

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

March 28, 2010 . Palm Sunday

Masses for the Week

Sunday, March 28

Saturday, March 27

5:00 pm Lena Grillo – Daughter & Son-in-Law

Sunday, March 28

7:30 am Ernest & Philomena Cordasco & Joseph Bianchi – Family

9:00 am Joseph Foti – Friends

10:30 am For the People of the Parish

12:00 pm Deceased Members of the Guerra & Calzon Families – Family

Monday, March 29

7:30 am Vincent Lipoma, Sr. - Son & Daughter-in-law

11:30 am John Petrus – Family

Tuesday, March 30

7:30 am Frances Scardilli – Daughter

11:30 am Lois Heiart – Friend

Wednesday, March 31

7:30 am Victoria Snoke – Friend

11:30 am Sal Nesto, Sr. – Wife

Thursday, April 1 HOLY THURSDAY

No Morning Masses

7:30 pm George Stoeckel, Sr. – Friend

Peter Rohan, Jr. – Family

Anita Kay – Friend

Friday, April 2 GOOD FRIDAY

No Masses

Saturday, April 3 HOLY SATURDAY

No Morning Mass – No 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, April 4 Easter Sunday

Saturday, April 3 EASTER VIGIL MASS

8:15 pm Peter Dambrowsky – Family

Peter Rohan, Jr. – Family

Robert Imfeld – Family

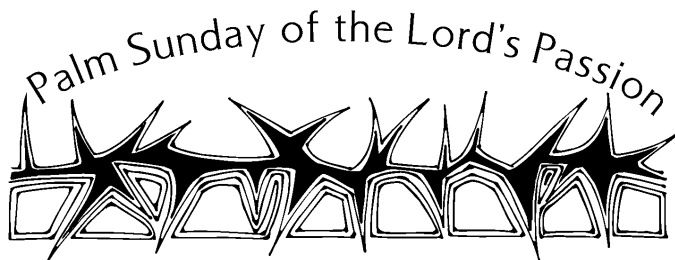
Sunday, April 4

7:30 am Ernest & Philomena Cordasco & Joseph Bianchi – Family

9:00 am Veronica Kievit – Family

10:30 am Thomas Brady – Family

12:00 pm For the People of the Parish



The fourth-century pilgrim Egeria provides a vivid early account of a Palm Sunday celebration in Jerusalem:

That particular passage from scripture is read in which the children bearing palms and branches came forth to meet the Lord, saying: *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.* The bishop and all the people rise immediately, and then everyone walks down from the top of the Mount of Olives, with the people preceding the bishop and responding continually with *blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord* to the hymns and antiphons. All the children who are present here, including those who are not yet able to walk because they are too young and therefore are carried on their parents' shoulders, all of them bear branches, some carrying palms, others, olive branches... From the top of the mountain as far as the city, and from there through the entire city, everyone accompanies the bishop the whole way on foot, and this includes distinguished ladies and men of consequence, reciting the responses all the while. (*Egeria: Diary of a Pilgrimage, 104-105*)

In Rome, meanwhile, the Sixth Sunday of Lent had its own, quite different character. Passion Sunday, not Palm Sunday, was marked by the reading of the Passion according to Matthew and the giving of the creed to the catechumens. It wasn't until the ninth century—doubtless under the influence of pilgrims like Egeria—that the procession with psalms made its way from Jerusalem to the Church in the West (Rome). As often happens in the liturgy, the new element was simply added onto the existing rites. The name that we now give to this solemnity, "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion" acknowledges the dual nature of the celebration. Palm Sunday, as we celebrate it today, is full of liturgical "whiplash": juxtaposition of contrasting moods we will feel over and over again during Holy Week.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Dorothy Saccarro, Esmie Atkinson, Diane Guagliardo

REST IN PEACE:

Joanne D. Cox, Audrey Brown, Alfred J. La Rocca

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Anne Laudati

www.stachurchbloomfield.com

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.



MARCH 21ST COLLECTION: \$19,419
AMOUNT NEEDED PER WEEK: \$20,500



Holy Week

Holy Monday, March 29

Masses at 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Holy Tuesday, March 30

Masses at 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

(The Office of Tenebrae is characterized by successive extinguishing of candles. Every word is taken from Scripture.)

