



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 25, 2022 | CHRISTMAS



She wrapped him
in swaddling clothes
and laid him in a manger,
*because there was no room for them
in the inn.*

~ Luke 2:7

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Photos: titoOnz/Getty Images, ginosphotos/Getty Images
Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

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, December 26

9:00 AM† Nicholas Annase
5:30 PM No Mass

Tuesday, December 27

7:00 AM† Mary & Louis A. Esposito
5:30 PM† Rita O'Sullivan

Wednesday, December 28

7:00 AM† Joan Gardella
5:30 PM Intentions of Christopher Webb

Thursday, December 29

7:00 AM† Sevea & John Summer
5:30 PM † Steve Sferlazza

Friday, December 30

7:00 AM† Rev. Edward A. Colohan
5:30 PM † Linda Spero

New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31

5:15 PM† Rebecca Nova

Sunday, January 1

7:30 AM† Living & Deceased Members of the Audet & Perreault Families Fr. Ralph
9:00 AM† Matilda & Antonio DiMeglio Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM† Annette Festa, Rosie Izzo, & James Verda Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM † For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased Fr. Ralph

Celebrant

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
December 11		
Collection	\$3,191.50	\$4,333.00
On-Line	\$2,222.00	\$2,521.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$3,846.50</u>	<u>\$5,218.00</u>
Votives	\$ 164.84	\$ 198.00
Retirement Fund For the Religious		
Collection	\$ 724.00	\$ 111.00
On-Line	\$ 448.00	\$ 372.00
Total	<u>\$1,172.00</u>	<u>\$ 483.00</u>
The Feast of the Immaculate Conception		
Collection	\$ 559.00	\$ 639.00
On-Line	\$ 416.00	\$ 493.00
Total	<u>\$ 975.00</u>	<u>\$1,132.00</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 Cathedralium 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 Sanctuary Candle burns
December 25th through December 31st
for Joseph & Jennie Festa.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAY HOURS

Second Chance Thrift Store:

Closed Tuesday, December 27th, & Saturday, December 31st

Food Pantry:

Closed Tuesday, December 27th

Parish & Rel Formation Offices:

Closed Monday, December 26th, & Friday, December 30th

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Now through January 31, 2023
2022 Challenge Grant

The 2022 Challenge Grant is now in progress. The gift envelopes have been mailed. If you did not receive one and wish to contribute, please call the office.

Thank you to all who already have pledged or donated!

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS COMING

SOON! The members are elected by parishioners for a term of 3 years to assist the pastor in long and short term planning for the parish usually meeting once a month in the evening. Please give some thought to whom you would like to nominate.

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:

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

Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

Like us on Facebook:

St. Thomas Norwalk

Instagram:

StThomasNorwalk

stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

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.

Amen™

THE FREE CATHOLIC PRAYER APP

**Peace of mind isn't only attainable;
it's in your hands.**

Amen is the free Catholic app that brings you beautiful prayers, faithful meditations and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body and soul to rest in God.

Go to amenapp.org to get started!



IT'S BACK!!

Save the date (and your unwanted items) for our Giant Annual Tag Sale!!
Watch the bulletin for more info in the coming months.

2023

WORLD YOUTH DAY

LISBON, PORTUGAL



VISITING:

Aljustrel, Valinhos, Fatima, Batalha, Alcobaca, Nazare, Tomar, Évora, and Lisbon
for World Youth Day Celebrations

July 26 - August 7, 2023

YOUR PILGRIMAGE INCLUDES:

- + Round trip air from New York
- + First-class hotels
- + Breakfast & dinner daily
- + Air-conditioned motor coach
- + English-speaking guide
- + Sightseeing as per itinerary
- + All taxes and service charges
- + Complete World Youth Day program
- + Daily Mass and Rosary



Monastery of Santa Maria da Vitória,
Batalha, Portugal



Évora, Portugal,
a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Pilgrimage Price:
\$3,400 per person
double or triple

\$700 deposit due at time of registration,
with balance due by April 26, 2023.



