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ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**I have come to set
the earth on fire,
and how I wish
it were already blazing!**

Luke 12:49

Twentieth

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 14, 2022

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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, August 15

7:00 AM† Elaine Sheehan
5:30 PM Special Intention

Tuesday, August 16

7:00 AM† Ellen Morrone
5:30 PM† Janina Stachurska

Wednesday, August 17

7:00 AM† Annette Festa
5:30 PM† Giuseppe Passarelli

Thursday, August 18

7:00 AM† Rev. Thomas Sullivan
5:30 PM† Raffaele & Maria Longo

Friday, August 19

7:00 AM In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Help
of Christians
5:30 PM† Antonio Cappuccia

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, August 20

5:15 PM† Filippo & Maria Mastrianni

Sunday, August 21

7:30 AM†	For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased	Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM†	Judith Platt	Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM†	John Carroll	Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM†	Antonietta Cappello	Fr. Ralph

Celebrant
Fr. Mirek



The Sanctuary Candle burns
August 14th through August 20th
for Benedetto Napoleone.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Vincenz G. Iannacone

We extend our sympathy to his family & friends.



Pray the Rosary in the Church

Monday - Friday: 6:30am

Monday: 7:00pm

Saturday: 4:45pm

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
August 7		
Collection	\$4,371.00	\$3,404.00
On-Line	\$4,871.00	\$2,693.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$7,675.00</u>	<u>\$4,461.00</u>
Votives	\$ 205.35	\$ 112.00

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 Cathedral Assessment is \$81,472. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,567. This represents an annual decrease of \$3,600.00 from the prior year.



The 2023 MASS BOOK is open.
Only 4 Saturday Vigil/Sunday
weekend masses may be booked
and no more than 6 Sanctuary
Candles until November 1st.

Confessions in Church

Every Saturday

4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.

Masks must be worn.

Banns of Marriage

I

Wiktorija Pikler & Christopher Tremonte



ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 9 - 4
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Rectory Staff:

Michelle O'Mara
Pastoral Assistant (ext. 17)
stthomanorwalkpastoral@gmail.com

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

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

Volunteers needed!

Please help us with our children's religious formation next year. Any help that you would be able to offer would be greatly appreciated. You must be Virtus trained. We can set you up with the training if you haven't already done so. Please contact Mary Vladimirov at (203) 866-1189 or email stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com.

The Thrift Store will reopen on Tuesday, August 16th.

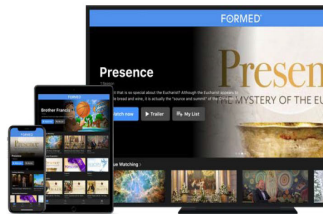


2022 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL
We have raised 166 gifts worth \$42,919 bringing our parish to 68.34% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thanks to all who gave or pledged!**



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St. Thomas the Apostle
Catholic Formation • Norwalk, CT

Religious Formation classes will be begin on Sunday, September 11th. If you haven't already registered, please go to our website homepage & click on the religious education registration form to get started. Any problems, please call the office at (203) 866-3141.

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Norwalk

We Stand With Christ Campaign Redemption

Total Pledged:	\$500,380
Total Collected (As of 7/3/22):	\$335,457 (67%)

To make a payment on your pledge, please visit GiveCentral.org/WSWC or call 203-648-9050.

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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.***

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St. Thomas the Apostle Parishioners,

Every now and then we hear the news of someone “Finding God”, or “Finding Jesus”, or “Converting”, that is usually followed by a retrospective story of their lifetime leading up to that profound change. And as we continue with the follow up of such stories, some continue on very well on that journey, some don’t; for many it is a beginning of a new life or completely reoriented priorities, and it is a very short-lived experience for some. We might ask: “Why is that?”

The readings today present us with the challenges of our faith and the challenges to our faith. The Old Testament Prophet, Jeremiah, was thrown into a cistern because he refused to compromise his faith. He refused to tell the king what the king wanted to hear. He proclaimed the truth that God told him to proclaim, even though it cost him severely. The people to whom the Letters to the Hebrews was addressed were tempted to give up the faith. It seemed too difficult to them, too demanding; sounds familiar?

When I think faith, several things cross my mind. Gift, Trust, Testament, Promise, Commitment, Difficulty, A Cloud of Unknown, Test, Persecution, but these two are very intense: Strength and Mission. Let me try to explain myself; Of many things it is my FAITH that gives me STRENGTH. Every day when I wake up, before I even say my morning prayers, I ask Lord Jesus to help me understand and LIVE my FAITH.

When I say my Mass every morning, I pray for the STRENGTH not to lose my faith, because I know the very moment I leave the church building, it will be a task to stay connected to the SOURCE of Faith. Like a Wi - Fi connection, bars of my Faith Wi - Fi drop with every step I make outside of that sanctuary. Then I realize that STRENGTH that I pray for to help my FAITH I find in very small things; A Talk presented to the people, a visit and a chat with my communion call people, who are so hungry for parish gossip, prayer, and the Body of Christ, a Bible Study class, when we all try to deepen our faith in the Word of God, a class with the Confirmation 8th Grade, until 8 PM, have you ever tried to talk to a 15 years old about Jesus and His Church for about 90 minutes when they come here after school or a sport practice right before dinner? It’s fun, try it, I challenge you....

The STRENGTH of my FAITH is inner-related to my MISSION; not only as a HUMAN BEING, but as a PRIEST – an ordained minister in a Catholic Church. That MISSION has always been the same, To Proclaim the Good News about the KINGDOM of God, baptizing in the Name of The Father, and of The Son and Of the Holy Spirit, nourishing and being nourished for that journey with the Breaking of the Bread. Today in the Gospel Jesus says that He came to bring Fire on Earth; Maybe it is time to challenge our faith so it can grow from a shallow, murky semi-pelagian, to a strong, clear, faith-seeking understanding of Jesus from the Gospels.

fr. m. m. m.

MEMORIAL MASS OR FUNERAL
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 plan the mass. If you would like a full funeral mass, please let your funeral home know your wishes so they can contact us to schedule. We will continue to have graveside only service as an option.

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!

15th Annual Connecticut Catholic Men’s Conference
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 7:30 am – 4 pm Vigil
(Mass celebrated by Archbishop Blair)
Northwest Catholic HS, West Hartford, CT
Featuring dynamic speakers, exhibitors, confession, adoration, food, and fellowship.
Speakers include Fr Chris Alar, Fr Wade Menezes, Fr Larry Richards, Bishop Frank Caggiano.
BUY TICKETS ONLINE www.ctcatholicmen.org Questions? 860-484-7950
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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. 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	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	Jackie Capobianco	Kathleen Ford	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Angela McCrae
Greg N.	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Joan Kennedy	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Kathy D
Jack Cade	Josephine Mola Buckley	Nancy G.	Vinny Massaro	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest
Dawn Grover	Joe M.	Debbie Poruban	Denise Cassin	Holly Sanders	Stefanie Sena
Cathy Sinica					

**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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