

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

November 15, 2020 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



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A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them.

— Matthew 25:1

Rev. Mirosław Stachurski, Pastor
(203) 866-3141

203 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Family Mass Every Sunday at 9:00 am.
Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Daily Mass

Monday, November 16

7:00 AM† Deceased Relatives & Friends of
St. Thomas Parish
5:30 PM† Poor Souls

Tuesday, November 17

7:00 AM† Reginald Festa
5:30 PM† Maria Orsi

Wednesday, November 18

7:00 AM† Joe Nolan
5:30 PM Intentions of Fr. Greg Markey

Thursday, November 19

7:00 AM† William & Carmela O'Boy
5:30 PM† Dorothy Haas

Friday, November 20

7:00 AM† Fred Hill (1st Anniversary)
5:30 PM† Marjorie Steeves

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, November 21

5:15 PM† Ellen Morrone

Sunday, November 22

7:30 AM†	John Pagliano	Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM†	Thomas H. McNeil	Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM†	Josephine & Pasquale Tarzia	Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM†	For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased	Fr. Ralph

Celebrant
Fr. Mirek

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2020	2019
November 8		
Collection	\$4,045.00	\$5,341.76
On-Line	\$2,491.00	\$2,391.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	\$4,667.00	\$5,865.76

Votives \$ 126.00 \$ 133.61

Diocesan Assessment

The assessment is used to cover the cost of Diocesan operations and schools. The formula is based on all gross receipts. For our 2021 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralricum Assessment is \$89,705. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,869. This represents an annual increase of \$104.00 from the prior year.



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil/ Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until February 1, 2021.

We welcome the newly Baptized into the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Juliana Ayala Guner Leah Dolores Peden

Congratulations to their parents, families & friends!

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.

Please remember in your prayers:

Isabel Sefton Rayden Jamal Simpson

We extend our sympathy to her family & friends.



The Sanctuary Candle burns
November 15th through November 21st
for Matthew Cronin.

We just changed the camera in the church & have a new link.



<https://www.ipcamlive.com/thomasnorwalk>



Confessions in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.
Masks must be worn.

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar

Office Hours:

Appointments 10-3 Monday through
Thursday & Friday 10-12
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Rectory Staff:

Catherine Mulvehill
Business Manager

Cathy Lauder
Parish Secretary

Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Michelle O'Mara, DRE
stthomasnorwalkred@gmail.com

Kathryn Grieco, Secretary
General Office Email
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasvg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

THIS WEEKEND



Thanksgiving Food Drive at the St. Thomas Parish Food Pantry

**Bring your donations Saturday, November 14th, from 10:00 AM to noon
or after all Masses that same weekend, November 14th-15th.**

Suggested donations:

1. Hams, turkeys, trimmings (stuffing, instant potatoes, gravy, cranberries).
2. Fresh produce: potatoes, sweet potatoes, yams, onions, and apples.
3. Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, flour, cake and other mixes, frosting, etc.
4. Condiments: mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, syrup, jelly/jam.

Two small to medium size cans, packages, or boxes rather than one large one allows us to distribute to more families.

The Connecticut Food Bank has supplied the Food Pantry very generously with many staples especially with rice and pasta.

Thank you for your generosity!

**Turkeys will be distributed to families in need
Saturday the 21st from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.**



**ANNUAL WREATH SALE
TO BENEFIT
BOY SCOUT TROOP 222
AFTER ALL MASSES
DECEMBER 5th & 6th
ONLY \$20.00!**



Our Boy Scout Troop will be selling beautiful double-sided balsam wreath, decorated with a red velvet bow and pinecones - door sized \$20.

This is the only fundraiser for the troop. Proceeds are used to offset the costs for the boys' events during the year.

**Orders are now being taken until
December 7th**

Orders will be delivered by a Scout. If a no-contact delivery is preferred, just tape an envelope to the door with a check made out to: Troop 222. Please call (203) 847-1794 or email to glupinek@gmail.com with your information and Gwen will take care of your order.

Please support our Boy Scout Troop with your purchase!

For more information about Boy Scout Troop 222, please go to their web page at troop222norwalk.scoutlander.com

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU!!

Thank you to Jane Eichwald and Kay O'Gara for all their work done for the Memorial Mass held on All Saints Day. Thank you, also, to our Music Director, Marge Kelley, for her thoughtful input of hymns. It was a beautiful tribute to all our parishioners that have gone to their rest within the past year.

