

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK	PARISH STEWARDSHIP			
Family Mass Every Sunday at 9:00AM. Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM	2024   2023     December 15   \$4,016.00   \$4,484.00     Collection   \$2,205.00   \$2,488.00			
Daily Mass   Monday, December 30   7:00 AM + Rudy Cornelio   5:30 PM + Rev. Jose Luis Mejea   New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31   7:00 AM + Lynn Sansone	On-Line   \$2,395.00   \$2,488.00     Diocesan Assessment   (\$1,547.00)   (\$1,506.00)     Net Retained   \$4,864.00   \$5,466.00     Votives   \$ 115.58   \$ 121.79     The Immaculate Conception, December 9			
5:30 PM NO MASS <b>The Solemnity of Mary, Wednesday, January 1</b> 9:00AM+ Ann Marie Jardon   11:30 AM+ Elizabeth Jennings	Collection   \$ 827.00   \$1,367.00     On-Line   \$ 402.00   \$ 406.00     Total   \$1,229.00   \$1,773.00			
Thursday, January 25:30 AM+Marge Mulvehill CulleyFriday, January 37:00 AM+Maria Butera5:30 PM+Mass of Remembrance	Diocesan Assessment The assessment is used to cover the cost of Diocesan operations and schools. The formula is based on <u>all</u> gross receipts. For our 2025 fiscal year, the annual Cathedraticum Assessment is \$80,448. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,547. This represents an annual increase of \$2,124.00 from the prior year. —MASS OF REMEMBRANCE— The following parishioners have died in the month of December: Albert Bruno, Wayne Bartek, Jeannette Church, and Anna Mennino. There will be a special mass for them and all deceased parishioners on Friday, January 3, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. If you would like information about the ministry, please contact Jane Eichwald at 203-838-4590.			
Sunday Vigil, Saturday, January 45:15 PM+Margie & James PllascykSunday, January 57:30 AM+Matilda & Antonio DiMeglio9:00 AM+For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased11:30 AM+Gaetano & Teresa Cecere5:00 PM+Nasciszewski & Sawicki Families				
The Sanctuary Candle burnsDecember 29th through January 4thin memory of Linda Montana Silva.				
Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them. Please remember in your prayers: Jeanette Church We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 <sup>ST</sup> THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS TIMES			

11:30AM 9:00AM

## **ADORATION MONDAY NIGHTS** 6PM - 8PM

(203) 866-1219 Fax

Religious Ed Office: (203) 866-1189 Patty Frattaroli, DRE stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Parish Bookkeeper Monika Piascik

Facilities: Tito (Jose) Rivera

Youth Ministry: stthomasyg1@gmail.com Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator Website: www.stthomasnorwalk.org Like us on Facebook:

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St. Thomas Norwalk Instagram: StThomasNorwalk

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

**Rectory:** Rev. Ralph Segura Pastor (ext.19)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4 Closed Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** 

January 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:30am to 5:00pm

**Rectory Staff:** 

Cathy Lauder

Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

Finance Chair:

**Ulrike Schambeck** 

(203) 434-6488

(203) 866-3141

# Now through January 31, 2025 2024 Challenge Gran

The Challenge Grant is currently in progress. Our benevolent family has, once again, agreed to match up to \$60,000 of your contributions. The gift envelopes have gone out. If you are not on our mailing list and wish to contribute, please call the office or take a donation card located at the entrances of the church.

## THOSE WHO SING,

**PRAY TWICE!** 

If you like to sing, please consider joining our Parish Choir. We have our regular rehearsals on Sunday from 10:45 to 11:15am & sing at the 11:30am Mass. We have special rehearsals for Christmas & Easter typically on Wednesday evenings leading up to the holiday. For more information, speak to Marge Kelley, our Music Director, after the 5:15pm, 9:00am, or 11:30am Mass OR send an email to margaretkelley24@gmail.com.

