

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds
you might uproot the
wheat along with them.
Let the weeds and the
wheat grow together
until harvest."

Matthew 13:29-30

July
19
2020

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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, July 20

7:00 AM† Bob Remlin
5:30 PM† Elisabetta Valiante

Tuesday, July 21

7:00 AM Special Intention
5:30 PM† The Smith & Krawiecki Families

Wednesday, July 22

7:00 AM† Joe Nolan
5:30 PM† Nancy McGuirk

Thursday, July 23

7:00 AM For All Caregivers & First Responders
5:30 PM† Domenico Quattrocchi

Friday, July 24

7:00 AM† Patricia Currie & Timothy Currie
5:30 PM For the Physical & Financial Well-Being of
All Affected by the Pandemic

Saturday, July 25

8:00 AM† NO MASS

Sunday Masses

Vigil, July 25

5:15 PM† Grazyna Gorczynska
(1st Anniversary)

Celebrant
Fr. Mirek

Sunday, July 26

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners,
Living & Deceased Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM For All Our Homebound Parishioners Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM† Maria Calka, Alison Vertucci, &
Sarah Simso DeMaria Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM† Palma Sweet Fr. Ralph

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

July 12

	2020	2019
Collection	\$4,660.00	\$4,134.61
On-Line	\$2,576.00	\$2,379.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	\$5,367.00	\$4,646.61

Votives

\$ 73.00 \$ 154.50

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.

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

Baptism

Austin Hughes Avery

Congratulations to his parents, family, & friends!

Please note the time change for
Confession. This is a permanent
change.

Confessions in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.
Masks must be worn.



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
July 19th through July 25th
for Frances & John Tierney.*

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Thomas Baldino

We extend our sympathy to his
family & friends.

Banns of Marriage

III

Jennifer Kelly & Jeffrey Kellogg

II

Marianne Jarboe & Brian Jaffa

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

Lisa Castorina
Secretary
stthomas.lisa@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasvg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.com

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



If you would like to arrange a baptism, please call the office at (203) 866-3141. If this is your first baby, you will need to complete the Pre-Baptism class with one of our priests. We will work with you to find the best day and time to fit your schedule. The current mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all baptisms as well.

WATCH FOR THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW WEBSITE!

We are currently working on a new design format at a new web address. The new platform is geared for mobile applications (phones & tablets) with easier scrolling & viewing on smaller screens. Our new address will be stthomasnorwalk.ORG instead of .COM. Don't try it yet since the site is not open. Watch the bulletin for our official launch date.

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.

During these difficult times, please remember to support our local bulletin advertisers. They may not all be open right now, but remember to support them in the coming months. Make the back 2 pages of this publication your "go to place" for local business help. They can only help us if we continue to help them!

RECTORY OFFICE IS NOW OPEN YOU MUST CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT!

Catherine & Cathy will be splitting office hours. Please call for an appointment (or maybe we can assist you by phone) so that we can adhere to the protocols set forth by the state. (203) 866-3141

MEMORIAL MASS OR FUNERAL

With Masses now moved into our church, we are scheduling Memorial Masses for those who died during the virus period. Anyone who wishes to arrange for a Memorial Mass is asked to call the office in order to set up an appointment to plan the mass.

We are now also allowed to have a funeral in the church. If you would like a full funeral mass, please let your funeral home know your wishes so they can contact us to schedule. If you are not comfortable with a group gathering at this time, we will continue to have a graveside only service as an option.

Keep in mind that the current regular mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all funerals, memorials, and graveside services as well.

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.

WHY DID JESUS TEACH IN PARABLES? BY ALFRED EDERSHEIM

Compared to His earlier teaching during the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus's turn to parables might seem odd. He'd used clear instruction to teach His followers how to live and about the Kingdom of God, and He'd exhibited the Kingdom in a tangible way through His miracles. But suddenly, when the crowds come to hear Him, He hops into a boat and speaks in parables, stories about sowing seeds and gathering wheat (Matthew 13).

When the disciples ask Him why, since they obviously noticed the change, His answer may seem even more astonishing: "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it has not been granted" (Matthew 13:11). In other words, the parables are meant to divide the crowd. While this may seem as if Jesus denied some people access, the difference He means is not in the message—but in the response.

