



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent



Rev. Ralph Segura, Pastor
(203) 866-3141
stthomasnorwalk.org

203 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855
stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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

Daily Mass

Monday, December 2

7:00 AM In Celebration of Irene Alarcon's Birthday
5:30 PM† Joan, Edward, & Barbara Gillespie

Tuesday, December 3

7:00 AM Intentions of the Michael Sweeney Family
5:30 PM NO MASS

Wednesday, December 4

7:00 AM† Nicholas, Antoinette, & Jim Cianci
5:30 PM NO MASS

Thursday, December 5

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM† Theresa Passarelli

Friday, December 6

7:00 AM† Joy Sinise
5:30 PM† Mass of Remembrance

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, December 7

5:15 PM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 8

7:30 AM† The Amato, Baressi, & Rolland Families
9:00 AM† John Porada
11:30 AM† Theresa Passarelli
5:00 PM † Anna Matusiewicz



The Sanctuary Candle burns
December 1st through December 7th in
memory of Pam Sweet.

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

Callie Jade Cowan

Congratulations to her parents, family, & friends!



**FIRST FRIDAY
ADORATION
December 6th
7:30am to 5:00pm**

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2024	2023
November 17		
Collection	\$3,220.41	\$3,561.00
On-Line	\$2,433.00	\$2,513.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,547.00)	(\$1,506.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,106.41</u>	<u>\$4,568.00</u>

Votives \$ 110.08 \$ 99.82

Seminarians

Collection	\$1,341.00
On-Line	\$ 159.00
Total	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

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 2025 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralicum Assessment is \$80,448. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,547. This represents an annual increase of \$2,124.00 from the prior year.

—MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—

There will be a special mass for all deceased Parishioners on Friday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend.

If you would like information about the ministry, please contact Jane Eichwald at (203) 838-4590.

There will be a Wednesday 7:00AM Mass during the Season of Advent.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation
Monday ~ December 9
Mass Times**

7:00am 12:10pm 6:00pm
There will not be
Monday night Adoration.

Rectory:

Rev. Ralph Segura
Pastor (ext.19)

Rectory Staff:

Cathy Lauder
Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Patty Frattaroli, DRE
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascick

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4**
Closed Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

Student Singers and Instruments wanted for Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Family Mass!

All rehearsals will take place in St Thomas the Apostle Church

Let's have a festive 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Mass this year with music provided by our talented student singers and instrument players! Please contact Music Director, Marge Kelley, if you would like your child to sing in the Christmas Choir (Grades 1-12) or play an instrument (Grades 5-12). Rehearsals will take place in the church. See Marge Kelley for the schedule or go online to our website home page. To sign up: Parents can speak to Marge Kelley after the 5:15 PM, 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM Masses to complete a paper copy of the sign-up sheet and to ask questions. OR Parents can complete the online form or provide the information required in the form and email to margaretkelley24@gmail.com typing Christmas Eve Family Mass in the subject line.

Thank You!

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry would like to thank all our parishioners for their gifts over the Thanksgiving holiday, especially of the needed stuffing & cranberry sauce. Your kindness & generosity is appreciated more than you know.

Holy Hour for Vocations

Second Thursday of every month

7:00-8:00pm, St. Theresa Church

- August 8th
- September 12th
- October 10th
- November 14th
- December 12th

Please join us. Bring a friend. All are welcome.



Sponsored by the Lay Dominicans, Our Lady of Fatima Fraternity St. Theresa Church. 5301 Main Street, Trumbull

For more information about the Lay Dominicans, contact Mrs. Michelle Rowe, O.P. Formation Director orapronobis20@gmail.com 203 218 6882

Giving Tree



Please bring your wrapped gift *with tag attached* to the church during any regularly scheduled mass *by next Sunday, December 8th*. We need time to sort & deliver!!

Please do not leave your gift in the church when there is no mass. Bring it to the office during regular business hours.



The 2024 Giant Tag Sale has netted \$29,124. This is a little more than \$800 over last year's sale.

Thank you to all who donated their items for us to sell, to all those who participated in any way during the weeks leading up to the sale weekend, & to all those who worked at the sale. You are too many to list! A special thank you to our co-chairs, Lauren Stoops & Pat Hill!! They run the sale with precision & their efforts pay off year after year.

Confession in Church

**Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm
Or by Appointment**



**ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHTS
6PM - 8PM**

**FROM A CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION BY SAINT CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP,
ON THE TWOFOLD COMING OF CHRIST (Cat. 15, 1-3: PG 33, 870-874)**

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels. We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.* At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

The Savior will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgment he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent.*

His first coming was to fulfill his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity. Malachi the prophet speaks of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple:* that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: *Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing.*

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: *The grace of God the Savior has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.* Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.



30 RAFFLE BASKETS!

St. Matthew Church
Christmas Fair

Saturday | December 7 | 10AM-6PM
Sunday | December 8 | 10AM-6PM

Come get in the Spirit!
SHOP BEAUTIFUL UNIQUE GIFTS!

