



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

November 5, 2023
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



*In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.
In this life you embraced them with your tender love,
deliver them now from every evil
and bid them eternal rest.
The old order has passed away:
welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,
but fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever. Amen.*

We remember those we lost this year.

Please keep them & their loved ones in you prayers:

Dr. John Sacco
Francesco Centatiempo
Mary Jane Gardella
Alfred Palumbo, Sr.
William Bassford
Laura Solomene
Raymond Flewellyn

Joseph Louis Veno
Victoria Ann Buono
Immacolata Iacono
Henry Simon
Edward John Crulli
Barbara Giancaspro
Francesco Longo

Jill Sell
Richard Dunn
Carmine Siano
Gal McDonald
Vincent Massaro
Dennis Santella
Catherine Verda

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, November 6

7:00 AM† Brunot Family
5:30 PM† Joan Gardella

Tuesday, November 7

7:00 AM† Deceased Clergy & Religious of
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
5:30 PM NO MASS

Wednesday, November 8

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

Thursday, November 9

7:00 AM† NO MASS
5:30 PM† Deceased Relatives & Friends of
St. Thomas Parishioners

Friday, November 10

7:00 AM† Rose Festa
5:30 PM† Carmela & William O'Boy, Sr.

Veterans Day, Sunday Vigil, Saturday, November 11

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

Sunday, November 12

7:30 AM† Betty O'Boy
9:00 AM† Rama Braggiotti
11:30 AM† Dr. John Sacco
5:00 PM† For Our Parishioners, Living &
Deceased

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2023	2022
October 29		
Collection	\$3,822.00	\$3,690.00
On-Line	\$2,288.00	\$2,262.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,506.00)	(\$1,567.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,504.00</u>	<u>\$4,385.00</u>
Votives	\$ 117.55	\$ 283.78

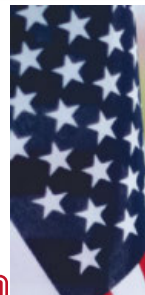
Diocesan Assessment

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.

We welcome the newly Baptized into the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Lenny Elizabeth Cowan

Congratulations to her parents, family, & friends!



Happy Veterans Day to all our service men, women, & their families. Thank you for all you did & do for our great country. May God bless you all!



The Sanctuary Candle burns November 5th through November 11th in memory of the Amato's: Arthur, Sr., Mary, Sharon, & Arthur, Jr., & the Rolland Family.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Francesco Longo

We extend our sympathy to his family & friends.

NEED TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH? DO YOU NEED PROOF OF SACRAMENTS? A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE? NEED TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM, OR A WEDDING? THEN HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE.

All of these items are available by filling in the form on the website and emailing it to the office. Once received, we will let you know we have it and will call or email you when your request is completed.

If you are 18 and out of school, you should be registered by yourself, not with your parents.

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
Carrie Saviano, DRE
stthomasreleoffice@gmail.com

