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ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Second Sunday of Easter

(or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

*Jesus said to Thomas,
“Have you come to
believe because you
have seen me?
Blessed are those
who have not seen
and have believed.”*

John 20:29



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April 24, 2022

Rev. Mirosław 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, April 25

7:00 AM† Grace Grasso
5:30 PM† Msgr. Andrew Varga

Tuesday, April 26

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

Wednesday, April 27

7:00 AM† All Souls
5:30 PM† George & Helen Platt

Thursday, April 28

7:00 AM† Shirley Hanlon
5:30 PM† Ryan Dudek

Friday, April 29

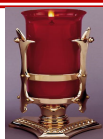
7:00 AM† William F. Hanlon, III
5:30 PM† Norma Pia

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, April 30

5:15 PM Elaine Sheehan

Sunday, May 1

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased
9:00 AM† Joseph Nice
11:30 AM† Daniel & Elizabeth Squicciarino
5:00 PM† Joanne Parks



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
April 24th through April 30th
for Elaine Sheehan.*

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Elizabeth Piro Donald Casavacchia

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

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

Olivia Ann Dec

Congratulations to her parents, family & friends!



Pray the Rosary in the Church
Monday - Friday: 6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
April 10		
Collection	\$5,712.00	\$3,232.00
On-Line	\$2,640.00	\$2,418.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,636.00)	(\$1,869.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$6,716.00</u>	<u>\$3,781.00</u>
Votives	\$ 160.00	\$ 137.00
Holy Land, Good Friday		
Collection	\$ 945.00	\$ 911.00
On-Line	\$ 270.00	\$ 380.00
Total	<u>\$1,215.00</u>	<u>\$1,291.00</u>
Easter Sunday - April 17		
Collection	\$ 9,916.50	\$3,807.00
On-Line	\$ 2,480.00	\$2,732.17
Diocesan Assessment	(\$ 1,636.00)	(\$1,869.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$10,760.50</u>	<u>\$4,670.17</u>
Votives	\$ 360.00	\$ 162.00
Easter		
Collection	\$7,503.50	\$8,468.00
On-Line	\$1,380.00	\$1,525.00
Total	<u>\$8,883.50</u>	<u>\$9,993.00</u>

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 2022 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralicum Assessment is \$85,072. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,636. This represents an annual decrease of \$4,633.00 from the prior year.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
TODAY!
SUNDAY, APRIL 24th**

**Please join us at 3:00 pm for an hour of
prayer and devotions in Church.**

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

Mary Vladimirov, Secretary
General Office Email
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

stthomasnyq@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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PRAYER BREAKFAST FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

Saturday May 7th, 9:30-12:30

Ethan Allen Inn

21 Lake Ave . Extension Danbury

\$25.00 -Reservations Required By April 30th

The guest speaker, *Sister Frances Smalkowski*, will share her testimony and lifelong ministry and devotion to God.

No tickets will be sold at the door. For more information, please call Carol Flynn at 203-775-3875 or email magnificatthmi@gmail.com. Invitation is available in the Women's Ministry Section of the Diocese of Bridgeport website. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.



2022 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

We have raised 83 gifts worth \$17,550 bringing our parish to 27.95% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thanks to all who gave or pledged!**

During these difficult times, please remember to support our local bulletin advertisers. 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!

HELP WANTED!!!

We, as the community of St. Thomas Parish, are blessed by the tremendous witness and involvement of our young and old families and individuals in proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom. Why do we do all these remarkable works of charity? Maybe today you can commit one Sunday of your busy schedule to help our parish as a Lector, Minister of the Holy Eucharist, maybe as an Usher or Hospitality Minister? Perhaps we could grow our Parish Ministries, to some scale, back to the so called "before Covid pandemic times" numbers? We do all we do at St. Thomas because we know it is the right thing to do, to help others, to be nice, to be kind, to have high moral standards, to just simply be a decent human being. Whatever the answer might be, I am very proud to be a part of you, of a great community of faith, that shows that faith in practice so well.

fr. Mervin

Would you like to be more involved with our parish family? Please consider joining one of our ministries.

I am interested in assisting the Parish in the following ministries (check all that apply):

Mass Ministries:

Usher Lector Eucharistic Minister Choir

Adult Altar Server (to assist at funerals, no experience necessary, we will train)

Other Ministries (for a brief explanation of each, please click on "Parish Ministries" on our website):

Catechist Catechist Assistant Prayer Shawl

Food Pantry Bereavement Hospitality

Thrift Store Office Volunteer Money Counter (Monday Mornings)

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Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please drop this form in the collection basket or email the office with your choices.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

Now that we have made the journey during the Season of Lent, have recalled the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood of the Church on Holy Thursday, and observed the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ; that is, His passion, death, and resurrection, culminating in the blessings of grace that comes with Easter Sunday, we now find ourselves in the midst of the Easter Season. The Easter Season began on Saturday night at the Easter Vigil and will continue until Pentecost Sunday. Unfortunately, for some Catholics, Easter Sunday was a high point for the year, which, along with Christmas, provide a very brief glimpse into the mystery and wonder of the Catholic faith if left to merely twice during the annual Liturgical Cycle of the Church. Many Catholics returned to the basic routine that they knew before Easter Sunday, or even before Ash Wednesday. For some, the joy of Easter will be fresh and strong at first, but then the uplifting moment experienced on Easter Sunday will dwindle over time.