The 2025 Mass book is open. If you have special dates that you would like to book, please call, email, or stop in the office with your requests soon as the book is filling up quickly.



#### Bishop's Scholarship Fund Applications Open February 1, 2025

Foundations in Education is pleased to announce that applications to the Bishop's Scholarship Fund open February 1st.

Families who have a child currently enrolled or are new applicants in a Diacesan-sponsored Catholic elementary school are eligible to apply for 2025-2026 tuition assistance for Grades K-8.

Apply online via the FACTS Grant & Aid, www.FACTSmgt.com/aid, and complete all questions relating to Bishop's Scholarship Fund.

Deadline: March 15-currently enrolled families, April 15-new families

For more information, visit www.foundationsineducation.org.

FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATION



THE CONNECTICUT

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.



## FIGHT HUNGER WITH US!

We will receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker sold at our selected Stop & Shop in our selected month.

Benefiting Organizatio

St. Thomas St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry

Selected Month: Selected Stop & Shore JANUARY 380 Main Avenue Norwalk

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St. Thomas Parishioners and Families,

As we are about to begin a New Year of worship, prayer, and continue our commitment to Acts of Charity in the name of Jesus Christ, I would like to thank you for your witness as a Family of Faith. Please know that I pray for you always. Below is a reflection on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph by Saint Paul VI, Pope. May God continue to bless all of us as a Family in Jesus Christ, now in this time, and throughout the New Year!

Fithen Relph Rev. Ralph E. Segura St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastor

Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand his Gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God's Son came to be known, profound yet full of hidden meaning. And gradually we may even learn to imitate him.

Here we can learn to realize who Christ really is. And here we can sense and take account of the conditions and circumstances that surrounded and affected his life on earth: the places, the tenor of the times, the culture, the language, religious customs, in brief, everything which Jesus used to make himself known to the world. Here everything speaks to us, everything has meaning. Here we can learn the importance of spiritual discipline for all who wish to follow Christ and to live by the teachings of his Gospel.

How I would like to return to my childhood and attend the simple yet profound school that is Nazareth! How wonderful to be close to Mary, learning again the lesson of the true meaning of life, learning again God's truths. But here we are only on pilgrimage. Time presses and I must set aside my desire to stay and carry on my education in the Gospel, for that education is never finished. But I cannot leave without recalling, briefly and in passing; some thoughts I take with me from Nazareth.

First, we learn from its silence. If only we could once again appreciate its great value. We need this wonderful state of mind, beset as we are by the cacophony of strident protests and conflicting claims so characteristic of these turbulent times. The silence of Nazareth should teach us how to meditate in peace and quiet, to reflect on the deeply spiritual, and to be open to the voice of God's inner wisdom and the counsel of his true teachers. Nazareth can teach us the value of study and preparation, of meditation, of a well-ordered personal spiritual life, and of silent prayer that is known only to God.

Second, we learn about family life. May Nazareth serve as a model of what the family should be. May it show us the family's holy and enduring character and exemplify its basic function in society: a community of love and sharing, beautiful for the problems it poses and the rewards it brings, in sum, the perfect setting for rearing children—and for this there is no substitute.

From an address by Saint Paul VI, Pope, The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. 1, Advent and Christmas Season, Catholic Book Publishing Co., NY 1975, pp. 426-426.

## **Help Wanted**

Our Food Pantry is in need of a volunteer on Friday mornings to assist with food deliveries. Must be able to lift 25 pound containers. If you are interested, please call the Food Pantry at (203) 866-1644. If no one answers, please leave a message. We will call you back!



**Birthright** is in need of gently worn *baby & maternity clothing*. Please call to arrange a drop off. They also need volunteers (especially Spanish speaking). Opportunities include friendship counseling, clerical, & clothing work. Training is provided. Please call for more information: (203) 853-4872.