Holy Wednesday, March 31

Masses at 7:30 and 11:30 AM

Sacred Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 1

7:30PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Followed by Bread and Wine Fellowship in the Parish Center



11 PM Night Prayer

Good Friday, April 2

The Church will be open from 8 Am to 9 PM

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

3:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:30 PM Living Stations of the Cross

Presented by the STA Youth Group



Holy Saturday, April 3

8:30AM Morning Prayer

8:15PM The Great Easter Vigil



Easter Sunday, April 4

Masses at 7:30, 9, 10:30, and 12 Noon.

Tenebrae service will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m.

What is a Tenebrae Service?

The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows and dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. There are candles lit and a Christ Candle. As we pray, our voices rise to God like incense and the candles are extinguished one at a time until all that is left is the Christ Candle. The Christ Candle is then hidden for a time, thought not extinguished, to signify that death could not really obtain dominion over Christ even though it appeared to do so. The congregation is left in near total darkness—and near total devastation. At this point, the service ends. There is no benediction and the people leave in silence. (The lights are turned up but remain dim so that people can see their way out.)

The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. Everyone exits in silence. **All are welcome.**

Triduum A SENSE OF THE SEASON

The word Triduum comes from the Latin and means "three days." It is commonly pronounced "TRIH-doo-uhm" and is usually used in reference to the Easter Triduum, the three most sacred days in the church year. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaches its high point at the Easter Vigil and concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. Often there is confusion about how that block of time can be counted as three days. The traditional Jewish practice of counting days from sunset to sunset is used during the Triduum. Thus, Holy Thursday evening to Good Friday evening is the first day, Good Friday evening to Holy Saturday evening is the second day and Holy Saturday evening to Sunday evening is the third day. After centuries of neglect, Pope Pius XII in 1955 restored the Triduum liturgies to their rightful place as the culmination of the entire liturgical year.

Although we talk of the three days, our Triduum prayer is best understood as one liturgy in three interlocking movements. The death and resurrection of the Lord cannot be separated. The meaning of these days is distorted when we imagine that the liturgy re-enacts the final events in the life of Jesus in a sort of historical review. We miss the point in that case. The mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection is a present reality; the boundaries of time, and the boundaries of death, have no power here.

Our past, present and future are irrevocably marked by our own immersion into this mystery through baptism. We wash one another's feet, reverence the cross, light fires in the night and proclaim the stories of our salvation with an awed awareness that this is what it means to be baptized. The Easter Vigil then is the premier time to welcome new members into the church through baptism, confirmation and Eucharist.

Ideally, no other parish events are scheduled on these three days; the presence, time and energy of every person in the community are needed for what we do here. Yes, this may be inconvenient, but birth and death are rarely convenient! Our forty days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving lead us to the Triduum—beyond its history, into its mystery.

2010 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between ages 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those age 14 and over are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2010 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, May 30, 2010.**

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS

St. Thomas the Apostle School 2010 Calendar Sweepstakes Winners!

MARCH

22	\$50	Sister Claire Donnelly
23	\$75	Thomas Rossi
24	\$50	Cielito Baytan
25	\$200	Stern Family
26	\$50	Concetta C. Hagel
27	\$50	Marie Parziale
28	\$50	Eric Escobinas

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!!!

Religious Education News

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

There is NO CCD the week of April 4th (Easter Week.) Classes will resume the week of April 11th.
Happy Easter to all!



Session Dates for Baptism 2010

CATECHESIS PREPARATION

St. Thomas Room in the Parish Center

May 16, 2010	1:00 p.m.
June 13	1:00 p.m.
September 12	1:00 p.m.
October 17	1:00 p.m.

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

May 2, 2010	1:30 p.m.
June 6	1:30 p.m.
June 27	1:30 p.m.
July 18	1:30 p.m.
August 15	1:30 p.m.
September 18	during the 5:00 p.m. mass

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

HOLY WEEK IS QUIET WEEK

Palm Sunday through Holy Saturday
NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

All are encouraged to attend Holy Week services!

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

STA Respect Life and Good Counsel Homes



Don't forget to keep filling up your baby bottles with loose change to help to help Good Counsel homes. Good Counsel has four pro-life homes for mothers and operates a national crisis pregnancy hotline (800-723-8331). Baby bottles will be collected the weekend of April 18 in church's main vestibule. Thank you for saying YES to life!



RIGHT TO LIFE

For the dying: That their faith in God will sustain them in their final days and that, by joining their suffering to that of Christ's Passion, countless souls may be saved;

We pray to the Lord

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 are available in the Parish Center every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon except Good Friday, April 2nd.

