



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 14, 2021

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.*

John 3:14-15

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, March 15

7:00 AM† Jerry Tasco
5:30 PM† Jorge Gonzalez

Tuesday, March 16

7:00 AM Intentions of the Gorzkowski Family
5:30 PM† John Donofrio

Wednesday, March 17

7:00 AM† Louis & Connie Verda
5:30 PM† The Deceased Members of the Gray & Owens Families

Thursday, March 18

7:00 AM† All Souls
5:30 PM† Living & Deceased Members of the Ball & Calabrese Families

Friday, March 19

7:00 AM† Luz Hidalgo
5:30 PM Intentions of Ileana & Silvana Alarcon
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, March 20

5:15 PM† Richard Heise

Celebrant

Fr. Mirek

Sunday, March 21

7:30 AM† Marion & Harold Hughes, Sr. Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM† Giuseppe Lombardi Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM† Mary Shahhein Dyson Fr. Ralph

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2021	2020
March 7		
Collection	\$3,450.00	\$4,268.00
On-Line	\$3,181.00	\$2,181.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	\$4,762.00	\$4,582.00
Votives	\$ 142.00	\$ 200.00
Maintenance		
Collection	\$ 529.00	\$1,374.00
On-Line	\$ 801.00	\$ 886.00
Total	\$1,330.00	\$2,260.00

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.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
7:00PM
EVERY FRIDAY DURING
LENT

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. Catholics over the age of 14 years are required to abstain from meat every Friday during Lent. All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required by Church law to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is permitted to persons in this age group on this day, plus two lighter meals.



The Sanctuary Candle burns
March 14th through March 20th
for Margaret G. Kelley.



Pray the Rosary in the
Church!
Monday - Friday:
6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Francisco E. Huerta

We extend our sympathy to his family & friends.

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
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

The Mystery of the Shroud of Turin Wednesday of Holy Week, March 31 6PM

One of many ways to better prepare to celebrate Holy Week and Easter, is to learn more about Christ Jesus and to pray more. Therefore, you are cordially invited to join us for a workshop on the Mystery of the Shroud of Turin – the Silent Witness of the Resurrection. We will talk, discuss, reflect, and pray about all the mysteries surrounding the Shroud of Turin. All that, as we share a Lenten bowl of Lentil Soup with garlic bread. Please come and pray with us! In order to comply with social distancing and COVID-19 safety guidelines, we will meet in the Gym of the Parish Center. Please park behind the old St. Thomas School and access through the glass door. Please call the office to let us know you will be there so that we will have the proper amount of food. Hope to see you there!

The Food Pantry is open

Saturday From 10 AM to Noon.

Donations are now being accepted during regular hours or leave in the entrances of the church.

Questions? Call them at
(203) 866-1644

Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life:

Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, no. 66).

TAKE ACTION:

Go to the website below, read more on the issue and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

www.ctstopsuicide.org

Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference

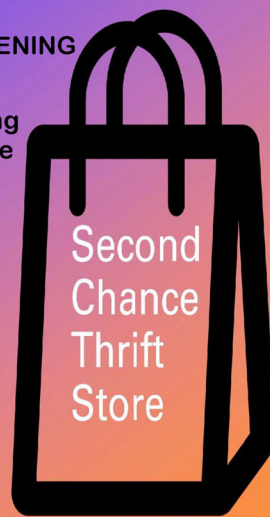
COMING SOON!!

Get ready for the GRAND REOPENING of our parish thriftstore.

Our volunteers have been working hard to get our store ready for the public. We will start accepting your items soon.

Watch for the start date of **Appointment Only** donation drop-offs in a future bulletin announcement.

See the below list of non-acceptable items.



SECOND CHANCE THRIFT SHOP ITEMS WE CANNOT ACCEPT FOR SALE

We cannot accept any firearms, ammunition or items powered by gasoline, natural gas or other fuels.

Any Item which uses Electricity to function, including but not limited to the following:

Appliances (Washer, Dryer, Dishwasher, Stove, etc..)	Electric Blankets
Coffee Makers/Electric Kettles	Fans
Computer Equipment/Printers	Heaters
Toasters/Toaster Ovens	Irons/Steamers
Grills/Electric Griddles	Vacuum Cleaners
Grooming Razors/Tools	Microwave Ovens
Hair Dryers/Curling Irons	Sewing Machines
Stereo Equipment, Speakers	Gaming Systems
Televisions, VCR players	

Children's Items:

Baby Swings	Books	Car Seats
Cribs/Mattresses	Monitors	Strollers
Portable Playpens	Stuffed Animals	
Walkers/Bouncy Seats	Playground Equipment	

General Items:

Books (of any kind)	Picture Frames
Large Artwork Pieces	Tools
Computer Games	Fur Coats
Fine China or Crystal	Empty containers
Large Furniture	VHS or LPs
Stationary	Paper Goods
Used Personal Grooming Items	

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DECLINE ANY ITEMS THAT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE UNSALEABLE or HAZARDOUS.



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. All restrictions are now lifted. Please call or email the office to reserve your masses and candles for 2021.

PRAYER, FASTING, AND MERCY

There are three things, my brethren, by which faith stands firm, devotion remains constant, and virtue endures. They are prayer, fasting, and mercy. Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains, mercy receives. Prayer, mercy and fasting: these three are one, and they give life to each other.

Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not all together, you have nothing. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others you open God's ear to yourself.

When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know that you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. If you ask for yourself what you deny to others, your asking is a mockery. Let this be the pattern for all men when they practice mercy: show mercy to others in the same way, with the same generosity, with the same promptness, as you want others to show mercy to you.