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascick

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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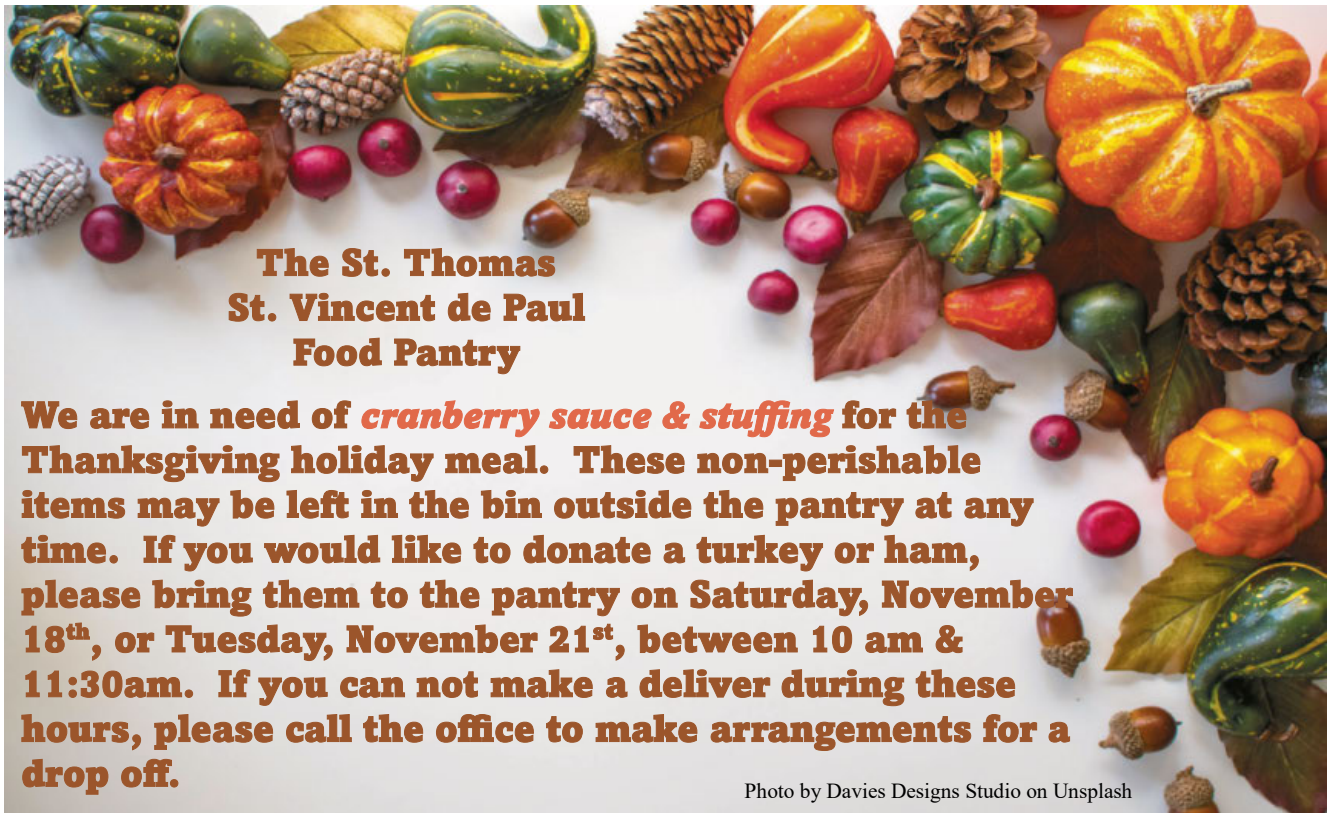
Instagram:

StThomasNorwalk

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



**The St. Thomas
St. Vincent de Paul
Food Pantry**

We are in need of *cranberry sauce & stuffing* for the Thanksgiving holiday meal. These non-perishable items may be left in the bin outside the pantry at any time. If you would like to donate a turkey or ham, please bring them to the pantry on Saturday, November 18th, or Tuesday, November 21st, between 10 am & 11:30am. If you can not make a deliver during these hours, please call the office to make arrangements for a drop off.

Photo by Davies Designs Studio on Unsplash

Hawai'i Catholic
Community Foundation
Supporting the Roman Catholic Church in Hawai'i

October 18, 2023

St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church
203 E Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855

Dear Fr. Mirek,

Peace be with you!

Thank you very much for your recent gift of \$1,484.00, in support of the Maui Wildfire Relief Efforts. Your generous gift will be used to help those affected by the fire to rebuild their families, their livelihoods, and the physical structures that were lost.

We have all witnessed the devastation of the wildfires that have destroyed and ravaged our Maui community resulting in the tragic loss of life and displacing many people. Within the Catholic communities worldwide we have witnessed Jesus in the generosity of so many of you as funds have been pouring in to aid and support our sisters and brothers in Hawaii.

Let us remember the power of prayer. In our collective prayers, we ask for strength, resilience, and healing for the fire victims and their families. Let our faith guide us as we navigate the challenges ahead, knowing that with the grace of God, all things are possible.