The parables themselves present clear stories from everyday events that many in the crowd would recognize. Jesus did not code His teaching to prevent some people from understanding, since all equally would understand the imagery. All those gathered there certainly comprehended the aspects of the stories related to their everyday lives. Instead, His teaching divided the listeners into two groups based on their own responses.

His miracles had attracted many, and others had perhaps been astonished by His earlier teaching. But the parables themselves, just as in the story of the seed falling on various places (Matthew 13:3-9), revealed the true nature of their responses and their real decisions. Those committed to the Kingdom of God would seek and find further understanding. But those uncommitted—perhaps listening only because of the initial excitement—would reject the teaching as unintelligible. *Adapted from The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah by Alfred Edersheim (Book III, Chapter XXIII). Originally published April 12, 2010.*
<https://www.christianity.com/jesus/life-of-jesus/parables/why-did-jesus-teach-in-parables.html>



DUE TO THE
ONGOING CLIMATE
OF UNCERTAINTY,
WE ARE UNABLE TO
PREPARE FOR THE
ANNUAL GIANT TAG
SALE. THEREFORE,
WE WILL NOT BE
HAVING THIS
FUNDRAISER THIS
YEAR!



Pray the Rosary in the Church!

Monday - Friday

6:30am

Monday 7:00pm

Saturday

7:30am & 4:45pm

Do you have used religious items that
need a new home?

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LancCatholicMsn@aol.com

Items taken are placed into churches, convents, and monasteries in need, as well as hospice and nursing homes. The mission started after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and the surrounding areas. Thousands of items were sent to churches and parishioners who lost most or everything. Please do not throw anything out that may be questionable. Call Kimberly first. Please mail your items to the above address or call for pickup (they have planned dates for certain areas). They will also pay your postage if you want. Just place a note inside of the shipment stating that you would like to be reimbursed for the postage with your return address. All payments are sent back as soon as the shipment arrives so there is no waiting period. They can use anything that you may not need or have no use for. They always have an extensive waiting list for various items, so one item or several will help tremendously.

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

STAY IN TOUCH VIA OUR WEBSITE!!!

Our website features links to our Sunday morning Live Streamed Mass as well as past Masses, reflections, & videos by Fr. Mirek & Fr. Ralph to help you with your spiritual well-being. Please be sure to check our website for the latest information of how the Coronavirus is affecting our parish activities. Bishop Caggiano has cancelled all public gatherings unless otherwise directed. Please check back frequently as we continue to add to our social media postings.

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 Penserger, 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

**2020/2021 Religious
Formation Registration**

is now open. Check your
email for important updates
from the Formation Office.



ELECTRONIC GIVING

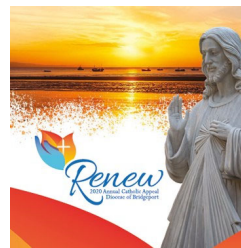
*is available through our parish
website: www.stthomasnorwalk.com.
Your use of electronic giving saves
the parish money and helps keep our
volunteers & staff safe.*

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.

THE THRIFT STORE
IS TEMPORARILY
CLOSED. WE ARE
HOPING FOR A
FALL REOPENING.
WATCH THE
BULLETIN &
WEBSITE FOR
UPDATES.



**2020 ANNUAL
CATHOLIC APPEAL**

We have raised 144 gifts
worth \$33,355 bringing our
parish to 32.23% of its
\$103,500 goal. Any and all
gifts are greatly appreciated.
Thanks to all who have
already given or pledged!

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
6:30 PM - 8 PM
Wednesday &
Thursday

Closed
Sunday, Monday,
Tuesday, Friday &
Saturday

**Birthright of
Norwalk:**

(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
Charities:**

(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	John Pagliano	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese
Pearl Futo	Jim Sweet	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	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	Msgr. Thomas Powers	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Antonio Vescio
Joanna Marvin	Linda Lima	Constance Williams	Tadeusz Stachurski	Lorraine Magazeno		

The Food Pantry has new hours !!

Wednesday and Thursday evenings,
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

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

Questions? Call them at

(203) 866-1644



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