The next digital version of the missalette is not available to our parishioners. We do, however, have the actual missalette available for pick up during regular office business hours. Please call the office before coming - (203) 866-3141.



If you would like to arrange a baptism, please call the office at (203) 866-3141. If this is your first baby, you will need to complete the Pre-Baptism class with one of our priests. We will work with you to find the best day and time to fit your schedule. The current mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all baptisms as well.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

The Gospel for this weekend provides us with the opportunity to consider two questions that are primary as we await our Lord's return at the end of the age: who are we, and what are we supposed to do? Now, we know that we are called *disciples*, which is translated from the Greek word "mathetes," meaning *student*, and the Latin word "discipulus," meaning both *student* and *follower*.

So, as disciples, we both learn from Jesus, and we strive to follow Him according to what He teaches us. Also, we are *stewards*, that is, we are to properly and faithfully care for what Jesus gave His Church, and any gift He gives to each one of us; and finally, we are His *servants*, in that we do what Jesus commands us.

At first glance, we can see at the very beginning of this Gospel that Jesus seeks to teach us through a parable, and because Jesus entrusts us with what He gives us we are His stewards. But as servants of Jesus Christ, what are we, according to this Gospel, supposed to do with what Jesus teaches us and gives us?

In St. Paul's Letter to the Romans we read: "Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: if prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering; if one is a teacher, in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation; if one contributes, in generosity; if one is over others, with diligence; if one does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." (Rom 12: 6-8) Also, in the First Letter of St. Peter, we read: "As good stewards of the manifold grace of God, each of you should use whatever gift he has received to serve one another." (1 Pt 4:10)

Now, as you know, there are many opportunities here at St. Thomas Church to participate in the ministry of this parish, and we are all striving to do whatever we can, especially during these challenging times both with regard to the culture in which we live that either fails to understand our way of life or rejects it, and, during the current pandemic which has affected our freedom and ability to carry out our mission where and when it's possible.

But upon closer examination of what St. Peter and St. Paul tells us, we can see that any gift we have received, any position we may hold or any ministry with which we are involved, any service that we do, and any acts of charity that we perform, all have at their source the grace of God. In everything that we do, we always need to begin with God, draw from what God gives us, learn and grow through His grace, and continue to depend upon God to protect, lead and guide us. Then, and only then, will we not only do what is right and just, according to God's will, we will one day, at the end of the ages be greeted with what we all hope to hear: "Come, share your master's joy." (Mt 25: 21,23)

Father Ralph

NEXT WEEKEND

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH
Nov 22, 2020

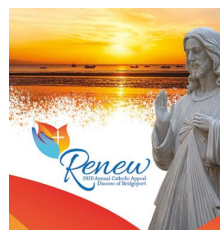
Health and Welfare Fund
for the
Retired Priests of the
Diocese of Bridgeport

The Diocese of Bridgeport will no longer participate in the National Collection for the "Catholic Campaign for Human Development," scheduled to take place this year on Sunday, November 22nd.

Amount \$ _____

In place of that collection, on the same day, November 22nd, the new annual collection for the "Health and Welfare Fund for the Retired Priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport" will take place. This collection will be used to offset costs related to insurance benefits (medical and automobile), the Convocation and annual retreat for all retired priests, which are currently covered in large part by the Diocese, as well as to supplement priest pension contributions.

We have the booklets,
"The Word Among Us" &
"Living Faith", normally found
in the church lobby,
available while supplies last.
Please call or email the office
with your request.



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 163 gifts worth
\$36,873 bringing our parish to
35.63% of its \$103,500 goal.

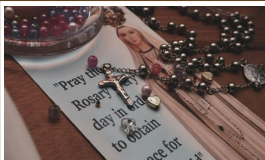
Any and all gifts are greatly
appreciated. Thanks to all who
have already given or pledged!

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country

Cdr. Dan Caldwell, US Navy
Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
LCDR James Lyons, US Navy
CW5 Sgt. Douglas Ortiz, Jr., US Army
Sfc. Ramil Penserga, US Army
LCDR Scott C. Pennoyer, US Navy
Pfc. Connor Reinsch, US Marine Corps
Maj. Brian Remson, US Army
Tech Sgt. Daniel Scofield, US Air Force
PO2 Edward Skeen, US Navy
Sgt. Jesse Skeen, US Army
Ens. Jessica Remson, US Navy
Spc. Daniel Gonzales, US Army
MIDN 4/C Tatiana V. Arias, US Navy
PFC Matthew Montanez, US Army

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

At this time, Michelle O'Mara, DRE,
is available by appointment only.
Please email Michelle at
stthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com
to arrange the meeting.