This brings to mind the Parable of the Sower in the Gospels: *“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it (Lk 8:5-7).”* Jesus then goes on to explain the parable to the apostles: *“This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of trial. As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit (Lk 8:11-14).”*

With this in mind, we all have a unique opportunity to either adopt a new practice of our Catholic faith or persevere in whatever took root in our hearts during the weeks that led us to this Sunday. Since this Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday, perhaps it will serve us best. Divine Mercy Sunday is the result of the reflections found in the Diary of Sister Faustina Kowalska (otherwise spelled Faustyna), a Catholic nun and mystic, who, through her personal writings describe apparitions and conversations with Jesus Christ revealing to her a devotion to the Divine Mercy which is to be observed on the second Sunday of Easter, the Sunday that brings to a close the Octave of Easter - in its shortest form, a Sunday that involves mercy, forgiveness, and grace for the salvation of souls.

Truly, this can be a time for all of us to strive for perseverance in the practice of the faith. We are in a time in which we can consider the blessings that flow from the words and deeds of Our Lord Jesus Christ with an emphasis on His death, resurrection, His glorious ascension into heaven, and the gift of the Holy Spirit to His Church. It has been a gift and blessing for all of us who have made this journey, and we are called to continue on our way, in this life, for the sake of the life to come. I leave you with these words from a homily by an unknown ancient author: *“The Easter festival brings the grace of holiness from heaven to men. Through the repeated celebration of the sacred mysteries, they receive the spiritual nourishment of the sacraments. Fostered at the very heart of holy Church, the fellowship of one community worships the one God, adoring the triple name of his essential holiness, and together with the prophet sings the psalm which belongs to this yearly festival: *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*”*

From an Easter homily by an ancient author, The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. 3, Lenten Season-Easter Season, Catholic Book Publishing Co., NY, 1975, p. 583.

Fr. Ralph



Notre Dame High School, 220 Jefferson St., Fairfield is proud to announce the return of the “Garlic Fest” on Friday, May 13 (5pm-10pm), Saturday, May 14 (Noon -10 pm) and Sunday, May 15 (Noon - 5 pm). Join us for an array of food trucks, beverages, craft and food vendors the Garlic Bites children’s entertainment area with games and amusement rides, bingo and live music for adults and children. For more information please visit NDgarlicfest.com or contact Karen Guastelle at kquastelle@notredame.org.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



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Christopher Jarboe

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Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck

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Tom Donaher
Joe Dudek
Glenn Iannaccone
Ann Jacoby
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John Stoops

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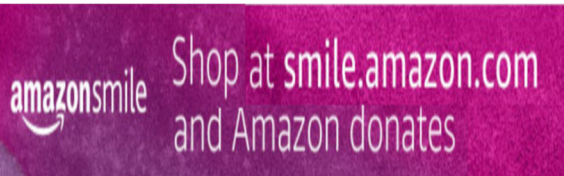
**Birthright of
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**FAIRFIELD PREP INFORMATION NIGHT
FOR ALL CURRENT 6th & 7th GRADE BOYS &
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THURSDAY, APRIL 28th, FROM 6:00 - 7:00 PM &
THURSDAY, MAY 5th, FROM 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

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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 a minimum of 5 girls in order to have girls at the meetings. For more information about Scout Troop 222, please go to their web page: troop222norwalk.scoutlander.com.



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SACRAMENTS

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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	Jim Sweet	Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Jill Bowman	Emily Calabeese	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima
Mike	Constance Williams	Mike Torres	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Merina Deluc
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Skip Bossone	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	George Travers
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Kimberly Fratoloni	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Phil Tavella
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Michael Walsh	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	Hamilton Family
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Anthony Bruno
Kathleen Dominick	Cathy Sinica	Kathleen Ford	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Angela McCrae
Greg N.	Joe M.	Joan Kennedy	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Kathy D
Jack Cade	Jackie Capobianco	Nancy G.	Vinny Massaro	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest
Dawn Grover	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Debbie Poruban	Denise Cassin		

**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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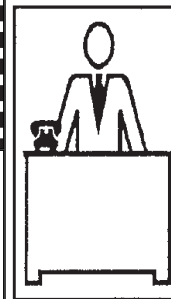


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