

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. Andrew N. Onyemaobi, M.Div., M.A. • Rev. Camilo E. Cruz, M. Div.
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 2, 2011 . Epiphany of the Lord

Masses for the Week

Sunday, January 2

Saturday, January 1

5:00 pm Patrick F. Curran – Family

Sunday, January 2

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am Jean Powers – Family

10:30 am James & Mary Zampino – Sister

12:00 pm Deceased members of the Zingaro & Martucci Families – Family

Monday, January 3

7:30 am Louis & Lucy DeFalco – Bequest

11:30 am Margaret Mary Decker – Friend

Tuesday, January 4

7:30 am Patricia Murri – Friend

11:30 am Dorothy Sullivan – Family

Wednesday, January 5

7:30 am Loretta DiMichele – Bequest

11:30 am Joseph Marcheel – Family

Thursday, January 6

7:30 am Betty Ann Gilchrist – Friends

11:30 am Thomas J. McGarry – Bequest

Friday, January 7

7:30 am Bridget Agnes Owens – Bequest

11:30 pm Thomas Walsh – Mother

Saturday, January 8

8:30 am Thomas J. Owens – Bequest

5:00 pm Ann Riley – Bequest

Sunday, January 9

Sunday, January 8

7:30 am Millie Ciampi – Family

9:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:30 am Ted Wohlbold – Wife

12:00 pm Joseph Marcheel – Family

PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Robert Colucci, Alan White, Halle Ava Barrett

REST IN PEACE:

Virginia Anne Fazzi

CANDLE INTENTIONS:

Church: Paul Girbino



Epiphany of the Lord

The Epiphany of the Lord is one of the great solemnities of the liturgical year. Traditionally celebrated on January 6th, the twelfth day after Christmas, it is so important that in many countries, including the United States of America, it is transferred to the nearest Sunday. Why is it so important? Because it is our celebration. At Christmas, we celebrate the Word becoming flesh. At the Epiphany, we celebrate the news getting out—revelation of this amazing reality to the world.

Epiphany comes to us from the East, as its Greek name indicates. The word means “manifestation, showing forth or advent.” In the Eastern Churches, this day marked three great moments in the life of Christ: his manifestation to the Gentiles (the wise men of Matthew 2), his baptism in the Jordan (Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2). While the Church in the West emphasizes the visit of the Magi to the infant Christ today, with the Baptism of the Lord commemorated on its own nearby feast, a hint of the ancient origins of the Epiphany survives in the antiphons at the Liturgy of the Hours for today: “Three mysteries mark this holy day: today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; today Christ will be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation” (The Liturgy of the Hours, antiphon for Evening Prayer II, volume 1, p. 573).

FIRST READING: The poetry of Isaiah begins with Jerusalem—“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come” (Isaiah 60:1). But this light that shines over Jerusalem becomes a beacon light for the whole world. As the reading continues, the prophet sees people of every land drawn by that great light, and bringing to Jerusalem all their riches.

RESPONSORIAL: Psalm 72 is a prayer for a king whose rule lasts forever, and whose reign is justice and peace. This king, with his special care for the poor and the afflicted, will be obeyed not just by one nation, but “all nations shall serve him” (Psalm 72: 11). Notice the allusions to kings from far-off lands, bringing gifts.

SECOND READING: St. Paul has glimpsed the mystery of God’s grace, freely given not only to Israel but to the Gentiles. And God gives his grace abundantly, for the Gentiles will not be second-class citizens, but “co-partners,” equals (Ephesians 3: 6).

