

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 31, 2010 . 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Week

Sunday, January 31

Saturday, January 30

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 31

7:30 am Dennis W. McDonald – Family

9:00 am Anne Sierchio – Sister

10:30 am Sal Nesto, Sr. – Family

12:00 pm Gina Safonte (15th Anniv.) – Parents

Monday, February 1

7:30 am Anthony Joseph DeBarros – Friend

11:30 am Josephine & Dominick Tortorello – Bequest

Tuesday, February 2

7:30 am Edna A. Carlos – Bequest

11:30 am Marie Raimo (35th Anniv.) – Sister

Wednesday, February 3

7:30 am Mary & Fred Roberts – Family

11:30 am Mary Fagan – Family

Thursday, February 4

7:30 am Deceased Members of the McIntyre Family – Bequest

11:30 am Alfred Lembo, Sr. – Wife

Friday, February 5

7:30 am Edna A. Carlos – Bequest

11:30 am John J. DeVito – Family

Saturday, February 6

8:30 am Deceased Members of the Burns & Boyle Families – Son & Daughter

Sunday, February 7

Saturday, February 6

5:00 pm Thomas P. Mahon, Jr. – Mother

Sunday, February 7

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am James A. McKittrick, Sr. – Family

10:30 am Veronica Kievit – Husband

12:00 pm Marie Ammann – Sisters

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

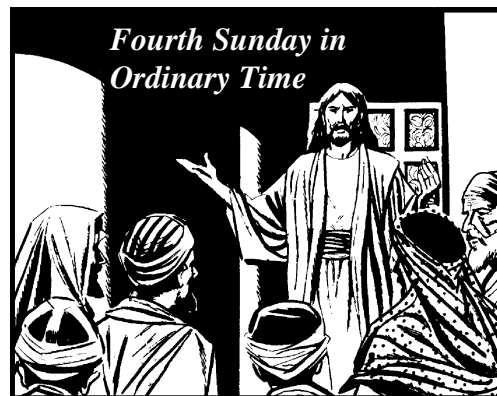
Christine Stile-Mazzeo, Lynn Zeuner, Ryan Joseph, Vera Esposito, Joanne & Jim Cox, Michael Monetti, Sr. Mary Helen Baker

REST IN PEACE:

Mary Bogusky, John A. Kubo, Catherine Frances Healy

CANDLE INTENTIONS: Church: Phyllis Freed

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



“Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” Lk 4:21

Today marks the middle of this post-Christmas/pre-Lenten season of Ordinary Time during winter. Last week we were introduced to Jesus’ ministry. The story continues with a semiconscious reading from Luke.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah speaks of God’s intimate and abiding knowledge of those he calls to proclaim his word. God’s intimate knowledge of his chosen instruments is accompanied by his promise of victory over and deliverance from those who oppose his word. Although we may at times protest God’s call, we are called to trust in his intimate knowledge of our lives and his pledge to deliver us from evil.

RESPONSORIAL: In singing Psalm 71, the Church asks for her members the gifts of God’s deliverance and the refuge promised to Jeremiah and to all those God calls to his service. As we have depended on the Lord since birth, let us continue to find our refuge in him.

SECOND READING: Paul reminds the struggling Church at Corinth of the extremely practical implications of the call to love, which he describes not primarily as tasks, but as a spiritual gift. Paul’s concept of love as a spiritual gift underscores the poignancy of his claim that love seeks and spends itself for the good of the other, and that love never fails. May we know love’s gift and share in the same reckless way that Jesus revealed the love of God.

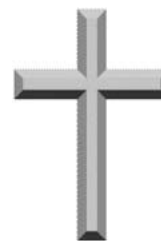
GOSPEL: Jesus is portrayed as a prophet whose message is despised and rejected by his own, and as a prophet whose life is protected from danger, as he walks through the midst of an angry crowd. Jesus challenged his own people with a message concerning the acceptance of God’s word and the working of his power among foreigners & outsiders. As Jesus’ own community, let us rejoice when non-Christians live in goodness and truth, and let us ask for greater openness to God’s word in our own lives.

**FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE
Wednesday, February 3, 2010**

The traditional blessing of throats on the Feast of St. Blaise will take place at all masses this Wednesday, Feb. 3rd.



From the Pastor's Desk...



Dear Parishioners,

Catholic Schools Week

Congratulations to St. Thomas the Apostle School Faculty and Students as they begin to celebrate Catholic Schools week this Sunday. The children who will speak at our masses this weekend give such a beautiful and energetic picture of our school through their words and expressions. We pray that this will be a memorable week under the leadership of our principal, Joan Ferrera, and through the efforts of our wonderful school staff and faculty.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Next Sunday, February 7th is *Pledge Sunday* for this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Some of our parishioners have already made their pledge through direct mailing from the Archbishop. Thank you to those of you who have done so. All our parishioners are being given the opportunity to participate in the 2010 Appeal.

