



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 6, 2020

The Second Sunday of Advent



*John the Baptist proclaimed:
"One mightier than I is
coming after me".*

Words by God ~ Mark 1:7

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, December 7

7:00 AM† Helena Wojtczuk
5:30 PM† Faithful Departed of the Stachurski,
Grzybowski, & Panas Families

The Immaculate Conception, Tuesday, December 8

7:00 AM For Our Parishioners
12:05 PM† Bridie McManus
5:30 PM† Daniel Riccio

Wednesday, December 9

7:00 AM† The Verda Family
5:30 PM† Tadeusz Wilinski

Thursday, December 10

7:00 AM† All Souls
5:30 PM In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe &
the Intentions of Fr. Tony Rosaforte

Friday, December 11

7:00 AM† Paul Sibiskie
5:30 PM† Joan, Barbara & Edward Gillespie

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, December 12

5:15 PM† John & Mary Bove

Celebrant
Fr. Ralph

Sunday, December 13

7:30 AM† John Pagliano Fr. Ralph
9:00 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living &
Deceased Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM† Mary Jean Brown Fr. Mirek
5:00 PM† Crescenzo Piro Fr. Mirek

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2020	2019
November 22		
Collection	\$2,701.00	\$4,327.73
On-Line	\$2,456.00	\$2,281.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$3,288.00</u>	<u>\$4,741.73</u>

Votives \$ 89.00 \$ 144.64

Retired Priest of DoB \$ 625.00
On-Line \$ 252.00
\$ 877.00

November 29		
Collection	\$2,902.00	\$4,576.74
On-Line	\$2,456.00	\$2,525.17
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$3,489.00</u>	<u>\$5,234.91</u>

Votives \$ 70.00 \$ 128.50

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.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Bob LeBlanc **Louis Melfi**

We extend our sympathy to his family & friends.



The Sanctuary Candle burns
December 6th through December 12th
for Mary Shahheinn Dyson.

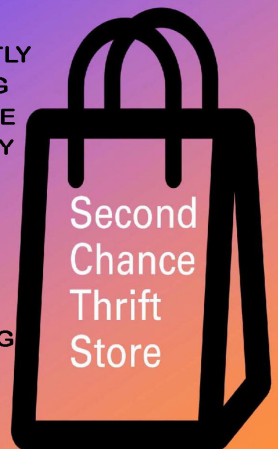
We welcome the newly Baptized into the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Julian George Dec **Mia Janson Skutnik**

Congratulations to their parents, families & friends!

THE THRIFT STORE IS CURRENTLY
BEING PREPARED FOR OPENING
SOMETIME AFTER THE 1st OF THE
YEAR WITH ALL THE NECESSARY
PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE.

WATCH THE BULLETIN & OUR
WEBSITE FOR MORE
INFORMATION REGARDING
PRE-OPENING DONATION DROP
OFFS & OUR GRAND REOPENING
SCHEDULE!



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
stthomasreloffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasvg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

Like us on Facebook:

St. Thomas Norwalk

Follow us on Twitter:

@StThomasNorwalk

stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



St. Thomas the Apostle

203 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06855

(203) 866-3141

stthomasnorwalk.org

All Are Welcome!! Christmas Schedule

Christmas Week Confession

Monday, December 21st, Tuesday, December 22nd,

& Wednesday, December 23rd

4:00 pm ~ 5:00 pm & 6:00 pm ~ 7:00 pm

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 10:00 pm 12 am Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:30 am 1:00 pm

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.

During these difficult times, please remember to support our local bulletin advertisers. They may not all be open right now, but remember to support them in the coming months. Make the back 2 pages of this publication your "go to place" for local business help. They can only help us if we continue to help them!



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.

MEMORIAL MASS OR FUNERAL

With Masses now moved into our church, we are scheduling Memorial Masses for those who died during the virus period. Anyone who wishes to arrange for a Memorial Mass is asked to call the office in order to set up an appointment to plan the mass. We are now also allowed to have a funeral in the church. If you would like a full funeral mass, please let your funeral home know your wishes so they can contact us to schedule. If you are not comfortable with a group gathering at this time, we will continue to have a graveside only service as an option. Keep in mind that the current regular mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all funerals, memorials, and graveside services as well.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St. Thomas the Apostle Parishioners,

The second candle will be lit on our parish Advent Wreath this weekend adding even more brightness to the flame, symbolizing the hope to be born, Jesus, our Christ. My friends, you will realize very quickly that the season of Advent is moving very fast, and for those of us who would like to take some time for a day of retreat, an evening of reflection, a quiet moment before the Lord in anticipation of Christmas, we had better do it now because tomorrow might bring even more of a challenge or distraction.