SCHOOL, RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS



**Hosted by
St Thomas the Apostle
Home & School Assoc.**

**Performed by SurfFlight Theatre
Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.
in the Auditorium * Doors open 2:30 p.m.**
Limited seating. Order your tickets today!
All orders due by January 23, 2011

Family Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____


City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Quantity: Adults @ \$12.00 _____

Children 12 & under @ \$10.00 _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Checks payable to: STA Home & School Assoc.
Mail to: St. Thomas the Apostle School Office
Att: Marilyn Sartori or Barbara Espinal
50 Byrd Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Ticket Questions ? Call Marilyn @ 973-634-7789
or Barbara @ 973-224-0480

St. Thomas the Apostle School
MOMMY 'n ME PLAYGROUP
Tuesday Mornings 
11:00 a.m. till 11:45 in the school gym

- ☺ The playgroup will serve children from 2-4 years old
- ☺ The playgroup aims to promote new and lasting friendships for both children and their parents.
- ☺ Parents will be responsible for the supervision of their children at all times.
- ☺ If you, or a friend, have any questions, please call the school office at **973-338-8505**.

www.stthomastheapostlenj.com

Free program!



Reminder: Please register or re-register your Stop & Shop Card for the A+ Bonus Bucks School Rewards Program. You must re-register every year. The program only runs through March 25, 2011. 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 over the phone. The St. Thomas the Apostle School ID # is 08625.

Thank you for your support!

STA SOCIETIES, MINISTRIES & EVENTS

"THIS WEEK"

Monday – 1/3

September Club – 11:30am in St. Peter

Thursday – 1/6

Job Seekers – 7:00pm in St. Peter

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. The year to date (YTD) amount compared to the budget is also shown below. This line will be updated monthly.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

TONIGHT 6PM ADVENT MASS IN CHURCH FOLLOWED BY DINNER AND GIFT EXCHANGE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

JANUARY 9TH KICK-OFF MEETING FOR 2011

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.



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

Don't let your job search get you down. St. Thomas's Work Ministry offers a free, comfortable place to find support, ideas, and inspiration.

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7:30 in the Parish Center. Keep checking the bulletin for our programs geared to help in your job search. All are welcome to join us if you are looking for a job or need a person to fill a position. For more info, send an e-mail to workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com

PLANNED GIVING

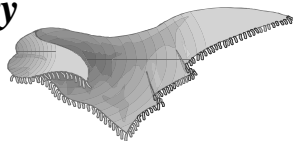
Here are some other ways You can help St. Thomas the Apostle Church continue its mission of serving God's people. Give a gift of cash or check for general use or a specific purpose. Give a gift of stocks or bonds. There could be a significant tax advantage to you if there has been appreciation in their value and they are transferred to St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

A bequest in your will assures 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 St. 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 St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Let us continue to pray for
those making shawls and
those who receive them*



All are welcome to work and pray with us. If you have any questions or you wish to give someone a shawl or lap robe, please contact the Ministry Bernadette at 973-893-0114, Sister Arleen at 973-338-9190 or Alicia at 973-473-6633



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

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.

Save the Date !!!

Don't Miss The 40th Reunion of the Class of 1971



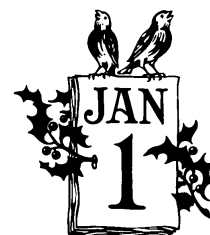
St. Thomas the Apostle

*Saturday March 12, 2011 7:00pm
50 Byrd Avenue Bloomfield NJ*

\$50.00 per person

The Graduating Class of 1971 is having its 40th Reunion on March 12, 2011. It is scheduled to be held in Herron Hall. We are still in the process of locating some of our classmates. If you were a member of that class, or know someone who was, and have contact information, please call **Chris Helm** at **973-951-7669** or email him at chrishelm@optonline.net

*A very
Happy New Year!*



from your St. Thomas family!

PARISH INFORMATION

REGISTRATION FOR

Did you know

ST. THOMAS PARISH

If you are presently not on our mailing list, receiving envelopes and the various parish mailings, the chances are that you are not a registered member of our parish. You are not automatically a registered member because you were married here or even 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. Just 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. Thank you.

How Do I Arrange a Wedding?

Archdiocesan policy requires that arrangements be made with a Parish Priest at least one year before the wedding date. Arrangements can be made by calling the Parish Center, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You should be a registered parishioner of St. Thomas in order to be married here.

"Time of Marriage"

Well in advance of making other arrangements for your wedding, the time of your marriage should be arranged with one of the Parish Priests.