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal has been a traditional part of our parish outreach and charitable contributions. We hope that you will continue that tradition by your participation this year.

Our goal is to reach everyone in the Parish and give you the opportunity to say "YES" to our Archbishop John J. Myers and the work of the Archdiocese of Newark. THANK YOU to all who help to make Saint Thomas a leading parish in the Archdiocese of Newark in our response to the Appeal.

World Marriage Day

Sunday, February 14th is World Marriage Day when we thank God for the tremendous gift of the sacrament of Matrimony. On this day, at all the masses, we give recognition to all who are celebrating their first anniversary or other significant wedding anniversaries in 2010. Those couples celebrating special anniversaries are asked to see the instructions printed later in today's bulletin.

Love in the Lord,

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

Rev. Charles J. Miller,
Pastor

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



*ALL ARE INVITED TO OUR
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.*

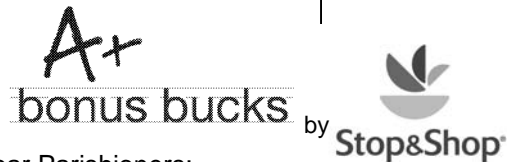
PARISHIONERS, please stop by and see how your contributions help our school.
ALUMNI, please stop by and say hello.
NEW FAMILIES, please stop by and explore our wonderful school:

- 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
- Jr. High Science / Synergistics Program
- Physical Education for all grades
- Spanish & Italian Classes
- Art & Music Classes, Advanced Technology
- 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

Career Day

**Wednesday, February 3, 2010
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**

We at St. Thomas the Apostle School are looking for volunteers — parents, relatives, or friends — with careers that will excite and inspire our 5th through 8th grade students. Volunteers will be treated to breakfast and lunch. If you haven't participated before, Career Day is a fun and rewarding way to share what you do with our STA kids.

STA Alumni...

What an opportunity to give back to your alma mater and the current students of STA School!

To sign-up or for more information, call Donna Elsby at 973-338-8505

Religious Education News

Congratulations to the 120 children who received their First Penance last weekend. The second graders have been working very hard memorizing their prayers and learning about God's love and forgiveness. Thank you to all their families and teachers who have put in so much time, energy, and enthusiasm in helping to prepare the children for this special day. Our Grade 2 CCD teachers are Diane Mautone, Patty Nucci, Kim Baldasare, Gerrie Michalek, Gail Bretz, Virginia Haverick, Deanna Rubino and Eileen O'Grady and our STA school teacher is Ellen Naughton. We ask that you continue to remember these children and teachers in your prayers as they now begin preparations for First Holy Communion in the spring.



Summer CCD is closed – we will no longer be accepting registration forms.

First Communion Parent's meeting dates – Monday, February 1st or Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00pm in Herron Hall. This is a mandatory meeting for all parents of children in second grade. Important information about First Communion will be distributed. Parents may attend either meeting

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.



JANUARY 17TH COLLECTION	\$17,391
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK:	\$20,500

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 EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND.


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.



RIGHT TO LIFE

For all prisoners on death row: That our Lord's promise of his Divine Mercy will transform their hearts and lead them to repentance.

We pray to the Lord



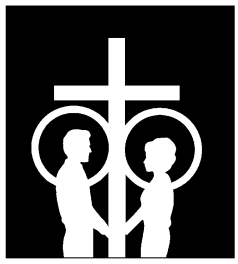
The Rosary Society

Our *Deceased Members Mass* will take place on Monday, Feb. 1st at 7:00 p.m. with a meeting immediately after the Mass. Please join us at this time of remembrance. Thank you. Any questions, please call Rosalie Mescall at 973-893-8186.

Confirmation 2010!!!

ATTENTION CONFIRMATION PARENTS!!!

Confirmation registration and meeting in the parish center after all masses February 13/14 and February 20/21.



WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

On Sunday, February 14th, we will celebrate World Marriage Day. Accordingly, we will be giving a special blessing to all married couples at weekend masses; especially those who are celebrating significant anniversaries this year. If you were married in 2009 (celebrating your first anniversary), or if you are celebrating your 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, or more years of marriage in 2010, please call the Parish Center by Monday, Feb. 8th and provide us with your names, the date of your marriage, a contact phone number, and which mass you plan on attending so we can be prepared to acknowledge your special anniversary.

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:

2/6 (SAT) SUPER BOWL LOCK - IN
2/14 COOKIE NIGHT
2/20 CASTING CROWNS PRU CENTER

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

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.

