



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve



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

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

4:00 PM †	Elizabeth & Daniel Squicciarano	Celebrant	Fr. Ralph
Midnight †	Hernando Diaz & Gilman David		Fr. Mirek

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

7:30 AM †	Lucito T. Punzalan	Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM †	The Sandomeno & Stenger Families	Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM †	Nancy Cannon	Fr. Mirek

Tuesday, December 26

9:00 AM † All Souls
5:30 PM NO MASS

Wednesday, December 27

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM NO MASS

Thursday, December 28

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM † Anna & Jerry Tasco

Friday, December 29

7:00 AM † Joan Gardella
5:30 PM † The Verda & Festa Families

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, December 30

5:15 PM †	Bridget & Michael O'Gara	Celebrant	Fr. Mirek
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New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31

7:30 AM †	For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased	Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM †	Barbara Clark	Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM †	Ronald Sarasin	Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM †	Harold & Marion Hughes	Fr. Ralph



The Sanctuary Candle burns
December 24th through December 30th in
memory of the Izzo, Verda, & Festa Families

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Theodorz Alan Wisniewski
Danił Anthony DeMichał

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2023	2022
Immaculate Conception		
Collection	\$1,367.00	\$ 559.00
On-Line	\$ 406.00	\$ 416.00
Total	<u>\$1,773.00</u>	<u>\$ 975.00</u>
December 10		
Collection	\$4,323.00	\$3,191.50
On-Line	\$2,468.00	\$2,222.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,506.00)	(\$1,567.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$5,285.00</u>	<u>\$3,846.50</u>
Votives	\$ 151.43	\$ 198.00
Retired Religious		
Collection	\$ 869.00	\$ 724.00
On-Line	\$ 563.00	\$ 448.00
Total	<u>\$1,432.00</u>	<u>\$1,172.00</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 2024 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralium Assessment is \$78,324. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,506. This represents an annual decrease of \$3,148.00 from the prior year.

Christmas Confession

Tuesday, December 19th
&

Wednesday, December 20th

6PM to 8PM

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4**

Closed Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday

Rectory Staff:

Cathy Lauder
Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

Religious Ed Office:

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

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



St. Thomas the Apostle Christmas Schedule All Are Welcome!

THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

3:30 P.M. PRELUDE - YOUTH CHOIR AND INSTRUMENTS

4:00 P.M. FAMILY LITURGY

11:30 P.M. CHRISTMAS CONCERT - ADULT CHOIR

12:00 A.M. MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY • MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., & 11:30 A.M. (No 5:00 P.M. MASS)

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 26

9:00 A.M. ONLY (No 5:30 P.M. MASS)

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD (NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

NEW YEAR'S DAY • MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

9:00 A.M. (No 5:30 P.M. MASS OR ADORATION)

PLEASE NOTE:

CHRISTMAS MASS OBLIGATION

CHRISTMAS IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, AND, AS SUCH, THE CHRISTMAS MASS IS A DISTINCT MASS FROM THE PRECEDING SUNDAY CELEBRATION. YOU SHOULD ATTEND 2 MASSES, ONE FOR THE REGULAR SUNDAY OBLIGATION & ONE FOR THE CHRISTMAS OBLIGATION. YOU MAY CHOOSE TO ATTEND A CHRISTMAS EVE MASS (AFTER 4 P.M.) TO FULFILL YOUR SUNDAY OBLIGATION BUT YOU WILL THEN NEED TO ATTEND A CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TO FULFILL YOUR CHRISTMAS OBLIGATION. YOU MAY, OF COURSE, GO TO THE SATURDAY 5:15 P.M. VIGIL OR TO A SUNDAY MORNING MASS FOR SUNDAY.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO WISHES TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION DURING CHRISTMAS, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY, (203) 866-3141

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

May Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. — *Author Unknown*

On behalf of Fr. Ralph and all our staff, may the Christmas Season bring you much peace, joy, and happiness as you celebrate the birth of the Christ child with your family and friends.

fr. Michael

HELP WANTED!!
A long-time parishioner is looking for a housekeeper to come once every other week. Needs vacuuming and other normal heavier cleaning done. She can do the rest. Please call the office for more information.

Free to a Good Home!
One of our wheelchair bound parishioners is getting a new motorized wheelchair. He would like to pass on his older model to someone in need. Please call the office for more information.

AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Lisa Elliott from LPI, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

Church bulletin advertising is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on ParishesOnline.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!

YOUR AD HERE

YOUR AD HERE

Lisa Elliott
(216) 325-6825 x6284
LElliott@4lpi.com

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", "Events in Our Diocese", & "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. **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

St. Thomas Annual Financial Statement is now available on our website.
stthomasnorwalk.org/financial-information
If you would like a hard copy of the report, please call the office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

SECOND CHANCE

THRIFT STORE

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SATURDAY 10AM - 1PM

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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAY HOURS

Thrift Store:
Closed Tuesday, December 26th

Food Pantry:
Closed Saturday, December 23rd, & Tuesday, December 26th

Parish & Rel Formation Offices:
Closed Friday, December 22nd, through Wednesday, December 27th.
Reopening on Thursday, December 28th
Closed on Monday, January 1st

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

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
PFC Matthew Montanez, US Army
PFC Larry Joyce, US Marine Corps



**JOIN THE SCOUTS!
SCOUT TROOP 222**

We welcome new members age 11 -17. Meetings are Thursdays, 7pm - 8:30pm, in the Parish Center gym. We need at least 5 girls in order to have girls at the meetings. We follow the school year calendar. For more information about Scout Troop 222, please go to our web page: troop222.norwalk.scoutlander.com.

Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
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

**The Second
Chance Thrift Shop**
(203) 318-9817
HOURS
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Tuesdays & Thursdays
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Wednesdays
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Saturdays

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Food Pantry:**
(203) 866-1644
HOURS
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Tuesdays & Saturdays
Only

**Birthingright of
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(203) 853-4872

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

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Whether you're entering college or navigating marriage and family, if you are 18-35ish, we have communities and events **designed for you.** From networking happy hours, Bible studies, service work, worship, and socials, there is something for everyone.

Please remember to support our bulletin advertisers. Make the back 2 pages of this publication your "go to place" for business help. They can only help us if we continue to help them!



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: **JANUARY** Selected Stop & Shop: **380 Main Avenue Norwalk**

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. If you cannot reach Sue, please call the office at (203) 866-3141.

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	Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Linda Lima	Merina Deluc
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	George Travers
Jack Cade	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Phil Tavella
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Fratoloni	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	Hamilton Family
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Cathy Sinica	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Anthony Bruno
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	Angela McCrae
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Kathleen Ford	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Debbie Poruban
Kathleen Dominick	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Denise Cassin
Ginny DeMarco	Nancy G.	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Holly Sanders	Vinny Massaro
Mike D.	Elizabeth Malerba	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest	Steve C.	Patricia M.
Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Jackson P.	David R.	Robert Podlaski	

**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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If you are concerned about your end of life plans, searching for the sacred ground of a Catholic cemetery, or have loved ones buried in one of our 14 Diocese cemeteries, now might be a good time to begin planning for yourself or other family members.

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

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