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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day

My Mother Kept a Garden - Author Unknown

My Mother kept a garden, a garden of the heart.

She planted all the good things that gave my life its start.

She turned me to the sunshine and encouraged me to dream.

Fostering and nurturing the seeds of self-esteem.

And when the winds and rain came, she protected me enough.

But not too much because she knew I'd need to stand up strong and tough.

Her constant good example always taught me right from wrong.

Markers for my pathway that will last a lifetime long.

I am my Mother's garden.

I am her legacy.

And I hope today she feels the love reflected back from me.

Photo by Georgia de Lotz on Unsplash

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, May 15

> 7:00 AM Special Intention 5:30 PM **†** Eric Foertsch

Tuesday, May 16

7:00 AM**+** Frank & Roslyn De Bellis 5:30 PM + Pasqualina & Salvatore Matteo

Wednesday, May 17

7:00 AM **†** Antonio Rubbo, Maria Ciambrella,

& Pasquale Rubbo

5:30 PM Intentions of Ileana & Silvana Alarcon,

Terry Cain & Luis Cardenas

Ascension Thursday, May 18

7:00 AM**†** Elizabeth Valiante 12:10 PM **†** Henry Simon 5:30 PM **†** Natale Sposato

Friday, May 19

7:00 AM **†** Michael Valiante

5:30 PM Intentions of Catherine Perez

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, May 20 Celebrant

5:15 PM**+** For Our Parishioners, Living & Fr. Ralph

Deceased

Sunday, May 21

7:30 AM**†** Living & Deceased Members of the Fr. Ralph

Perreault & Audet Families

9:00 AM**†** Sarah Simso DeMaria & Fr. Ralph

Alison Vertucci

11:30 AM**†** Fran Carey Fr. Mirek 5:00 PM **†** Betty Murphy Fr. Mirek



The Sanctuary Candle burns May 14^h through May 20th in loving memory of the Festa, Verda, & Izzo Families.



May is the Month of Mary!! Pray the Rosary at home & in the Church Monday - Friday: 6:30am Monday: 7:00pm Saturday: 4:45pm

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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

> Confessions in Church Every Saturday 4:00pm until 4:30pm Social Distancing will be maintained. Masks must be worn.



Ascension Thursday May 18th Holy Day of Obligation Mass Times

7:00am 12:10pm 5:30pm

DO YOU LIKE TO KNIT OR CROCHET?

Please consider joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Our next meeting is Thursday, May 25th, at 7:00pm, in the Small Meeting Room. If you would like more information please call Vicki Remson at (203) 847-8196, or the Parish Office, or go to our website and click on Parish Life, Ministries.

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Štachurski Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 - 4 Closed Saturday & Sunday

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

> Parish Bookkeeper Monika Piascik

Facilities: Tito (Jose) Rivera Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

This Sunday we celebrate the National Holiday known as Mother's Day. The Holiday itself as it is observed today had its beginning here in the U.S. in 1868 when Ann Jarvis organized a committee of women to bring about reconciliation among families that suffered from the division caused by the Civil War. Overtime, after her death, her daughter, Anna Jarvis continued her mother's work to bring about "world peace," unite mothers for causes regarding charitable works, promotion of Church attendance, and there seemed to some involvement in the Temperance Movement as well.

Mother's Day was eventually established as a National Holiday by the U.S. Congress and President Woodrow Wilson in 1914 to honor mothers whose sons had died as a result of war. Eventually, Mother's Day would become a National Holiday recognizing all mothers, the positive contribution they make to their families and society, and motherhood itself.

Now, according to Catholic Tradition, along the lines of revelation and scripture, motherhood involves a very profound consideration. Procreation, life, genealogy, the patriarchs, the prophets, family, the Church as our mother, and Mary as the Mother of Our Lord and God, Jesus Christ, all provide us with much to draw from so that we can be grateful for the God-given gift of motherhood.

Also, with Mary held in the highest regard as the model of sanctity, piety, wisdom, knowledge and understanding, as well as enjoying the most intimate participation in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we strive to better understand the practical application of said themes and teaching in our daily lives.

But then there are the women of our time who bear sons and daughters, who labor day in and day out, who set themselves to the numerous tasks that they both undertake and have thrust upon them, all in the midst of very complicated situations and realities in our culture, in their homes, and in their families.