Wellness Tips

February is American Heart Month. Certain risks factors of heart disease, such as getting older or having a family history of early heart disease, cant be changed. But *physical inactivity is a major risk of heart disease that you can control.* To reduce the risk of heart disease, adults only need to do 30 minutes of moderate activity on most, preferably all, days of the week. This level of activity can also lower your chances of having a stroke, colon cancer, high blood pressure, diabetes, and other medical problems. *National Institutes of Health*

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 2/1
September Club – 10:30am in St. Peter

Wednesday – 2/3
SCC Wednesday – 7:00pm

Friday – 2/5
Tax Preparations – 10:00am to 12:00pm in St. Peter
SCC Friday – 6:30pm in St. Peter

18th Annual Holy Name Society's
"Irish Night"

Saturday, March 6, 2010, 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.
St. Thomas the Apostle School – Herron Hall

featuring

JIMMY BYRNE

*Traditional Irish Music, Irish Step Dancing,
Bag Piper, Sing-Along and Raffle*

• Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner •
Irish Soda Bread • Beer • Wine • Soda • "BYOB"

Tickets: \$25.00 Per Person (Not available at door)

Deadline: February 27, 2010

For information, call Frank Helmstetter at 973-338-5872.

***** Men's Cornerstone Retreat *****

(March 12th ~ March 13th)

All Saint Thomas Men are Invited

**All are invited to Hospitality on Super Bowl Sunday
February 7th after all the masses.**

**Be sure to come to the Parish Center and get your
day going by enjoying a continental breakfast**

Our Men's Cornerstone 5th annual retreat will be on
March 12th & 13th here in our parish. Please don't miss
this life changing experience. Brochures are at all the
doors of the parish. Please take one and sign-up ASAP!

What is Cornerstone?

Cornerstone is a **26-hour retreat** which provides you
with the opportunity to reflect, renew, and strengthen
your faith while meeting other men in our Parish
community. The retreat is hosted here at St Thomas by
a group of men from our parish who have experienced
last year's Cornerstone.

This retreat is a gathering of **Ordinary Men** sharing
stories and life's experiences. You may share in the
discussion as much or as little as you choose. This is an
outstanding opportunity to:

- examine your relationship with God, your family and others in your life
- think about those things that matter to you most in an atmosphere that lends itself to reflection and contemplation
- "jump-start" your sense of belonging or involvement in our parish, and enjoy the fellowship of other men who seek to build our Christian community.

This is a great opportunity to step out of the hustle of
daily life and meet and interact with other men of the
parish, in a friendly, welcoming, **non-judgmental
environment.**

If you have any questions please contact our
Cornerstone Welcoming Team:

John Barbetta (973) 338-5086 jbarbetta2@verizon.net
Pat DeCotiis (973) 896-5739 pdecotiis@att.com
Dan Leon (862) 596-3589 dleon@oritani.com

A Note of Thanks.....

A thank you from St. Joseph Social Service Center

Thanks so much to all who donated new clothing, toys,
food and monetary gifts at Christmas time. You made it
possible for many people to enjoy a wonderful holiday!
Because of your kindness, they received warm clothing,
hot meals and gifts for their children. In the true spirit of
Christmas, you shared with those in need! May this new
year bring you many blessings of peace, love and joy!

Sister Jacinta Fernandes and Staff

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~

Upcoming 2010 Day Trips

FOR INFORMATION: CALL JEAN AT 973-777-2278

Lakeside Manor Big Band Dinner Theater

Featuring The Jimmy Merchant Orchestra
March 18, 2010

INCLUDES:

- ROUNDTrip MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
- ENJOY DANCING – SHOW – LINE DANCING
- COMPLETE LUNCHEON INCLUDES: 2 DRINK TICKETS AND SALAD 3 ENTREES TO CHOOSE FROM, DESSERT, COFFEE AND TEA

PRICE

MEMBERS: \$60.00 --- NONMEMBERS: \$63.00

**SIGHT & SOUND
THEATERS**

IN LANCASTER, PA - MAY 5, 2010

The Psalms of David

INCLUDES:

- ROUNDTrip MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET
- ADMISSION TO THE SHOW

PRICE

MEMBERS: \$80.00 --- NONMEMBERS: 82.00

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

Journey Through Lent Series

7:30pm - 9:30pm

Feb 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

Guest Speakers Include

Fr. Tom Blind - St Thomas Apostle Parish
/ Kean University

Fr Andrew Onyemaobi - St Thomas Apostle Parish
Deacon Tom Coyle - St Thomas Apostle Parish

Fr. Gerald McIntyre, SJ - Loyola House of Retreats

Fr. Gerald Greaves - St Raphael Parish

Fr. Al Berner - Caldwell College

To Register: Anna (973) 338-9190