The Institute for Catholic Formation
Diocese of Bridgeport

Register now
formationreimagined.org



1350 AM | 103.9 FM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play



Tune in to 24-hour Local Catholic Radio!

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.

Learn more about the faith, strengthen your family, deepen your spirituality, and hear the news through a Catholic lens.

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter for notice of original shows, local Catholic events, and reflection questions for the Sunday readings.

More info at
www.veritascatholic.com.



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

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.
May Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. — *Author Unknown*

On behalf of Fr. Ralph and all our staff, may the Christmas Season bring you much peace, joy, and happiness as you celebrate the birth of the Christ child with your family and friends.

fr. moran

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

SECOND CHANCE THRIFT STORE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS
TUESDAY 10AM - 3PM
WEDNESDAY 12PM - 4PM
THURSDAY 10AM - 3PM
SATURDAY 10AM - 1PM

REASONABLY PRICED, GENTLY USED ITEMS FOR YOUR PERSONAL & HOUSEHOLD USE.

Located at the Parish Center
208 East Avenue
Enter Parish Center driveway from Prowitt Street
Entrance is first red door on the right
(203) 852-9899



Subscribe **FREE** to our weekly update



A vast collection of quality Printables for Catholic Families, Parishes and Schools

Access practical tips and powerful insights on these topics, and more:

- Family faith practices
- Parenting wisdom
- Sacraments explained
- Inspiring stories
- Relationship advice
- Insightful articles
- Craft activities
- Prayer rituals
- Recipes
- Seasonal celebrations



Great Ideas for families, catechists & teachers!

www.CathFamily.org

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!

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

NEED TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH? DO YOU NEED PROOF OF SACRAMENTS? A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE? NEED TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM, OR A WEDDING? THEN HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE.

All of these items are available by filling in the form on the website and emailing it to the office. Once received, we will let you know we have it and will call or email you when your request is completed.

If you are 18 and out of school, you should be registered by yourself, not with your parents.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



Room to Grow Preschool
 A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES



"More than just a preschool"

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.

THE CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF STAMFORD
 FAITH ♦ KNOWLEDGE ♦ SERVICE

Academic Excellence
 Nurturing Environment
 Personalized Learning

PreK - 8th Grade

APPLY TODAY
 Limited Space

Visit CAS:
 Open House: 1/29
 Take A Look Day: 1/31
 Personal Tours

info@CasCt.org www.CasCt.org (203)322-6505

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
 Norwalk

The Second Chance Thrift Shop
 (203) 852-9899
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

Luralton Hall
8th Grade Shadow Visits Now Open

Schedule Your "Day in the Life" at Luralton!

Want to know what it is like to be a Luralton Hall student? Come spend the day attending classes, having lunch in our dining hall, studying in our library, and walking our hallways with one of our current students. To sign up to shadow please go to <https://www.luraltonhall.org/admissions/visit-luralton> to register online. Looking forward to seeing you on Campus soon!

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Take a Look Tuesday



MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

Come and see the difference a Catholic School education will make in your child's life!

Tours offered by appointment every Tuesday between 8:30-10am.
 Register online.

Pre-School through 8th Grade

139 West Rocks Road Norwalk, CT 203-847-3881 www.allsaintsnorwalk.com

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FREQUENTLY

We update our website as things change in our parish & diocese. There are many useful links on our "Senior Info" & "Useful Links" pages. We have an interactive Google Calendar where you can add to your personal calendar with a simple click on the item. Most questions can be answered by visiting the website. The main menu is located by clicking the 3 bars located on the homepage in the upper right-hand corner of the page. We have also added buttons for pages at the top of the homepage. **If you know of any organization that may be useful to our community, please contact the office so we may add it to our website upon approval.** www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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	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 st 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	Alyssa Collier	Jim Bogdany		

**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

is available through our parish website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

Your use of electronic giving saves the parish money and helps keep our volunteers & staff safe.



FINDaPARISH.com

**The Most Complete Online
National Directory
of Catholic Parishes**

CHECK IT OUT TODAY!

**LITTLE CREEPERS
PRESCHOOL**
Gay Cavanagh, Director
10 Lewis St., Norwalk
847-4220

✂ Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It
The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin.
I am patronizing your business because of it!



