all this?

Please join us for a time of prayer and reflection on the meaning of work in our lives and learn the best ways to find work in today's job market; learn what you should be doing to sustain your career, even while you are working... all discussions are confidential.

Know that you are not alone...

This workshop will be facilitated by Julie V. Burkey, MAPM, Director of the Center for Workplace Spirituality at Seton Hall University where she is also an adjunct professor. Julie has led numerous workshops on issues of employment; previously, she spent many years in her own business as an executive search consultant to major industrial companies.

**Kindly RSVP by January 22, 2010 to
workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com**

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.



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 the leaders of our country: That they will govern with wisdom and respect for the dignity of all human beings, including the unborn and those nearing the end of life;

We pray to the Lord

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!

For additional information, send an email to:
workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

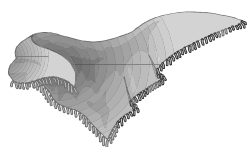
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

01/10/10 KICK-OFF MEETING

50 IN 15 PASTA

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

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



We will meet Sunday, January 17th 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're in need of shawls measuring **at least 22" x 60"**. If you have any questions please contact the Ministry: Bernadette at 973-893-0114, Sister Arleen at 973-338-9190, or Alicia at 973-473-6633



**NEW
ALTAR SERVER
TRAINING**

Jan. 28 & 29, 2010
Feb 4 & 5, 2010

All server training will be held in Church at 3:45 p.m. Students must attend one of the January dates and one of the February dates.

Additional training sessions may be scheduled.

If interested, please call the parish center by January 18th at 973-338-9190.

**St. Thomas the Apostle's
Men's and Women's
Cornerstone Retreat**



**To all Men and Women
who have attended a
Cornerstone retreat!**

**Will you come and join
us for a prayer service?**

Prayer service will be held in church on Thursday, January 21st, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

We will be praying for those men and women who will be attending the Cornerstone retreats this coming March.

Watch the bulletin for more details!

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

**NEW YEAR NEW BEGINNINGS
RETREAT DAY**

**Guided Retreat for Men & Women
Saturday, January 9, 2010**

9:00am - 4:00pm in the Parish Center



"Rise up, be off to the potter's house;
there I will give you my message."

Jeremiah 18:2

**Please Register by Jan 7
Anna Graziano - (973) 338-9538
Offering
Light Continental Breakfast
Bag a Lunch
Offering \$25**

**THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR INNER-CITY CHILDREN
2010 SFIC Basketball Festival**

For the past six years The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children has sponsored a High School Basketball Festival as a way to raise funds and awareness for our mission. We have assembled some of the top teams in the state to compete in the 2010 SFIC Basketball Festival.

Revenue from ticket sales of our Basketball Festival will go directly into our General Scholarship Fund which currently supports over 1,700 students with partial-tuition scholarships.

**Boys - Sunday, January 10
Kean University, Union, NJ**

12:15 pm St. Benedict's Prep vs. Our Savior New American

2:00 pm St. Anthony HS vs. NIA Prep

3:45 pm St. Patrick HS vs. Trenton Catholic HS

5:30 pm St. Peter's Prep vs. Hudson Catholic HS

Girls - Sunday, January 17

Paramus Catholic HS, Paramus, NJ

3:15 pm St. Anthony HS vs. Benedictine Academy

4:45 pm Paramus Catholic HS vs. Mother Seton HS

6:15 pm Marist HS vs. Mt. St. Dominic Academy

For more information, visit www.sfichoops.com
or call (973) 497-4279

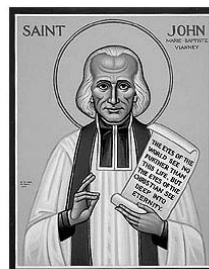
Prayer for The Year for Priests

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.



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