



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

**ST. THOMAS**

**THE APOSTLE** CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

January 15, 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Times

I will make you a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

— Isaiah 49:6b

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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, January 16

7:00 AM† Msgr. G. Robert Hanover  
5:30 PM Intentions of Ileana & Silvana Alarcon,  
Terry Cain & Luis Cardenas

#### Tuesday, January 17

7:00 AM† Ann Porco  
5:30 PM Living & Deceased Members of the  
Ball & Calabrese Families

#### Wednesday, January 18

7:00 AM† Billy Farman  
5:30 PM † Janina Stachurska

#### Thursday, January 19

7:00 AM Intentions Maria Lopez  
5:30 PM † Linda Caruso

#### Friday, January 20

7:00 AM Intentions of Miguel Flores  
5:30 PM † Living & Deceased Members of the  
Smith & Krawiecki Families

#### Saturday Vigil, January 21

5:15 PM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased **Celebrant**  
Fr. Mirek

#### Sunday, January 22

7:30 AM† John Dominick Fr. Mirek  
9:00 AM† Isli Jane Tojong Fr. Mirek  
11:30 AM† Maureen Gotay Fr. Mirek  
5:00 PM Intention of Glorianna Restrepo Fr. Mirek

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2023	2022
<b>January 8</b>		
Collection	\$5,310.00	\$2,937.00
On-Line	\$2,310.00	\$2,552.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$6,053.00</u>	<u>\$3,853.00</u>
Votives	\$ 230.16	\$ 150.00
<b>Monthly Maintenance</b>		
Collection	\$1,060.00	\$ 770.00
On-Line	<u>\$1,303.00</u>	<u>\$1,022.00</u>
Total	<u>\$2,363.00</u>	<u>\$1,792.00</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 2023 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralricum Assessment is \$81,472. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,567. This represents an annual decrease of \$3,600.00 from the

**Only 3 Weeks Left to Get Your Gift to Us**  
**2022 Challenge Grant**

The 2022 Challenge Grant deadline is almost here. If you need a gift envelope, please call or email the office.  
Thank you to all who have already pledged or donated!



The Sanctuary Candle burns  
January 15<sup>th</sup> through January 21<sup>st</sup>  
for the Intention of the Lage Family.

We welcome the newly Baptized into the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.  
**Grayson George Kowalski**  
Congratulations to his parents, family, & friends!

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

### Prayer Requests!

If you are in need of prayer, for any reason, please contact the St. Thomas Prayer Ministry to pray for you and with you. Please call Sue Wegiel, (203) 838-4088, or email her, [wegiesj@hotmail.com](mailto:wegiesj@hotmail.com). If you cannot reach Sue, please call the Rectory at (203) 866-3141. If you would like to be added to the bulletin list, please call or email ([stthomwanorwalk@optonline.net](mailto:stthomwanorwalk@optonline.net)) the office.

#### Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski  
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura  
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

#### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 9 - 4  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

[stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net](mailto:stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net)

#### Rectory Staff:

Cathy Lauder  
Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

#### Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck  
(203) 434-6488

#### Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189  
Mary Vladimirov, DRE  
[stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com)

#### Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

#### Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

#### Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com  
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

#### Website:

[www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org)

#### Like us on Facebook:

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

## CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FOR 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

If your Catholic school child is in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year, please sign them up for Confirmation class as soon as possible. Confirmation classes will begin 1/24. Email or call Mary Vladimirov for more information. [stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com), (203) 866-1189.

**Our Altar Society is looking for volunteers.** We have a rotating schedule of people to take the church altar linens home to launder. Pick up is usually Monday morning with the folded, & ironed linens returned before the weekend. If you would like to donate your time or would like more information, please call the office, (203) 866-3141, during regular business hours.



**Catholic Schools  
Week 2023  
January 29–February 4**

[www.NCEA.org/csw](http://www.NCEA.org/csw)  
#CSW23

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*Did you know we have state-of-the-art technology and a STEAM curriculum? Our students use hands-on technology to prepare them for their higher education experiences in math, science, arts and technology.*

Come see what makes All Saints Catholic School exceptional at our open house: Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 12-2pm. Registration required. Schedule your tour at [www.allsaintsnorwalk.com](http://www.allsaintsnorwalk.com)

**Tune in to 24-hour  
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Veritas Catholic Network is on the radio at 1350 AM, 103.9 FM, livestream from your computer, and on our mobile app for your phone.