Accordingly, we are grateful to our mothers in regard to something very special. Though nothing or anyone is perfect, including sometimes a mother, in spite of our flaws, mistakes, weaknesses; and even when we sometimes forget, overlook, or fail to appreciate by way of words or actions all that our mothers do for us, we can be confident that there will always be someone in the world who loves us, no matter what. So, on this Mother's Day and always, let us strive to give due honor and respect to all mothers, living and deceased, grateful to them, and grateful to the God who gives them to us. Happy Mother's Day!



Our parishioner, Rose Marie Albertson, is in need of a person to sit with her mom, Carm Pagliano, a few hours a week to give Rose Marie a little time to do other necessary things. If you can help Rose Marie get a little respite time, please call her at (203) 264-4196

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

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

Birthright of Norwalk:

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Catholic Charities:

(203) 416-1307



Many thanks for your generosity. Please remember the following intentions in your prayers. In Memory Of

James Hanford

Jean, Anthony, Harold Goral

Nick & Emily Pettas

Warren & Barbara Grossmann

Sandy Einstman

Msgr, Alfred Lienkiewz **Einstman Family Members**

James Hebert

M/M Joseph Covey

Victoria Buono

Everett Wilhelm

Rolland Family

Tony Buono

Margaret T. Canal

Walter J. McCarthy

Ned & Delia Finucane

Morello & Palumbo Families

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Clarence F. Newman, Jr.

Andrew Caruso

Grandparents

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Edward & Marie Heckman

James St. Arnaud

Edward Michek

Kelley-Millard Families

Joan & Manus Tracey

Kathleen Makrakis

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Ashley Morrell

Michele V. Napoleone

Bridget O'Gara

Harold Trezzini

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The Murawski Family

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M/M Anthony Richard

For all the Souls in Purgatory

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M/M Albert Morrell

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Dolores Allegretta

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Aido Otto

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Mary Ann Mappa

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Vincent Allegretta

Margaret Trezzini

The Witt Family

The Brennan Family

Giuseppina & Gino Mercuri Maria & Raffaele Longo

M/M Dawson

Patrick Mappa

Rev. Joseph O'Callahan, S.J.

Robert & Aldona Owens

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Wm. J. Skidd

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Honor of

Master Steneu

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Mr. J Loccisano & Ms. N. Meehan
M/M Michael Hyland
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M/M Philip A. Murphy III
M/M Michele Trani
M/M Juan Santiago
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Ms. Florence Librandi
Mr. John Cutrone
M/M Patrick Falco

Every effort has been made to record your intentions accurately. Please forgive any typographical errors.

All that's missing is U / Can you: Fold a shirt? Wash a glass? Unpack a box?

If yes, then we could use your help with our Annual Tag Sale! Drop-Offs begin mid-August. Drop-off dates will be announced in the coming weeks and we can use your help on any day.

Our Annual Parish Tag Sale is the largest fundraiser of the year. These funds are critical to cover our operating costs.

Please contact the Parish office by phone or email if you need more information or to volunteer.

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP!!



Our Giant Tag Sale will be the weekend of September 16th & 17th

Help Wanted

Our Food Pantry is in need of volunteers. We especially need Spanish speaking people to assist with our Spanish community. If you are interested, Please call the Food Pantry at (203) 866-1644. If no one answers, please leave a message. We will call you back!

One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop's Appeal Your gifts at work

If you have not yet responded to the Appeal, please reflect upon the importance of your support to ministry and outreach that relies upon the charity of everyone the Diocese of Bridgeport. The challenge is immediate and far-reaching, but the solution is within our reach! To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2023BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

We have raised 84 gifts worth \$24,776 bringing our parish to 39.45% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who gave or pledged!



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 wegiesi@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

4:00 - 4:30 PM Saturdays: 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 Frataloni	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	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Debbie Poruban
Dawn Grover	Josephine Mola Buckley	Nancy G.	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Denise Cassin
Vinny Massaro	Elizabeth Malerba	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest	Karen B.	Holly Sanders
Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Paul F.	David R.	Steve C.	Mike D.
Patricia M.	Frank Longo				

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

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.



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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 Operations and a St. Thomas the Apostle parish at 203-610-3414 or joe.mccurdy@ctcemeteries.org

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