

Fr. Mirosław Stachurski, Pastor

203 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06855

(203) 866-3141

stthomasnorwalk.org

stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net



*Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when
the time will come.*

Words by God ~ Mark 13:33

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Family Mass Every Sunday at 9:00 am.
Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Daily Mass

Monday, November 30

7:00 AM† Rev. Edward A. Colohan
5:30 PM† Laurie Anspach

Tuesday, December 1

7:00 AM† Clifford Meyers
5:30 PM† Fr. Paul Merry

Wednesday, December 2

7:00 AM† Margaret Baren
5:30 PM† David Dudek

Thursday, December 3

7:00 AM† David Webster
5:30 PM† Natale Sposato

Friday, December 4

7:00 AM† Deirdre McParland
5:30 PM† Mass of Remembrance

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, December 5

5:15 PM† Teresa Passarelli (1st Anniversary)

Sunday, December 6

7:30 AM† Flor & Gonzalo Alarcon
9:00 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living &
Deceased
11:30 AM† John Porada
5:00 PM† Carole Prescott (3rd Anniversary)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Due to early transmission to the printer for the Thanksgiving holiday we do not have the collection figures in time for publication of the bulletin. We will report the collection in next week's issue.



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil/Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until February 1, 2021.

—MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—

There will be a special mass for all deceased parishioners on Friday, December 4th, at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. If not able to attend you can view the mass on www.stthomasnorwalk.org and click on Live Stream Masses. If you would like information about the ministry, please contact Jane Eichwald at (203) 838-4590.

PLEASE HELP LIGHTEN OUR LOAD!

Please use your parish offertory envelope or write your envelope # on any loose checks. This will greatly cut down on the entry time of the Parish Offertory every week. *If you don't know your number, please call the office (203) 866-3141.*



The Sanctuary Candle burns
November 29th through December 5th
for Paul Sibiskje.

Confessions in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm
Social Distancing will be maintained.
Masks must be worn.



FIRST FRIDAY

ADORATION
December 4th
7:30am to 5:00pm

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:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-1219 Fax

NEXT WEEKEND

ANNUAL WREATH SALE TO BENEFIT
BOY SCOUT TROOP 222
AFTER ALL MASSES DECEMBER 5th & 6th
ONLY \$20.00!

Our Boy Scout Troop will be selling beautiful double-sided balsam wreath, decorated with a red velvet bow and pinecones - door sized \$20.

This is the only fundraiser for the troop. Proceeds are used to offset the costs for the boys' events during the year.

Orders are now being taken until
December 7th

Orders will be delivered by a Scout. If a no-contact delivery is preferred, just tape an envelope to the door with a check made out to: Troop 222. Please call (203) 847-1794 or email to glupinek@gmail.com with your information and Gwen will take care of your order.

Please support our Boy Scout Troop with your purchase! For more information about Boy Scout Troop 222, please go to their web page at troop222nowalk.scoutlander.com.



The next digital version of the missalette is not available to our parishioners. We do, however, have the actual missalette available for pick up during regular office business hours. Please call the office before coming - (203) 866-3141.

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!



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.

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.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

As we begin the journey of Advent in preparation for the greatest mystery of all, God entering into the world as one of us to accomplish all things as established from before all ages, that is, the redemption of our souls; and keeping in mind, all that can be challenging and distracting, both in regards to the world, and the secularization of the Christmas Season, consider the following reflection by St. Cyril of Jerusalem:

“We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.”

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming, he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming, he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming, he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming, he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels. We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*.

The Savior will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgment he was silent; then, he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent*.

His first coming was to fulfill his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity. Malachi the prophet speaks of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple*: that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: *Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing*.

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: *The grace of God the Savior has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ*. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end*.

“Our Lord Jesus Christ will, therefore, come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, on the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.”

The above cited quote is an excellent point of consideration for us as we begin the Advent Season. Now, for our purposes, the word advent means “coming,” or “arrival,” and we find ourselves in the midst of both, that is, the coming of the Lord and His arrival when all things are accomplished. Yet, we know that the Lord Jesus Christ seeks to enter our lives, hearts, minds, and souls even now. So, as make our way towards the most significant and joyful observance of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, may we allow the Lord Himself, as we make our journey within the two greatest moments of all time, to “come,” and may we welcome Him, granting Him access whenever and wherever He wishes, in our hearts, minds, and souls, and in our lives.

Fr. Ralph

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EMAIL ADDRESS?

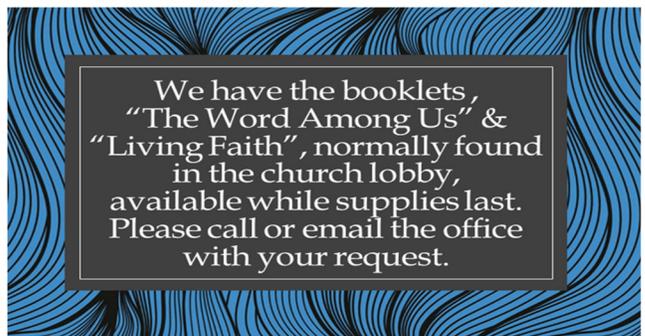
Please let us know of any changes to your contact information so our records will be correct and you will be able to contact you, if necessary. Please notify the Parish Office when you change your address, phone number, cell phone number and/or email address so that we can have the most up to date way to reach you should the need arise. Call us at (203) 866-3141 or send us an email with your current information. Thank you.

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



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 166 gifts worth
\$37,193 bringing our parish to
35.94% of its \$103,500 goal.

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

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



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.



Sunday Family Rosary

Every Sunday at 7:30 pm, the Diocese of Bridgeport is conducting Sunday Family Rosary. They would like to have one family from each parish and school lead the rosary, which will guarantee that the schedule would be set for

many, many months to come.

Please visit www.formationreimagined.org and click the praying hands image at the top of the screen. Once you sign up to lead, you will receive a confirmation email with complete details.

No registration is necessary for families who simply wish to join in prayer each week at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, please email Rosary@diobpt.org.

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



Join the Bishop in Prayer

Text a selfie, your prayer intention, or the word "pray" to 55778.

Participants will receive a daily prayer intention from the bishop that ends with a call to prayer.

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

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
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturdays Only

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	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 Fratoloni	Peggy McDonald	Lorraine Magazeno	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso	Rick Azillo
Margaret Currie	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Helga Garnett
James Verda	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Antonio Vescio
Jeannie Maxwell	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Kathleen Ford
Trisha Jackson	Thomas Calka	Msgr. Thomas Powers	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Joanna Marvin
Vicki	Julia Cade					



Birthright

Birthright is in need of gently worn maternity and baby clothing. Please call (203) 853-4872 to arrange for a drop off.

Birthright is also in need of volunteers (especially Spanish speaking).

Opportunities include friendship counseling, clerical, and clothing work.

Training is provided. Please call the Norwalk Chapter for more information.



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



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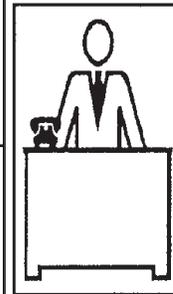
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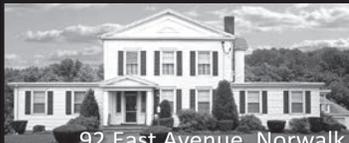
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