1350 AM

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

**MONDAY NIGHT BINGO**  
**St. Ann's club**  
**16 Hendricks Avenue**  
**Norwalk**  
**Doors open at 5:30pm.**  
**First game at 6:45pm.**  
**Refreshments available to purchase.**



**THINK YOU CAN'T AFFORD A CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
EDUCATION? THEN YOU NEED TO READ THIS AND  
SPREAD THE WORD!**

The Diocese of Bridgeport has a tuition assistance program partially funded through the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Foundations in Education (FIE) has awarded over \$20 million in tuition assistance to thousands of students and families who value Catholic education. They also awarded nearly \$650,000 in Innovation and Leadership Grants to Catholic school educators. Our Catholic schools are thriving and are attracting new families now more than ever. Over the 2 years since the pandemic, close to 450 new students applied for tuition assistance to enroll in our schools. Many of the families did not realize Catholic education was an option for them financially and were blessed to learn of the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. Visit their website for more information: [www.foundationsineducation.org/](http://www.foundationsineducation.org/)

## REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

On November 27th, 2022, we began to prepare ourselves through our observance of the Season of Advent for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; and then, on Christmas Eve, we received Him with great joy and hope. Thereafter, we then gave due recognition to the first martyr of the Church, St. Stephen, then St. John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents, St. Mary, the Mother of God, the Holy Family, and finally, we observed the Baptism of the Lord. This Sunday, the first week of Ordinary Time, we now find ourselves at the beginning of the ministry of Our Lord Jesus Christ, just after His baptism, and we are called to follow Him through the readings at Mass as He fulfills the will of the Father for the salvation of souls.

In the Gospel for this weekend, St. John the Baptist declares: "Behold the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29)." All of the decorations have come down, the gifts have been opened and we have returned to our normal schedule, and it is for us to follow Jesus, listen to His words, and allow Him to form us so that we may continue His work in the world today in His name.

As we continue our journey of faith, we will not see the glittering lights and the numerous heart-warming holiday expressions that we recently enjoyed; but we have the grace of God and the gift of faith, and God will provide what we need, and Jesus will be with us as we make the journey. Though we may not be able to see God at work both brightly and clearly at every moment, we possess, through our baptism, the light of faith, hope, and love, a wisdom above all others, and the truth of our meaning and purpose in this life, something that both we and the world need today more than ever.

We can begin this journey by uniting ourselves to the Lord Jesus in a very real way, where it all began - where we all began, just as it is revealed in the Book of Genesis, in the ancient waters, with the resounding voice of God, and the spirit of God that created us; and our baptism, our new life in Christ, began with the said same: with water, the voice of God, and the spirit of God.

Though it went very quickly, what we have observed recently gave us the very means and a point of reference to begin the new year with hope and confidence in all that God promises us in the scriptures, the teachings and ministry of the Church, and of course, through our baptism, a baptism in the Father, the Son, and in the Holy Spirit. I leave you with these words from St Gregory of Nazianzus: *"Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men, for whom his every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received - though not in its fullness - a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen."* *John Ralph*

The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. I, Advent Season-Christmas Season, From a Sermon by Saint Gregory Nazianzus, bishop, Catholic Book Publishing Co., NY, 1975, p. 635.

**Our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is in need of volunteers** to assist with food deliveries on Friday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30. The work involves lifting and shelving the cases of food. Please call or email the parish office if you are able to give us any of your time.. A flexible schedule will work for us!

Congratulations to our parishioner, Helena Vladimirov! She is one of 4 students at All Saints School to win the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Her poster will be moving on to the state level for judging. Good Luck, Helena!!



2022 ANNUAL  
BISHOP'S APPEAL  
We have raised 185 gifts worth \$47,379  
bringing our parish to 75.44% of its  
\$62,800 goal.  
**Thanks to all who gave or pledged!**

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**PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country**



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Room to Grow Preschool is a state licensed and nationally accredited facility that provides high quality care and education for children ages 3 to 5 years old. Registration is open to ALL Norwalk residents. Enrollment spots are available on a sliding fee scale based on family income. The center is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Call (203) 831-8200 now to find out how to enroll your child.

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

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

## 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](mailto:wegiesj@hotmail.com). If you cannot reach Sue, please call the office at (203) 866-3141.

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

**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.



### ELECTRONIC GIVING

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[www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org).

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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](mailto:joe.mccurdy@ctcemeteries.org)

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William G. Lahey