'Directives'

You should consult one of the parish priests concerning the current Church law when a Catholic is marrying a person of another faith. All procedures for Marriage Preparation must still be followed,

In preparation for Marriage here at Saint Thomas, you would ask you to be willing to follow the norms set by Canon (Church) Law, Archdiocesan and Parish Policy.

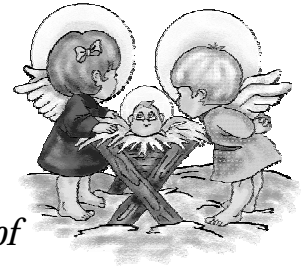
Baptisms

We remind you to contact the parish at least three months prior to the Baptism of your child.

We have scheduled various dates for Baptisms during the year. These schedules are published in the Bulletin and are available at the Parish Center.

Baptism is a community celebration. Individual Baptisms are normally performed only in case of necessity.

***Believe the Promise,
Share the Hope,
Live the Joy!***



As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, may the gift of Jesus fill your heart with peace and love today and always.

The Saint Thomas the Apostle School Community

Women & Spirit:

Catholic Sisters in America

Catholic Sisters in America, a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Leadership Council of Women Religious (LCWR) is at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, Statue of Liberty National Monument through January 22, 2011. This creative and compelling exhibit illustrates the enormous impact the lives of these remarkable women have had and continue to have on both our church and our nation's history. Visit www.womenandspirit.org for more information.

*Every time you smile at someone,
it is an action of love,
a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.*

- Mother Teresa

St. Thomas the Apostle Mission Statement

The Roman Catholic faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle recognizes God's call to be a sign of His Kingdom in the communities we serve. We respond to this call by:

- † Leading people to a deeper relationship with Christ by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, renewal, education, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the worship of God in the sacred liturgy;
- † Encouraging a commitment to justice and to service of those in need;
- † Promoting good stewardship of our time, talent and treasure;
- † Building a community of hospitality and support in the daily living out of Christian ideals by nourishing mutual respect and understanding within our Church, our families, our community, and other faith traditions.

**DON'T MISS THE
Children's Christmas
Epiphany Pageant
TODAY (Sunday 1/2/11) !!!**

COME SEE THE CHILDREN OF THE PARISH,
Ages Pre-K4 – Grade 4,
TODAY Immediately following 12 noon
Mass, as they play Angels and Shepherds
in our Nativity and Epiphany pageant.



Dear Jesus,
as You led the Three Kings
to You by the light of a star,
please draw us ever closer
to You by the light of Faith.
Help us to desire You
as ardently as they did.
Give us the grace to overcome
all the obstacles
that keep us far from You.
May we, like them,
have something to give You
when we appear before You.
Mary, Our Mother, help us to
know Your Son.

Amen.

“There are international campaigns afoot to reduce birth-rates, sometimes using methods that respect neither the dignity of the woman, nor the right of parents to choose responsibly how many children to have; graver still, these methods often fail to respect even the right to life. The extermination of millions of unborn children, in the name of the fight against poverty, actually constitutes the destruction of the poorest of all human beings.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI, “Message for the
Celebration of the World Day of Peace,” Jan. 1, 2009

A very happy New Year!

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

~ Helen Keller



LOST AND FOUND BOXES ARE
LOCATED IN THE BACK OF THE
CHURCH AS WELL AS IN THE
PARISH CENTER. THERE ARE
READING GLASSES, GLOVES,
KEYS ETC. STOP BY TO SEE IF
ANYTHING MAY BELONG TO
YOU.



Let us Pray...

Through the long winters of our lives,
we turn to you, God,
for strength and courage.

Stand by us
as we struggle through seasons
of darkness, loss and uncertainty.
We place our trust in you
for you are the God
of constancy and blessed assurance.
In you alone we find perfect rest.

AMEN

Our lives are busy...

...but the purpose of our lives is all about relationships - with God as well as with each other. To neglect our relationships, especially with those who are close to us, is to not exercise good stewardship.