Therefore, let prayer, mercy and fasting be one single plea to God on our behalf, one speech in our defense, a threefold united prayer in our favor.

Let us use fasting to make up for what we have lost by despising others. Let us offer our souls in sacrifice by means of fasting. There is nothing more pleasing that we can offer to God, as the psalmist said in prophecy: *A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; God does not despise a bruised and humbled heart.*

Offer your soul to God, make him an oblation of your fasting, so that your soul may be a pure offering, a holy sacrifice, a living victim, remaining your own and at the same time made over to God. Whoever fails to give this to God will not be excused, for if you are to give him yourself you are never without the means of giving.

To make these acceptable, mercy must be added. Fasting bears no fruit unless it is watered by mercy. Fasting dries up when mercy dries up. Mercy is to fasting as rain is to the earth. However much you may cultivate your heart, clear the soil of your nature, root out vices, sow virtues, if you do not release the springs of mercy, your fasting will bear no fruit.

When you fast, if your mercy is thin your harvest will be thin; when you fast, what you pour out in mercy overflows into your barn. Therefore, do not lose by saving, but gather in by scattering. Give to the poor, and you give to yourself. You will not be allowed to keep what you have refused to give to others.

From a Sermon by Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. 2, Third Week of Lent, Tuesday, Catholic Book Publishing Co, NY, 1976, p. 231-232.

Jesus Meets Aristotle Lecture and Dinner is Back!

**This time with St. Patrick's Day dinner!
Thursday, March 18, at 6PM**

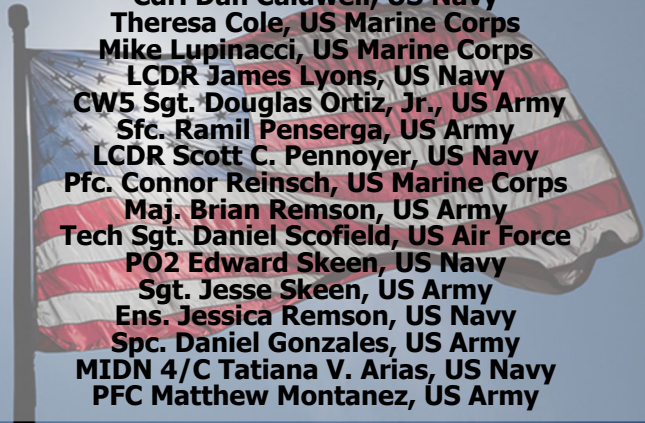
We are very happy to welcome all of you to a Philosophy lecture and dinner again. The topic of our reflection will be: *What could we learn about Marxism and Leninism from "Animal Farm" by George Orwell and from "Master and Margarita" by Mikhail Bulgakov?*

Please join us for a safe, socially distanced St. Patrick dinner. A traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served at 6PM and our lecture will begin at about 6:30PM in the Gym of our Parish Center. Please park behind the old St. Thomas School and access through the glass door. We will serve wine, beer and soft drinks and, if you prefer something more traditional with St. Patrick's Dinner, please feel free to BYOB. Please call the office to let us know you will be there so that we will have the proper amount of food. Hope to see many of you!



We have added an additional YouTube channel that is connected to the camera in our Parish Center Gym. Simply go to our parish website homepage (<https://stthomasnorwalk.org/>), scroll down to the 'S' with the blue background and follow the directions. The church YouTube link is also on the homepage as an 'S' with a purple background.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



Cdr. Dan Caldwell, US Navy
Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
LCDR James Lyons, US Navy
CW5 Sgt. Douglas Ortiz, Jr., US Army
Sfc. Ramil Penserga, US Army
LCDR Scott C. Pennoyer, US Navy
Pfc. Connor Reinsch, US Marine Corps
Maj. Brian Remson, US Army
Tech Sgt. Daniel Scofield, US Air Force
PO2 Edward Skeen, US Navy
Sgt. Jesse Skeen, US Army
Ens. Jessica Remson, US Navy
Spc. Daniel Gonzales, US Army
MIDN 4/C Tatiana V. Arias, US Navy
PFC Matthew Montanez, US Army

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.

**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

Prayer Requests!

If you are in need of prayer, for any reason, please contact the St. Thomas Prayer Ministry to pray for you and with you. Please call Sue Wegiel, (203) 838-4088, or email her, wegiesj@hotmail.com. If you cannot reach Sue, please call the Rectory at (203) 866-3141.

If you would like to be added to the bulletin list, please call or email the office.
stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

We have the booklets,
"The Word Among Us" &
"Living Faith", normally found
in the church lobby,
available while supplies last.
Please call or email the office
with your request.

**CHILDREN'S BULLETIN ON
OUR WEBSITE**

Go to the Bulletin tab on the menu
bar for a printable PDF children's
bulletin.

www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

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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.*

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de Paul**

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(203) 866-1644
HOURS

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Saturdays Only

**Birthingright of
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(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
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(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
Julia Cade	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Helga Garnett
Jeannie Maxwell	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Antonio Vescio
Trisha Jackson	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Kathleen Ford
Vicki	Joan Kennedy	Chris Rohleder	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Joanna Marvin



ELECTRONIC GIVING

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



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



2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
We have raised 34 gifts worth \$6,525 bringing our parish to 10.39% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!



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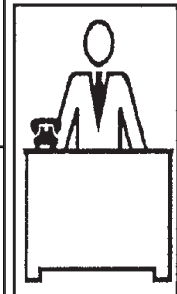
DIRECTED BY Neurologist: Daryl Story,
Physiatrist: Claudio Petrillo
and Pulmonologist: Donald McNichol

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