



*Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935*

# ST. THOMAS

## THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent



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

203 East Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06855

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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

### Daily Mass

#### Monday, December 19

7:00 AM† Martha & Michael Cicala  
5:30 PM† Anna & Jerry Tasco

#### Tuesday, December 20

7:00 AM† Jean Annase  
5:30 PM† Annette Festa

#### Wednesday, December 21

7:00 AM† Joseph & Jennie Annase  
5:30 PM† John Donofrio

#### Thursday, December 22

7:00 AM† All Souls  
5:30 PM† Mary Donofrio

#### Friday, December 23

7:00 AM† Ralph Cicala  
5:30 PM† Yolanda & Frank Smeriglio

#### Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM Matthew Harbilas  
6:00 PM† Frank & Anna Bonaddio  
Midnight Mark James Fallo

#### Christmas, Sunday, December 25

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased  
9:00 AM† Maria & Filippo Mastrianni  
11:30 AM† Jenny & Joseph Festa  
5:00 PM NO MASS

#### Celebrant

Fr. Mirek  
Fr. Ralph  
Fr. Mirek

Fr. Mirek

Fr. Ralph  
Fr. Ralph

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Due to early transmission to the printer for the Christmas Holiday, we do not have the collection figures in time for publication of the bulletin. We will report the collection in next week's issue.



The Sanctuary Candle burns  
December 18<sup>th</sup> through December 24<sup>th</sup>  
for Jim Verda.

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAY HOURS

### Second Chance Thrift Store:

Closed Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday,  
December 27<sup>th</sup>, & Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

### Food Pantry:

Closed Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, & Tuesday,  
December 27<sup>th</sup>

### Parish & Rel Formation Offices:

Closed Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup>, &  
Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>  
Closed Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

*MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

## Christmas Week Confession

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> & Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### Mass Schedule

|               |         |             |          |       |          |
|---------------|---------|-------------|----------|-------|----------|
| Christmas Eve | 4:00 pm | Family Mass | 6:00 pm  | 12 am | Midnight |
| Christmas Day | 7:30 am | 9:00 am     | 11:30 am |       |          |

## CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The St. Thomas Adult Choir will present their annual Christmas concert  
at 11:30 PM on December 24<sup>th</sup> prior to Midnight Mass.

Please join us!

### Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski  
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura  
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 9 - 4  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

[stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net](mailto:stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net)

### Rectory Staff:

Cathy Lauder  
Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

### Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck  
(203) 434-6488

### Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189  
Mary Vladimirov, DRE  
[stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com)

### Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

### Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

### Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com  
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

### Website:

[www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org)

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



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## Now through January 31, 2023 2022 Challenge Grant

The 2022 Challenge Grant is now in progress. Our benevolent family has agreed, once again, to match up to \$60,000 of your contributions. The gift envelopes have been mailed. If you did not receive one and wish to contribute, please call the office.

Thank you to all who already have pledged or donated!



### FIGHT HUNGER WITH US!

We will receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker sold at our selected Stop & Shop in our selected month.

Benefiting Organization:

St. Thomas St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry

Selected Month:

DECEMBER

Selected Stop & Shop:

380 Main Avenue  
Norwalk

STOP&SHOP

### MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

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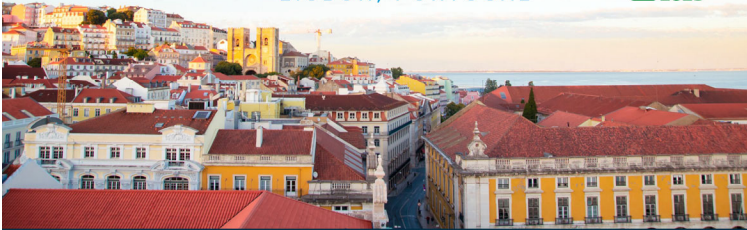
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*MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR*

Saying the O Antiphons as a family, whether during grace at meals, in front of the manger scene, or in front of the Christmas tree, is a wonderful Advent devotion. To make this devotion even more fruitful, read and meditate together on the Scripture texts on which the antiphons are based.

