



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 25, 2024



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. - Mk 9:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Rev. Ralph Segura, Parochial Administrator
203 East Avenue
(203) 866-3141

Norwalk, CT 06855
stthomasnorwalk.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Family Mass Every Sunday at 9:00AM.

Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Daily Mass

Monday, February 26

7:00 AM† Nancey Fekete
5:30 PM† Filippo Mastroianni

Tuesday, February 27

7:00 AM† Msgr. Henry E. Flanagan
5:30 PM NO MASS

Wednesday, February 28

7:00 AM† Nicola Rubbo

Thursday, February 29

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM† Billy Neary

Friday, March 1

7:00 AM† All Souls
5:30 PM† Mas of Remembrance

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, March 2

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

Sunday, March 3

7:30 AM Intentions of Bridget O'Dwyer
9:00 AM† Angelina Longo Vescio
11:30 AM† Patrick Cashin
5:00 PM† Donato Tronbelli (3rd Anniversary)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2024	2023
February 18		
Collection	\$4,116.00	\$3,761.00
On-Line	\$2,346.00	\$2,343.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,506.00)	(\$1,567.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,956.00</u>	<u>\$4,537.00</u>
Votives	\$ 197.30	\$ 176.33

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.

Banns of Marriage

I

Jennifer Karnisch & Spencer Snyderman

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

PLEASE JOIN US FRIDAYS DURING LENT

7PM
FEBRUARY 16 & 23
MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
February 25th through March 2nd in memory of
Josepha Wilhelm.*

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Harold J. Hughes, Jr.

We extend our sympathy to her family & friends.

Confession in Church Every Saturday

**4:00pm until 4:30pm or
by Appointment**

Rectory:

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Administrator (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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**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4**

Closed Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday

Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

Youth Singers and Instrument Players wanted! For: Easter Sunday, April 31, 2024, 9:00 AM Family Mass

Rehearsals will begin soon for Youth Choir and Orchestra to prepare to sing and play for Easter Sunday Mass on March 31, 2024! Students in Grades 1-12 are welcome to participate. All rehearsals will take place in St. Thomas the Apostle Church. The Rehearsal Schedule is detailed below and will be available in the parish bulletin and on the parish website. It is only necessary to attend one rehearsal each week.

WEEK 1: Youth Instrument Rehearsal, 4:30-5:15 PM, Wednesday Feb. 28 OR Thursday, Feb.29

WEEK 2: Youth Choir & Instruments, 4:30-5:15 PM, Wednesday, March 6 OR Thursday, March 7

WEEK 3: Youth Choir & Instruments, 4:30-5:15 PM, Wednesday, March 13 OR Thursday, March 14

WEEK 4: Youth Choir & Instruments, 4:30-5:15 PM, Wednesday, March 20 OR Thursday, March 21.

WEEK 5: Final Rehearsal for all participants, 4:30-5:15 PM, Wednesday, March 27.


(I cannot offer a Thursday rehearsal option on the final week because it is Holy Thursday.)

To sign up to sing or play: see Music Director, Marge Kelley for a paper sign-up form after the 5:15, 9:00 or 11:30 AM weekend Masses OR complete the fillable pdf form that will be available on the parish website and send it to Marge Kelley's email address, margaretkelley24@gmail.com.

STUDENTS NEEDING VOLUNTEER HOURS: please consider joining the Youth Choir or playing an instrument for Easter Sunday! I will be happy to sign forms each week at rehearsal and again on Easter Sunday. You will receive a full hour credit for the 45 minute rehearsal. Students playing an instrument can also log practice time at home and show it to me for additional hours.

DO YOU LIKE TO KNIT OR CROCHET?

Please consider joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Our next meeting is **Thursday, March 14, 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.



**CONNECTICUT
MARCH FOR LIFE**

WHEN
Wednesday, March 20, 2024


WHERE
Connecticut State Capitol
210 Capitol Ave
Hartford, CT 06106

SCHEDULE
12:00 pm – Rally
1:00 pm – March for Life



For more information
and FAQ visit:


ct.marchforlife.org




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SPREAD THE WORD!

The Diocese of Bridgeport has a tuition assistance program partially funded through the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Visit their website for more information: foundationsineducation.org.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

In the Ancient World, the practice of worshipping God was something very common to most civilizations and cultures, and there was a very strong tendency, so to speak, to make an ascent towards the heavens, utilizing elevated geographical locations. This can be considered at first anthropological, that is, along the lines of what can be considered an aspect of human nature and behavior. In fact, the forementioned practice can still be found in the world today, and we know that this is a very rich tradition for the Israelite people as well.