Holy Hour for Vocations Second Thursday of every month 7:00-8:00pm, St. Theresa Church 5301 Main Street Trumbull

Sponsored by the Lay Dominicans, Our Lady of Fatima Fraternity. All are welcome to attend. For more information about the Lay Dominicans, please contact Mrs. Michelle Rowe, O.P. Formation Director, by phone, (203) 218-6882, or email, orapronobis20@gmail.com.

Every Saturday 4:00pm until 4:30pm Or by Appointment

**Confession in Church** 

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 Navy Spc. Daniel Gonzales, US Army MIDN 4/C Tatiana V. Arias, US Navy Sgt. Matthew Montanez, US Army CPL Larry Joyce, US Marine Corps

2024 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL We have raised 185 gifts worth \$51,011 bringing our parish to 81.23% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thanks to all who have already given or pledged! To make a gift, or for more information, please visit 2024 Bishops Appeal.org, call (203) 416-1470, or scan with your phone.** 



## click on "Events in Our Diocese" for more happenings at our diocesan churches.

Go to our website &

## Catholic203.com

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A networking group designed for 18 to 35 year olds, both single and married. Scan to see what we are all about.



1350AM 103.9FM

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our bulletin advertisers.

Make the back 2 pages of

this publication your "go

to place" for business help.

They can only help us if we continue to help them!

**Pray the Rosary in** 

the Church

Monday - Friday:

Before Any

Scheduled Morning

Mass at 6:30am

Monday: 7:00pm Saturday: 4:45pm *Trustees:* Robert Lametta Christopher Jarboe

## Finance Council:

Rev. Ralph Segura 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

# FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Just as there are some items that we are able to get free from different government sources or at a greatly reduced cost, there are some items we need to buy. This is how this list is generated. Of course, you can still give items that are not on the list. Please leave after hours **non-perishable** donations in the bin outside the pantry. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY PERISHABLES IN THE DROP BOX. **Coffee Tea** 

9oz to 12oz Box of Cereal Shampoo Tooth Paste Paper Towel Bar Soap Toilet Paper Facial Tissues *THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE ANSWERED OUR REQUESTS! YOU HAVE REALLY HELPED OUR COMMUNITY NEEDY.* 

**REMINDER:** No priest will ever send you an email asking for a purchase of gift cards or anything else. These are scam emails & should be moved to your spam folder. Please do not respond to these emails. If you are ever unsure of anything please do not hesitate to call the office or ask Fr. Ralph after mass.



## **PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS IN NEED OF PRAYER** If you would like to add or removed a name 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:

Tim/Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Linda Lima	Merina Deluc	George Travers
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	Phil Tavella
Jack Cade	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Hamilton Family
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Frataloni	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	Anthony Bruno
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Cathy Sinica	Richard Berg	Jeannetta Torres	Angela McCrae
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Diane Turek	Debbie Poruban
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	Jackie Hamilton	Denise Cassin
Ginny DeMarco	1 <sup>st</sup> Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Alessandro Fornara	David R.	John Lima	Paul Rohan
Mike D.	Nancy G.	Jackson P.	Holly Sanders	Robert Podlaski	Jeff Mallory
Michelle Vittorio	Andy Tao	Steve C.	Stefanie Sena	MaryAnn P.	Liz Fox
Vinnie McMahon	Heather Ribellino	Susan Swick	Frank & Ellen Tuttle	Aidan Kane	Mary Anne Lagana
David Franco	Laura Wade	Joe Garrity	Tim Cole	Tim Brosnan	Mary Chaloupa
Ramona Bouffard	Joan Malkin	Joan Milone			



DID YOU KNOW...you must complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy 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 OCIA (Order of Christians Initiation for Adults) program is for you!! Just call the parish office at (203) 866-3141 for more information.

## 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** 

*To reserve the church for your destrea 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* 4:00 - 4:30 PM Weekdays:

**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.

Saturdays:

7.501 11

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



By appointment

Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Norwalk, CT 03-4048