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30-Themed RAFFLE Baskets!
Baked Goods, Food & Beverages
Proceeds to support St. Matthew Ministries & Outreach Programs

StMatthewNorwalk.org

St. Matthew Church Great Room | 216 Scribner Avenue | Norwalk, CT

Catholic Charities New Outlook Counseling is here to help!

We offer quick appointments and provide counseling services in both English and Spanish. Whether you're seeking support for yourself or a loved one, our professional team is ready to assist. Reach out today for compassionate care. Contact us at 203-743-4412 or visit us at ccfairfield.org.



The Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Homecare Volunteers Needed

THE CONNECTICUT HOSPICE

The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. is accepting applications for new volunteers! Our patients and families are in need of your care and support. If you have an interest in companionship, light housekeeping or making meals, please contact Joan Cullen, Director of Volunteers at (203) 315-7510.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country

Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
CW5 Sgt. Douglas Ortiz, Jr., US Army
Sfc. Ramil Penserga, US Army
LCDR Scott C. Pennoyer, US Navy
Tech Sgt. Daniel Scofield, US Air Force
UT2 PO2 Edward Skeen, US Navy
SSG Sgt. Jesse Skeen, US Army
Spc. Daniel Gonzales, US Army
MIDN 4/C Tatiana V. Arias, US Navy
Sgt. Matthew Montanez, US Army
CPL Larry Joyce, US Marine Corps

2024 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

We have raised 177 gifts worth \$50,231 bringing our parish to 79.99% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged! To make a gift, or for more information, please visit [2024 Bishops Appeal.org](http://2024BishopsAppeal.org), call (203) 416-1470, or scan with your phone.



**ST. ANN'S CLUB
MONDAY NIGHT BINGO**

(except holidays)
16 Hendricks Avenue
Doors open at 5:30pm First game at 6:45pm
Refreshments available to purchase.



**CONSIDER JOINING THE SCOUTS!
SCOUT TROOP 222**

We welcome new members age 11 -17. Meetings are Thursdays, 7pm - 8:30pm, in the Parish Center gym and follow the school year calendar. We need at least 5 girls in order to have girls at the meetings. For more information about Troop 222, please call the office.

REMINDER: No priest will ever send you an email asking for a purchase of gift cards or anything else. These are scam emails & should be moved to your spam folder. Please do not respond to these emails. **If you are ever unsure of anything please do not hesitate to call the office or ask Fr. Ralph after mass.**

Go to our website & click on "Events in Our Diocese" for more happenings at our diocesan churches.

Catholic203.com

@catholic_203

A networking group designed for 18 to 35 year olds, both single and married. Scan below to see what we are all about.



1350 AM 103.9 FM



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Pray the Rosary in the Church

Monday - Friday:
Before Any Scheduled Morning Mass at 6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm

Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Ralph Segura
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck

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

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Tuesdays & Thursdays
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Saturdays

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Food Pantry:
(203) 866-1644
HOURS
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Tuesdays & Saturdays
Only

**Birthright of
Norwalk:**
(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
Charities:**
(203) 416-1307

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Just as there are some items that we are able to get free from different government sources or at a greatly reduced cost, there are some items we need to buy. This is how this list is generated. Of course, you can still give items that are not on the list. Please leave after hours **non-perishable** donations in the bin outside the pantry.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY PERISHABLES IN THE DROP BOX.

Coffee Tea

14oz to 19oz Jelly	9oz to 12oz Box of Cereal
Shampoo	Tooth Paste
Bar Soap	Toilet Paper
	Paper Towel
	Facial Tissues

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE ANSWERED OUR REQUESTS! YOU HAVE REALLY HELPED OUR COMMUNITY NEEDY.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

SECOND CHANCE

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PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS IN NEED OF PRAYER

If you would like to add or removed a name 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:

Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Linda Lima	Merina Deluc	George Travers
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	Phil Tavella
Jack Cade	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Hamilton Family
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Fratloni	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	Anthony Bruno
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Cathy Sinica	Richard Berg	Jeannetta Torres	Angela McCrae
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Diane Turek	Debbie Poruban
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	Jackie Hamilton	Denise Cassin
Ginny DeMarco	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Alessandro Fornara	David R.	John Lima	Paul Rohan
Mike D.	Nancy G.	Jackson P.	Holly Sanders	Robert Podlaski	Jeff Mallory
Michelle Vittorio	Andy Tao	Steve C.	Stefanie Sena	MaryAnn P.	Liz Fox
Vinnie McMahon	Heather Ribellino	Susan Swick	Frank & Ellen Tuttle	Aidan Kane	Mary Anne Lagana
David Franco	Laura Wave	Joe Garrity			



DID YOU KNOW...you must complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy 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 OCIA (Order of Christians Initiation for Adults) program is for you!! Just call the parish office at (203) 866-3141 for more information.

Procedure for Baptisms & Weddings

Please go to the homepage of our website, click on Parish Registration and Sacramental Requests. Choose the fillable form that you need and follow the instructions at the top of the webpage. 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

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.

The Food Pantry is open
Tuesdays & Saturdays
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Donations are now being accepted during regular hours or leave NON-PERISHABLE items in the bin at the food pantry entrance.

Questions? Call them at
(203) 866-1644

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