This weekend, the Sacred Scripture portion of the Mass brings before our eyes the icon of John the Baptist. As dearly held in our Sacred Tradition, John is the last prophet of the Old Testament, and the first one in the New Testament. We also see how Jesus' cousin, John, and his family are somehow interconnected as their lives play a very important part preceding the Incarnation of the Word of God. John the Baptist could teach us today a whole range of ways, tricks, ideas and practical, creative moves of how to live healthier (remember his diet: Locusts and Honey + fresh stream water?), pray harder (remember the amount of time he spent in the desert praying?), be courageous (remember how far John was from being politically correct? You're right, for not being politically correct he lost his head – literally – and it was served on a silver platter to a cruel, greedy excuse for a human being, a puppet king).

Well, let's try this then:

If we could see with the eyes of our spiritual imagination how the entire Old Testament and all its people are One Big Advent, how they all keep that expectant vigil, waiting, and yearning for the Messiah to finally come, we could, perhaps, then try to connect with such expectation as to how blessed we are to be part of the People of the Promise. Maybe the characters and events we read about on the pages of the Old Testament could help us to keep vigil; to prepare ourselves for yet another celebration of Christmas, to joyfully express our thanksgiving and Wonder and Awe as we kneel down before the Nativity Set?

I pray for you and your children, for grandparents, for those homebound, disabled, those in prison, those despaired, afflicted and those searching for the real meaning of their lives.

Pray along with me, let's keep that Holy Vigil together. *fr. mivosa*

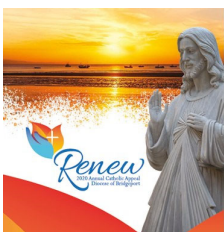
Thanks to our generous St. Thomas The Apostle Community, the Norwalk Firefighters Assoc., St. Aloysius Parish, Triple S, CT Food Bank, and Stew Leonard's, the Food Pantry distributed turkeys, trimmings, and bags of food to over 150 families for Thanksgiving.

We are also happy to report that we have enough turkeys and hams to cover our Christmas distribution!

Our best wishes for a safe & blessed Christmas season!

The Volunteers at the Parish Food Pantry

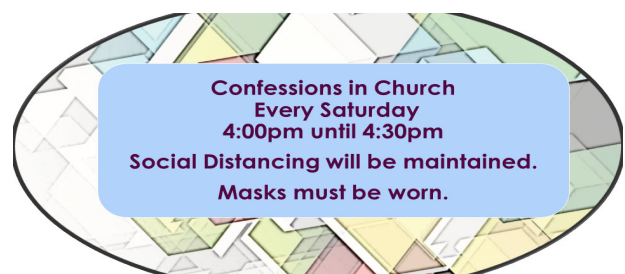
We will be closed on Saturday, December 26th.



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 166 gifts worth \$37,193 bringing our parish to 35.94% of its \$103,500 goal.

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



Confessions in Church

Every Saturday

4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.

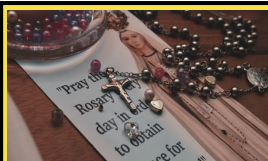
Masks must be worn.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



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.

**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

**LET YOUR
Soul SHINE**
with Matthew Kelly

A FREE DAILY ADVENT EXPERIENCE

Making 2021 the Best Year of Your Life
Begins at BestAdventEver.com

**BEST
Advent
EVER**

This Advent, join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for LET YOUR SOUL SHINE
—a free email program that will help you rediscover the beauty and joy of the Gospels

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

**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					



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



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.



ELECTRONIC GIVING
*is available through our parish
website: www.stthomasnorwalk.com.
Your use of electronic giving saves
the parish money and helps keep our
volunteers & staff safe.*



Touch a Life, Forever.

Serra for Priestly Vocations



Gay Cavanagh, Director
10 Lewis St., Norwalk
847-4220



**CARPET &
DRAPERY
CLEANERS**
337 Westport Avenue
Norwalk 847-8000



Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It
The Next Time You *Patronize One of Our Advertisers*

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin.
I am patronizing your business because of it!

