

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 10, 2010 . Baptism 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:

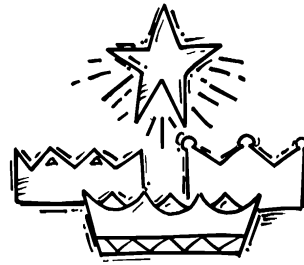
Christine Stile-Mazzeo, Theresa Ferreri, Patricia DeMarco
Sandra Lurhrf-Shaw, Ryan Joseph, Frank Korec,
Noelle Angela, Dan Fongaro, Elizabeth Dennin

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Melissa Hubert

Rectory: Stella Giampapa

Convent: Carmella Baldassarre



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.

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



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



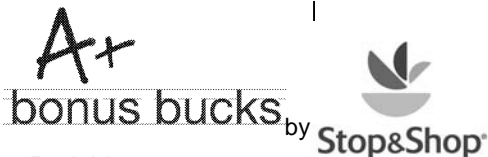
OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 10:00 A.M.
 Please come and explore our school and see for yourself what a wonderful place STA School is to enroll your child.

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.



Dear Parishioners:

Welcome to the A+ Bonus Bucks Program. St. Thomas the Apostle School will have the opportunity to earn cash through Stop&Shop A+ Bonus Bucks Program through March 25.

All you have to do is:

Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online

OR

Dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card by phone

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop&Shop using your Stop&Shop Card earns cash for our school! In addition, if you purchase any Extra Credit Items, which are specially marked items throughout the store, the school earns 50 extra points. Each month, the amount of cash awarded will be updated on the Stop&Shop website. You can track the amount of points earned for our school by checking your grocery receipt and by creating an account at www.stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

This simple process will make a huge difference to our school. We need your support. Please be sure to register your card to benefit **St. Thomas the Apostle School** using ID # **08625**.

Encourage your friends & relatives to register too!

Sincerely,

St. Thomas the Apostle Home & School

Tickets for the 2010 Calendar Raffle still on sale!

Additional tickets will be available at the Parish Center or by calling Gen Pezzino 973-771-0463. Last day to purchase is Jan. 31st. Proceeds will 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 @ 6:30pm. All proceeds will support the educational programs of STA School. For tickets, send/drop off check to STA School and include your name, phone number, address and total tickets requested. For information, contact Shana Polak, Tricky Tray Chair, at 973-771-1760 or shanapolak@aol.com.

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.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:	\$71,350
DECEMBER 27TH COLLECTION:	\$23,404
JANUARY 3RD COLLECTION:	\$18,963
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 ownership to Saint Thomas the Apostle Church.

"I thank God for my handicaps for, through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God."

~ Helen Keller

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 2008 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 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2010.

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

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 Shortage!!!

The Wellness Ministry is in need of volunteer drivers to help run errands such as shopping or doctor visits.



RIGHT TO LIFE

For all baptized Christians: That we live out our baptismal call to be witnesses to the truth of the Gospel and God's love for human life;

We pray to the Lord

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

01/10/10 KICK-OFF MEETING

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



NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Jan. 28, 29, 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!

TEAM MEMBERS OF WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE

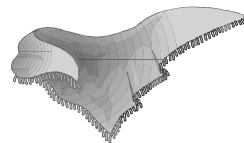
**We will be meeting Monday, January 11th and
Monday January 25th at 7:00 p.m.**

MEN'S CORNERSTONE – MARCH 12 and 13, 2010

"I thought it was for 'Holy Rollers', not me.
Boy, was I wrong!

– Jim McKittrick

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

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

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**

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 1/11

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

Thursday – 1/14

SCC Thursday – 7:00pm in St. Matthew

Friday – 1/15

SCC Friday – 6:30pm in St. Peter

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

The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children has sponsored High School Basketball Festivals to raise funds and awareness for our mission. We've 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**

12:15pm 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

Friends of Troop 22

Cosmic Bowling

Adult's Night Out

Brunswick Zone Bowl
679 Washington Ave., Belleville
(Next to McDonald's)



- Saturday, January 30, 2010-01-04
- 9:00 P.M. – 12:00 A.M.
- \$30 Per Person
- Includes: 3 hours of bowling (6 per lane)
- Please email your name and a list of bowlers to bowlgoal227@aol.com
- Or fill out form below and leave it in the parish center marked "Troop 22 Bowling".
- Must be 18 or over to attend

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

HOW MANY PEOPLE? _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

List team name and players' names on a separate sheet of paper.

Make checks payable to "Troop 22"