Sunday Family Rosary

Every Sunday at 7:30 pm, the Diocese of Bridgeport is conducting Sunday Family Rosary. They would like to have one family from each parish and school lead the rosary, which will guarantee that the schedule would be set for

many, many months to come.

Please visit www.formationreimagined.org and click the praying hands image at the top of the screen. Once you sign up to lead, you will receive a confirmation email with complete details.

No registration is necessary for families who simply wish to join in prayer each week at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, please email Rosary@diobpt.org.

Photo by [Anakin T](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**REMOTE RELIGIOUS
FORMATION CLASS
SCHEDULE**

Sunday
Grade 1: 10:15-11:30 am
Monday
Grade 2: 4:15-5:15 pm
Grade 3: 5:15-6:15 pm
Grade 4: 6:15-7:15 pm
Tuesday
Grade 7: 6:15-7:30 pm
Wednesday
Grade 5: 6:15-7:15 pm
Grade 6: 5:15-6:15 pm



Join the Bishop in Prayer

Text a selfie, your prayer intention, or the word "pray" to 55778.

Participants will receive a daily prayer intention from the bishop that ends with a call to prayer.

**CHILDREN'S BULLETIN ON
OUR WEBSITE**

Go to the Bulletin tab on the menu bar for a printable PDF children's bulletin.
www.stthomasnorwalk.org

Trustees:

Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck
Marge Simon

Parish Council:

Ed Bocchino
Tom Donaher
Joe Dudek
Glenn Iannaccone
Ann Jacoby
Christopher Jarboe
John Stoops

**Room To Grow
Preschool:**

(203) 831-8200
Nancy Cook-Owens,
Director

All Saints School:

Mrs. Linda Dunn,
Principal
(203) 847-3881
139 West Rocks Road
Norwalk

**The Second
Chance Thrift Shop
is currently closed
and not accepting
donations at this
time.**

**St. Vincent
de Paul**

Food Pantry:

(203) 866-1644

HOURS

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturdays Only

**THANKSGIVING
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**Nov. 14th 10am-
12pm & Nov. 14th &
15th after all masses**

**Birthright of
Norwalk:**

(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
Charities:**

(203) 416-1307

SACRAMENTS

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday: 10:00am to 3:00pm Friday: 10:00am to 12 Noon

Prayer Requests!

Please contact the St. Thomas Prayer Ministry. Call Sue Wegiel at (203) 838-4088 with your prayer request or email her at wegiesj@hotmail.com. If you cannot reach Sue, please call the office at (203) 866-3141.

Baptisms or Weddings

Please call the Rectory during regular weekday business hours for more information or to make arrangements. To reserve the church for your desired wedding date, please contact the parish office at least 9 months to 1 year in advance.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Rectory anytime.

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Weekdays: By appointment



DID YOU KNOW....you must complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation) in order to be a sponsor for Baptism & Confirmation? Do you, or someone you know, want to join the Catholic church? Then the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program is for you! Just call the Faith Formation Office at (203) 866-1189 for more information.

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS IN NEED OF PRAYER

If you would like to be added to or removed from this prayer list, please email or call the office.

Please pray for the sick of our parish that may be restored to health and that all who ASSIST and CARE for them will be given the strength to continue their Christian service. Please remember the following in your prayers:

Carm Pagliano	Carol Smyth	Karen Miller	Debbie Reddock	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese	James Amrich
Pearl Futo	Jim Sweet	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima	Emily Calabeese
Lynn Lockwood	Ken Pelzolt	Robert Parmalee	Carol Vallee	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero	Marie Silver
Terry Rooney	Skip Bossone	Mike Torres	Constance Williams	Tony Cappuccia	Irene Brennan	Jeanette Ralston
Gary Livia	Kimberly Frataloni	Peggy McDonald	Lorraine Magazeno	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso	Rick Azillo
Margaret Currie	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Helga Garnett
James Verda	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Antonio Vescio
Jeannie Maxwell	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Kathleen Ford
Trisha Jackson	Thomas Calka	Msgr. Thomas Powers	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Joanna Marvin
Vicki	Julia Cade					

THE THRIFT STORE IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED. WE ARE HOPING FOR A FALL REOPENING. WATCH THE BULLETIN & WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.



**ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM**



ELECTRONIC GIVING
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Gay Cavanagh, Director
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