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship
of the Sea of the United States of America
Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.
Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email
eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com
www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

Introducing Our NEW Intensive Stroke Rehabilitation Program



A CARING
Place Between
Hospital & Home



NOTRE DAME
Health and Rehabilitation Center
FORMERLY NOTRE DAME CONVALESCENT HOME

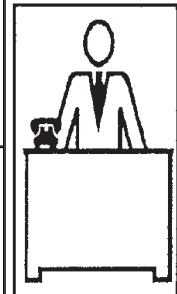
DIRECTED BY Neurologist: Daryl Story,
Physiatrist: Claudio Petrillo
and Pulmonologist: Donald McNichol

76 West Rocks Rd, Norwalk, CT • 203.847.5893 • ndhrehab.org

Life Matters



For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife



*Your
ad
could
be in
this
space!*

Protecting Seniors Nationwide

24SEVEN

Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly



- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today!
Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

**Get this
weekly bulletin
delivered by
email - for FREE!**



Sign up here:

www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



Gerri Flewellyn • Director
131 Strawberry Hill Ave.
866-8933

**Retirement: Ready or
not. Ready is better.**

Lori S Torrano, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
120 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851
203-855-7719
www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



**EAST
AVENUE
SHELL**



STAR WASH CAR WASH
216 East Ave., Norwalk
838-5955



FINDaPARISH.com

**The Most Complete Online
National Directory
of Catholic Parishes**

CHECK IT OUT TODAY!

DEVINE BROS.



"Let our family take care of your family"

A/C & 24/7 Heating Services • Propane, Diesel & Heating Oil Delivery

Redi-Mix Concrete, Mason & Landscape Materials

203-866-4421 www.devinebrosinc.com



ED'S GARAGE DOORS
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
136 WATER ST., NORWALK, CT 06854
TEL (203) 847-1284
www.edsgaragedoors.com

MANFREDI jewels

Greenwich • New Canaan
manfredijewels.com

Offering Fine Timepieces & Jewelry

ELECK AND SALVATO ELECTRIC, INC.

Four Fitch St East Norwalk
203-838-1900
www.EleckAndSalvato.com

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit

www.MY.ONEPARISH.com

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!

Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google play



Norwalk Cove Marina, Inc.

48 BEACH ROAD,
EAST NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06855
203-838-2326 • FAX: 203-838-9756



Rex Marine Center

144 Water Street, Norwalk, CT 06854
Ships Store 831-5236
Service & Storage 831-5234

JACKIE AUSTIN
REALTOR®
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | New England Properties
HomeServices
Serving Norwalk, Westport, Fairfield, Weston & beyond
jackieaustin@bhsne.com
Direct: 203-722-3078
Office: 203-227-5117
20 Wilton Road, Westport, CT 06880
jackieaustin.bhsneproperties.com



Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

ACCURATE AUTO REPAIR

Vincent & Cosmo Scicchitano
8 Fitch St. 854-0338
(Across from Church)



DO YOU HAVE SALES EXPERIENCE? ARE YOU WELL
NETWORKED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

J.S. PALUCH COMPANY

NATIONAL PUBLISHER OF CHURCH BULLETINS

- Full Time Positions Available with Excellent Earning Potential!
- Medical Benefits, 401K, Life & AD&D Insurance Available
- Excellent Commission Compensation Program

Interested? Call Kay Leane 1.800.621.5197 x2823

or Email Resume to RECRUITING@JSPALUCH.COM

www.jspaluch.com

EARN MONEY!
DO GOOD! MAKE A
POSITIVE IMPACT!

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1912"

Pre-Need Counseling Available
Cremation & Traditional Services

Magner Funeral Home, Inc.

Michael J. Magner • James P. Magner, Jr. • Melissa D. Heaphy • William D. Tiani

12 Mott Avenue, Norwalk www.magnerfuneralhome.com 203-866-5553



Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:

www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.

Support Your Church & Bulletin.

Free professional ad design & my help!

email: sales@jspaluch.com



www.jspaluch.com

For Information ... Call

800.524.0263

838-5032 838-0088

COTALING'S AUTO BODY

Complete Auto Body Services

130 Connecticut Ave., Norwalk

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19.⁹⁵ a month
- ✓ Police ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family FREE Shipping
- FREE Activation
- NO Long Term Contracts



CALL NOW! 800.809.3352

MDMedAlert
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed
EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

catholicmatch®

Connecticut



CatholicMatch.com/myCT

The Waters Edge at GIOVANNI'S

DAILY PRIX FIXE

Reservations:

203.325.9979

2748 Boston Post Rd.

WatersEdgeatGiovannis.com



Collins Funeral Home

Preplanning & Cremation Services

(203) 866-0747 www.collinsfh.com

Directors:

William A. Skidd
William P. Skidd
Andrew D. Skidd
William G. Lahey