We will remember you in prayer as well, and may God bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

With prayerful kind wishes, we remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

James Severson
President, Hawai'i Catholic Community Foundation



**St. Ann's Annual
Holiday Fair**

16 Hendricks Avenue
(off Exit 16)
Norwalk, ct

November 12, 2023
10 – 4 pm

- *Crafts and Artisans*
- *50/50 Raffle*
- *Gift Basket Raffle*
- *Bake Sale*
- *Food Café*



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

SOME ADVICE ON PRAYER FROM ST. AUGUSTINE: SECOND INSTALLMENT

Let us always desire the happy life from the Lord God and always pray for it. But for this very reason we turn our mind to the task of prayer at appointed hours, since that desire grows lukewarm, so to speak, from our involvement in other concerns and occupations. We remind ourselves through the words of prayer to focus our attention on the object of our desire; otherwise, the desire that began to grow lukewarm may grow chill altogether and may be totally extinguished unless it is repeatedly stirred into flame.

Therefore, when the Apostle says: Let your petitions become known before God, this should not be taken in the sense that they are in fact becoming known to God who certainly knew them even before they were made, but that they are becoming known before men through boasting.

Since this is the case, it is not wrong or useless to pray even for a long time when there is the opportunity. I mean when it does not keep us from performing the other good and necessary actions we are obliged to do. But even in these actions, as I have said, we must always pray with that desire. To pray for a longer time is not the same as to pray by multiplying words, as some people suppose. Lengthy talk is one thing, a prayerful disposition which lasts a long time is another. For it is even written in reference to the Lord himself that he spent the night in prayer and that he prayed at great length. Was he not giving us an example by this? In time, he prays when it is appropriate; and in eternity, he hears our prayers with the Father.

The monks in Egypt are said to offer frequent prayers, but these are very short and hurled like swift javelins. Otherwise their watchful attention, a very necessary quality for anyone at prayer, could be dulled and could disappear through protracted delays. They also clearly demonstrate through this practice that a person must not quickly divert such attention if it lasts, just as one must not allow it to be blunted if it cannot last.

Excessive talking should be kept out of prayer but that does not mean that one should not spend much time in prayer so long as fervent attitude continues to accompany his prayer. To talk at length in prayer is to perform a necessary action with an excess of words. To spend much time in prayer is to knock with a persistent and holy fervor at the door of the one whom we beseech. This task is generally accomplished more through sighs than words, more through weeping than speech. He places our tears in his sight, and our sighs are not hidden from him, for he has established all things through his Word and does not seek human words.

The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. IV, Ordinary Time, Weeks 18-34, From a Letter to Proba by Saint Augustine, Bishop, Catholic Book Publishing Co, NY, 1975, pp. 412-413.



Birthright

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.

Volunteer Coordinator Position Available Catholic Charities' New Covenant Center Stamford, CT

New Covenant Center (NCC) is hiring a full-time Volunteer Coordinator. NCC, a program of Catholic Charities, is the largest soup kitchen, food pantry, and day shelter in Stamford. The Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for recruiting, training, and scheduling volunteer groups to prepare and serve meals, and to stock the shelves of the food pantry working with many local parish, youth and corporate groups. If you are interested in this rewarding position helping NCC serve our most vulnerable neighbors please contact John Gutman at jgutman@ccfc-ct.org.



Photo by Mae Mu on

Photo by Alice Pasqual on Unplash

Photo by Nis Van

Pasta Dinner

**Thursday, November 16, 2023, 6:00pm
to benefit Notre Dame Health & Rehab**

Join Sr. Lucie for a great Pasta Dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church School Hall on East Ave. Proceeds to help numerous projects to benefit Notre Dame residents.

\$25/per person

Reservations are required and can be made by email to: Sr. Lucie: SrMIMonast@ndhrehab.org.

Deadline November 9.

Can't attend the dinner?

Donations can be sent to:

SSTV-Capital Improvement,
Notre Dame Convalescent Homes, Inc.,
76 West Rocks Rd., Norwalk, CT 06851

Reservation Form also on our website homepage

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.

The 2024 MASS BOOK is open without restrictions. Phone or email requests are welcome.

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

**Birthright of
Norwalk:**
(203) 853-4872

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



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

Catholic203.com

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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
Dawn Grover	Nancy G.	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Holly Sanders	Vinny Massaro
Mike D.	Elizabeth Malerba	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest	Frank Longo	Patricia M.
Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Paul F.	David R.	Steve C.	Jackson P.
Ginny DeMarco					

**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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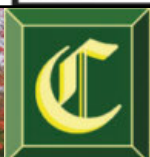
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