Now, as you know, one of the most essential things we need to do during Lent is spend time with Jesus, and it is for each of us to read scripture, go to Mass, Confession, and of course, make time for prayer. These well-known practices will provide us with the means to enjoy a quality encounter with the Lord as we strive to make our way toward the celebration of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

But at the same time, Jesus calls us to Himself. We can see in the Gospel that Jesus invited Peter, James and John to be with Him, after which, He revealed Himself for Who He is in His fullness. What is important in this mystery is that Jesus led them away from the busy, noisy, controversial and conflicting realities during His ministry, which involved, and this is key, the necessary work while He preached, taught, healed, and exorcised demons.

Equally significant to the calling itself, Jesus led the chosen three to an elevated place known as Mount Moriah. Most scripture scholars point out that this is where Abraham proved his faith in God when called to sacrifice his son Isaac, where Solomon built the Temple, and where the current Temple Mount in Jerusalem is located, considered a holy site by Christians and Muslims for centuries.

As we strive to fulfill what the Church provides so that we may experience a quality and fruitful preparation for Easter during Lent, we must respond as readily as possible to the invitation that Jesus sets before us. Notice too, that when Jesus called Peter, James and John, it does not mean that what He revealed to them was *just for them*. What they experienced would eventually be revealed to the entire world after His resurrection from the dead.

Jesus is calling us away from the business of everyday life, He is calling us to make an ascent to Him, to rise above it all; above and beyond the weighty and earthly concerns of our time; even if necessary, even if good; so that we can experience Him personally, fully, for who He really is - the Son of God - the glorified Saviour of the World. It may not happen right away though. The personal experience of Jesus Christ during Lent that we can enjoy can happen at any time. If we lend ourselves to prayer, Confession, Mass and the reading of Sacred Scripture, the potential for us to experience what Jesus will reveal to us will be the greatest. As St. Peter exhorts us: "*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time* (1 Pt 5:6)."

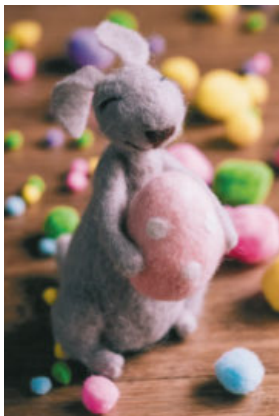
John Ralph

CANDY WANTED!

The Rel. Ed Dept. is collecting ***individually wrapped small*** candies to put in our plastic eggs for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please leave your donation in the bins in the church or in the gym by Sunday, March 10th.

Here's a few ideas:
chocolate kisses, mini candies, Stickers, temporary tattoos, tiny toys, notes of kindness
inspirational sayings/quotes
No nuts or peanut butter food products please.

Photo by freestocks on Unsplash .



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.

9oz to 12oz box of cereal 14oz to 18oz peanut butter
Shampoo Tooth Paste Paper Towels
Toilet Paper Facial Tissues

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.

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
CPL 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.

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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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10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Saturdays

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de Paul**

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

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Angel Benefit

AWARDS DINNER AND AUCTION

Saturday, April 6

6:00 COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION
7:00 DINNER AND AWARDS

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Love

IS ALL THAT MATTERS

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MALTA HOUSE ANNUAL GALA
FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024
WOODWAY COUNTRY CLUB
DARIEN, CT · 6:50 P.M.
HONORING
GEORGE MCCRIMLISK AND
THE GREEN FOUNDATION

Pray the Rosary in the Church
Monday - Friday: Before Any
Scheduled Morning Mass at 6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm



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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 for more information:
(203) 853-4872.



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



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:

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 Fratoloni	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
Kathleen Dominick	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Alessandro Fornara	David R.	John Lima	Patricia M.
Ginny DeMarco	Nancy G.	Jackson P.	Holly Sanders	Vinny Massaro	Robert Podlaski
Mike D.	Elizabeth Malerba	Steve C.	Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Paul Rohan
Michelle Vittorio	Vinnie McMahon	Carolyn Hill			



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.

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

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.

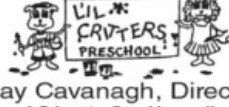
Questions? Call them at
(203) 866-1644

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.



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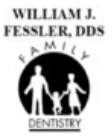
If you are concerned about your end of life plans, searching for the sacred ground of a Catholic cemetery, or have loved ones buried in one of our 14 Diocese cemeteries, now might be a good time to begin planning for yourself or other family members.

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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