

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Memorial Day



Photo by [Justin Casey](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**REMEMBER OUR FALLEN SERVICE PEOPLE
AND THANK THE ONES THAT ARE
STILL WITH US!!**

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

203 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

WEATHER PERMITTING, ALL SUNDAY MASSES, INCLUDING THE VIGIL, & THE WEEKDAY 12:05PM MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED OUTSIDE FOR NO MORE THAN 50 PEOPLE. THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR PRIVATE PRAYER MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 9AM - 5PM AND SUNDAY 1PM -5PM.

Daily Mass

Memorial Day, Monday, May 25

12:05 PM † For Our Deceased Veterans
5:30 PM No Mass

Tuesday, May 26

12:05 PM † Roger Festa
5:30 PM † Margaret & Harold Trezzini

Wednesday, May 27

12:05 PM † Paul Sibiskie
5:30 PM † Poor Souls

Thursday, May 28

12:05 PM † Rudolph Micinilio
5:30 PM † For the Faithfully Departed of the Stachurski & Grzybowski Families

Friday, May 29

12:05 PM † Michael Hall (1st Anniversary)
5:30 PM † Cecilia David

Saturday, May 30

8:00 AM † Martin & Mary McCormack

Sunday Masses

Vigil, May 30

5:15 PM † Thomas Anthony Brigante

Sunday, May 31

7:30 AM † For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased
9:00 AM For All Caregivers & First Responders
11:30 AM † Richard DeLallo (1st Anniversary)
5:00 PM † Iola Rabbitt (20th Anniversary)



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
May 24th through May 30th
for Roger Festa.*

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2020	2019
May 17		
Collection	\$	\$4,436.87
On-Line	\$2,466.00	\$2,236.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,867.00)	(\$1,783.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$ 599.00</u>	<u>\$4,889.87</u>

FOR MAILED IN OR DROPPED OFF TOTALS SEE PAGE 4.

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 2020 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralium Assessment is \$89,601. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,867. This represents an annual increase of \$4,026 from the prior year.



**Drive By Confessions
with Fr. Ralph
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm in the
church parking lot
(weather permitting)**

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Isabelle (Issy) DaSilva (Silva)

We extend our sympathy to her family & friends.

RECTORY OFFICE REOPENING PLEASE CALL BEFORE YOU COME!

The office staff is returning on Tuesday, May 26th. Catherine & Cathy will be splitting office hours. Please call for an appointment (or maybe we can help you by phone) so that we can adhere to the protocols set forth by the state.
(203) 866-3141

Sunday Mass is being celebrated by Bishop Caggiano or Monsignor Thomas Powers, Vicar General, and will be available on our Diocesan Website (www.bridgeportdiocese.org/coronavirus/home/) or on diocesan social media channels (www.bridgeportdiocese.org/dobsocial/home).

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar

Office Hours:

Monday Through Thursday 9am-4pm
Friday & Saturday 9am-12 Noon

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
stthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com

Lisa Castorina
Secretary
stthomas.lisa@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

New Temporary Outdoor Mass Schedule

Beginning next weekend, May 23rd & 24th, we will supply outdoor seating for all Masses in the Rectory side parking lot based on the mandated 50 person limit.

- Please do not attend mass if you or any family member does not feel well.
- All participants must wear masks during the service. Please bring your own if you have one since we have a limited supply.
- If it is raining, the Mass will be moved into the church for private celebration by one of our priests.
- Bring your phone to read along with the service. No church missalettes are allowed.
- We prefer families not attend the 7:30am Sunday Mass so our seniors will feel safe.
- We will continue to live-stream 1 Mass every weekend.
- Weekday Masses (no Saturday) starting Monday, May 25th, will be held at 12:05 p.m. Mass is open to the public with the same rules as above. All 7 a.m. Mass intentions will be remembered at the new mass time.
- The 5:30 p.m. Weekday Mass will continue to be privately celebrated.
- The church will remain open during scheduled times for private prayer.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

This weekend we begin, once again, to worship, pray, and offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass at all the parishes in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Things will be different, however; we will be outside, the number of participants will be limited for our safety, and we will be doing so in a world and cultural circumstances that have changed dramatically.

But regarding what is different, can the same be said for what we are doing and what we will be doing as Catholics? True, we will have to wear masks; there will not be a sign of peace; music, if any, will be simple and brief; we will not be able to kneel and genuflect to the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle; we will have to consume the host, all of us, the same way and according to the guidelines of the Diocese; and we may find the annoyance of a mosquito or fly distracting us during the liturgy.

Yet, regarding the practice of our faith as Catholics, regarding the sacred mysteries of which we observe, and regarding the liturgical rites, the sacraments, and the call to the moral life and acts of charity; we will, as we always have, as Catholics always have, even in times of war, famine, plagues and pandemics, be doing what we did before.

However, we have to keep in mind that Catholicism, though seemingly unlike so much of what the world thinks and does, has a place in the world, in our lives, and in our hearts; but that doesn't mean that we have to think and act as the world does; and that's why it seems that we always have a choice to make: we can either live according to what modern cultures teaches or not, and we have to make that choice in the midst of whatever time period and the cultural developments in which we find ourselves.