**December 17th:**

*O Sapientia (Is. 11:2-3; 28:29): "O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High. You fill the universe and hold all things together in a strong yet gentle manner. O come to teach us the way of truth."*

**December 18th:**

*O Adonai (Is. 11:4-5; 33:22): "O Adonai and leader of Israel, you appeared to Moses in a burning bush and you gave him the Law on Sinai. O come and save us with your mighty power."*

**December 19th:**

*O Radix Jesse (Is. 11:1, 10): "O stock of Jesse, you stand as a signal for the nations; kings fall silent before you whom the peoples acclaim. O come to deliver us, and do not delay."*

**December 20th:**

*O Clavis David (Is. 9:6; 22:22): "O key of David and scepter of Israel, what you open no one else can close again; what you close no one can open. O come to lead the captive from prison; free those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."*

**December 21st:**

*O Oriens (Is. 9:1): "O Rising Sun, you are the splendor of eternal light and the sun of justice. O come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."*

**December 22nd:**

*O Rex Gentium (Is. 2:4; 9:5): "O King whom all the peoples desire, you are the cornerstone which makes all one. O come and save man whom you made from clay."*

**December 23rd:**

*O Emmanuel (Is. 7:14) : "O Emmanuel, you are our king and judge, the One whom the peoples await and their Savior. O come and save us, Lord, our God."*

*fr. Minnie*

Music Director, Marge Kelley would like to thank all of the students who have signed up to play an instrument or sing at our **Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:00 PM.**

**The Dress Rehearsal is Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 3:30 PM, in the church.** A special thanks also to parents and grandparents who have taken time out of their busy schedules to bring students to the church for practices!

During these difficult times, please remember to support our local bulletin advertisers. 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!

**Birthright** is in need of gently worn *baby & maternity clothing*. Please call to arrange for a drop off. They also need volunteers (especially Spanish speaking). Opportunities include friendship counseling, clerical, and clothing work. Training is provided. Please call the Norwalk Chapter for more information: (203) 853-4872.

**NEED TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH? DO YOU NEED PROOF OF SACRAMENTS? A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE? NEED TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM, OR A WEDDING? THEN HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE.**

All of these items are available by filling in the form on the website and emailing it to the office. Once received, we will let you know we have it and will call or email you when your request is completed.

***If you are 18 and out of school, you should be registered by yourself, not with your parents.***

**PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country**



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

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FREQUENTLY**

We update our website as things change in our parish & diocese. There are many useful links on our "Senior Info" & "Useful Links" pages. We have an interactive Google Calendar where you can add to your personal calendar with a simple click on the item. Most questions can be answered by visiting the website. The main menu is located by clicking the 3 bars located on the homepage in the upper right-hand corner of the page. We have also added buttons for pages at the top of the homepage. **If you know of any organization that may be useful to our community, please contact the office so we may add it to our website upon approval.** [www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org)

## SACRAMENTS

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00am to 4:00pm

### 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](mailto:wegiesj@hotmail.com). If you cannot reach Sue, please call the office at (203) 866-3141.

### New 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



**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     | Jim Sweet                               | Debbie Reddock     | James Amrich     | Theresa Buono    | Linda Lima      |
| Pearl Futo        | Robert Parmalee                         | Mike Torres        | Emily Calabeese  | Anne Edwards     | Merina Deluc    |
| Jack Cade         | Constance Williams                      | Skip Bossone       | Marie Silver     | Grace DeMilo     | George Travers  |
| Gary Livia        | Peggy McDonald                          | Kimberly Fratoloni | Jeanette Ralston | Pam Simso        | Phil Tavella    |
| Julia Cade        | Marianne Schambeck                      | Cathy Sinica       | Rick Azillo      | Jeannetta Torres | Hamilton Family |
| Jeannie Maxwell   | Michele Mola-Gulemi                     | Richard Barton     | Richard Berg     | Diane Turek      | Anthony Bruno   |
| Vicki             | Betty Lou Heffernan                     | Kathleen Ford      | Antonio Vescio   | Jackie Hamilton  | Angela McCrae   |
| Kathleen Dominick | Jackie Capobianco                       | Joan Kennedy       | Chuck Scott      | John Lima        | Debbie Poruban  |
| Dawn Grover       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.) | Nancy G.           | Joanna Marvin    | Ken Schulman     | Denise Cassin   |
| Vinny Massaro     | Josephine Mola Buckley                  | Alessandro Fornara | Jim Charest      | Joe M.           | Holly Sanders   |
| Stefanie Sena     | Elizabeth Malerba                       | Alyssa Collier     | Jim Bodany       |                  |                 |

**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



### The Connecticut Hospice, Inc., Homecare Volunteers Needed

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.



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While talking about the issue is not easy, pre-need planning makes your wishes clear, reduces costs and helps your family avoid difficult decisions at a time of loss and grief.

Start your plans now by contacting Joe McCurdy our Director of Operations and a St. Thomas the Apostle parishioner at 203-610-3414 or [joe.mccurdy@ctcemeteries.org](mailto:joe.mccurdy@ctcemeteries.org)

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