It is not necessary to make an appointment. Come to the Parish Center to get your taxes done or to speak to a tax preparer.

**St. Thomas the Apostle's Adult Enrichment
Presents**



**Understanding the Lord's Prayer
and Hail Mary**

Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2010
Time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Place: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center
Cost: \$10.00 suggested donation (payable at door)
Registration: Call 973.338.9190 x29 by April 19.

Speaker: Dr. Gregory Glazov is a professor of Biblical Studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology and coordinator of the Great Spiritual Books certificate program for the Institute for Christian Spirituality. Dr. Glazov is a graduate of Oxford University and the author of "The 'Bridling of the Tongue' and the 'Opening of the Mouth' in Biblical Prophecy." He is also the author of numerous articles and book reviews.

Rosary Society Meeting

The praying of the Rosary will take place on Monday, April 5th at 7:00 p.m. in Church with our meeting immediately after. Please join us at this time. Any questions, please call Rosalie Mescall at 973-893-8186.



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 Ministry Offers CENSUS Help

The Wellness Ministry is offering help, to those who need help filling out Census Forms. Simply call the parish center at 973-338-9190 and leave a message at ext. 20, and someone will contact you.

True Love Waits 1

For all those interested in teaching youth about the beauty of true love and chastity, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Newark, will offer a **True Love Waits** training program on Saturday, April 10, from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. You can be trained to give a five-session program for middle and high school students. The program includes skits, videos discussions and role plays. Subjects include: achieving life's goals; what the church and bible teach about sex; consequences of premarital sex; resisting peer pressure. Cost is \$50 per person if registered by April 3rd or \$65 after April 3rd. For more information, call 201.804.8331.

~ ~ September Club Travel ~ ~

Upcoming 2010 Day Trips
 FOR INFORMATION: CALL JEAN AT 973-777-2278

STATUE OF LIBERTY & ELLIS ISLAND
 June 24, 2010

- INCLUDES:**
- ROUNDTRIP MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
 - ADMISSION TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY
 - LUNCHEON SPECIAL INCLUDING: SOUP OR SALAD, RICE OR CHOCOLATE PUDDING, POTATO AND VEGETABLE WITH ENTRÉE.



PRICE
 MEMBERS: \$43.00 --- NONMEMBERS: \$45.00

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

PARISH REGISTRATION



If you are presently not on our mailing list, receiving envelopes and the various parish mailings, chances are that you are not a registered member of our parish. You are not automatically a registered member because you were married here, if you were brought up here and lived in the parish with your parents or went to school here. Membership is by formal registration only. Simply call the Parish Center at (973) 338-9190 and let us know that you wish to register and the registration form will be mailed to you. Simply return and you're set! We'll take care of the rest!

JOIN THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF
SAINT ELIZABETH IN CELEBRATION OF
150 YEARS AT APRIL GALA

THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM AT THE 150TH
ANNIVERSARY GALA ON APRIL 17, 2010 AT THE HANOVER
MARRIOTT, WHIPPANY, NJ.

THE EVENT BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M. TICKETS ARE \$350.⁰⁰
EACH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 973-290-5454
OR VISIT WWW.SCNJ.ORG.



LACORDAIRE ACADEMY

**It's that time again!
Donate Used Books
for a Great Cause –
Educating Young People!**

Lacordaire Academy is accepting
donations of gently-used hardcover,
paperback and audio books for its annual book sale.
this year, proceeds benefit arts and sciences at the
academy.

It's So Easy! Think of us during spring cleaning and
drop off your books any time under the covered porch at
the front door of the high school–155 Lorraine
Ave.(entrance on Park Street.), Upper Montclair.
Deadline for donations is May 10, 2010.

Lacordaire's Annual Used Book Sale will take place
Thursday-Sunday, May 20-24, 2010. For more info,
contact Suzanne or Teresa at LacoBookSale@msn.com.

St. Lucy's Church
118 7th Ave., Newark, NJ
National Shrine of St. Gerard

All are invited to participate in the First Annual Mass
in Celebration of St. Gerard's Birthday, April 11, 2010
at 12:15 p.m. at St. Lucy's Church, Newark, NJ.
Procession around the Plaza, rosary, and benediction
immediately following mass.
Coffee and pastry to follow.

**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.

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

Only \$1599

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