True, we go to sporting events, the theater, we send our children to school, we wear the clothing of the day, and we use the same technology as everyone else; but that doesn't mean we have to change what is essential to the liturgical worship and the moral teachings of the Church. Consider this quote from the Letter to Diognetus, written around 130 AD; the author is unknown: "Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life." The letter continues: "and yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labor under all the disabilities as aliens. Any country can be their homeland, but for them, their homeland, wherever it may be, is a foreign country. Like others, they marry and have children, but they do not expose themselves. They share their meals, but not their wives. They live in the flesh, but are not governed by the desires of the flesh. They pass their days upon earth, but they are citizens of heaven." (The Liturgy of the Hours According to the Roman Rite, Catholic Book Publishing Co, 1976, vol. 2, p. 840-841)

This is exactly what is happening this weekend as it always has! While roaring motorcycles and cars are going up and down East Avenue, while folks are walking by and riding their bikes, and though we will be wearing masks, we will be doing what we have always done - in the world, but not of the world, as they say.

What we are and will be doing is both human and divine, and in the name of Jesus Christ, who was like us in every way but sin, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father; and after every Mass, we will most likely have something to eat or go for a walk just like anybody else. All we need to keep in mind moving forward, as we continue to practice and defend the Faith, as we always have and as we always should, are the words that Jesus says to us in this weekend's Gospel: "Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matt 28:20b)

Fr. Ralph



Photo by Courtney Hedger on Unsplash

Thank you to all who continue to contribute to our parish offertory by mail & by drop off. Your generosity during this difficult time is so greatly appreciated. Below are the totals for the periods as noted:

	Sunday	Maintenance	Easter	Easter Flowers	Totals
Mail in Offertory 3/16/20 - 4/17/20	\$5,555.00	\$439.00	\$7,023.00	\$295.00	\$13,312.00
Mail in Offertory 4/18/20 - 4/30/20	\$4,580.00	\$345.00	\$2,015.00	\$35.00	\$6,975.00
Mail in Offertory 5/1/20 - 5/15/20	\$4,540.00	\$348.00	\$190.00	\$5.00	\$5,083.00
Totals	<u>\$14,675.00</u>	<u>\$1,132.00</u>	<u>\$9,228.00</u>	<u>\$335.00</u>	<u>\$25,370.00</u>

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



Cdr. Dan Caldwell, US Navy
Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
Lt. 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

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

At this time, Michelle O'Mara, DRE, & Lisa Castorina, Secretary, are available by appointment only. Please email Michelle at stthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com or Lisa at stthomas.lisa@gmail.com.



St. Thomas Play Group is meeting via Zoom Mondays from 12pm to 12:40pm during the Coronavirus outbreak.

For more information, please email Lisa in the Religious Formation office at stthomas.lisa@gmail.com.



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 99 gifts worth \$22,030 bringing our parish to 21.29% of its \$103,500 goal.

Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!

WANT THE LATEST INFO FROM YOUR PARISH? SIGN UP FOR OUR ONLINE EMAIL SYSTEM

SEND AN EMAIL TO

STTHOMASNORWALK@OPTONLINE.NET

AND WE WILL ADD THAT ADDRESS TO OUR CONSTANT CONTACT EMAIL LIST. YOU MAY OPT OUT AT ANYTIME BY CLICKING THE UNSUBSCRIBE BUTTON IN THE EMAIL.

CHILDREN'S BULLETIN ON OUR WEBSITE

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

www.stthomasnorwalk.com

Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck
Marge Simon

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 is currently closed and not accepting donations at this time.

St. Vincent de Paul

Food Pantry:
(203) 866-1644

HOURS
6 PM - 8 PM
Wednesday & Thursday,
10 AM - 12 PM
Saturday

Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Friday

Birthright of Norwalk:
(203) 853-4872

Catholic Charities:
(203) 416-1307

SACRAMENTS

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday: 9:00am to 4:00pm Friday & Saturday: 9:00am 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: 4:30 - 5:00 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	John Pagliano	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese
Pearl Futo	Jim Sweet	Lou Marcario	Tom Gage	Anne Edwards	Janina Stachurski	James Amrich
Lynn Lockwood	Ken Pelzolt	Robert Parmalee	Carol Vallee	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero	Emily Calabeese
Terry Rooney	Skip Bossone	Mike Torres	Vicki	Tony Cappuccia	Irene Brennan	Marie Silver
Gary Livia	Kimberly Fratoloni	Peggy McDonald	Julia Cade	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso	Jeanette Ralston
Margaret Currie	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Rick Azillo
James Verda	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Helga Garnett
Jeannie Maxwell	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Ellen Morrone
Helen Onisko	Thomas Calka	Msr. Thomas Powers	Jill Bowman	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo
Antonio Vescio	Joanna Marvin	Constance Williams	Tadeusz Stachurski			

The Food Pantry is open !!

Wednesday and Thursday evenings,
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Saturday mornings,
10:00 AM to noon.

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



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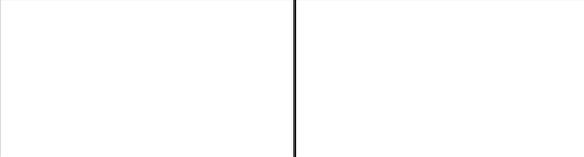
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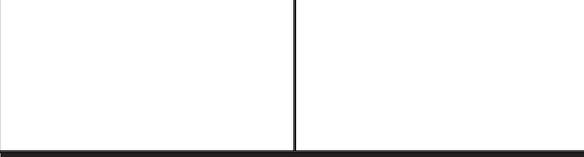
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