SAVE up to
66%
w/promo code

800-882-0925 Use promo code: CHURCH



Touch a Life, Forever.

Serra for Priestly Vocations



Gerri Flewellyn • Director
131 Strawberry Hill Ave.
866-8933



**Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.**

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

Life Matters

For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife

Protecting Seniors Nationwide

24SEVEN

Medical Alert System



\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today!
Toll Free 1.877.801.8608



INVEST LOCALLY

Targeting local business makes good "Cents"–
Get your name out there by advertising in local
parish bulletins. Contact us today for your next
advertising move and we will work with you for
your next **"AD THAT WORKS!"**

Check us out at www.jspaluch.com



**EAST
AVENUE
SHELL**



STAR WASH CAR WASH
216 East Ave., Norwalk
838-5955

DEVINE BROS.



"Let our family take care of your family"

A/C & 24/7 Heating Services • Propane, Diesel & Heating Oil Delivery

Redi-Mix Concrete, Mason & Landscape Materials

203-866-4421 www.devinebrosinc.com



ED'S GARAGE DOORS
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
136 WATER ST., NORWALK, CT 06854
TEL (203) 847-1284
www.edsgaragedoors.com

MANFREDI jewels

Greenwich • New Canaan
manfredijewels.com

Offering Fine Timepieces & Jewelry

ELECK AND SALVATO ELECTRIC, INC.

Four Fitch St East Norwalk
203-838-1900
www.EleckAndSalvato.com

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit
<https://www.oneparish.com>

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!



Norwalk Cove Marina, Inc.
48 BEACH ROAD,
EAST NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06855
203-838-2326 • FAX: 203-838-9756



Rex Marine Center

144 Water Street, Norwalk, CT 06854
Ships Store 831-5236
Service & Storage 831-5234



Need help with
Medicare choices?
Turning 65?
Let us help you.

Donald A. Cafero, CLU, ChFC
Insurance Broker
203-856-4237

Medicare Information at

www.Medicare65forU.com



*Your
ad
could
be in
this
space!*



JACKIE AUSTIN

REALTOR®

BERKSHIRE | New England
HATHAWAY Properties
HomeServices

Serving Norwalk, Westport, Fairfield, Weston & beyond

jackieaustin@bhhsne.com

Direct: 203-722-3078

Office: 203-227-5117

20 Wilton Road, Westport, CT 06880

jackieaustin.bhhsneproperties.com

Family Owned & Operated



Catering Available
34 North Ave., Norwalk
(203) 847-3360

Open Mon-Sat

Pre-Need Counseling Available
Cremation & Traditional Services

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1912"

Magner Funeral Home, Inc.

Michael J. Magner • James P. Magner, Jr. • Melissa D. Heaphy • William D. Tiani

12 Mott Avenue, Norwalk

www.magnerfuneralhome.com

203-866-5553



FAIRFIELD COUNTY
Catholic Cemeteries
of the Diocese of Bridgeport, LLC



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

catholicmatch®

Connecticut



CatholicMatch.com/myCT

Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.

Support Your Church & Bulletin.

Free professional ad design & my help!

email: sales@jspaluch.com



www.jspaluch.com

For Information ... Call

800.524.0263

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship
of the Sea of the United States of America

Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email

eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

838-5032 838-0088

COTALING'S AUTO BODY

Complete Auto Body Services

130 Connecticut Ave., Norwalk

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19.⁹⁵ a month
 - ✓ Police ✓ Fire
 - ✓ Friends/Family
- FREE Shipping
FREE Activation
NO Long Term Contracts



"I have peace of mind...
Mom remains independent."

CALL NOW! 800.809.3352

MDMedAlert
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

This Button SAVES Lives!
As Shown GPS
Lowest Price Guaranteed!

GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed
EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

Get this
weekly bulletin
delivered by
email - for FREE!

Sign up here:

www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



Directors:

William A. Skidd
William P. Skidd
Andrew D. Skidd
William G. Lahey



Collins Funeral Home

Preplanning & Cremation Services

(203) 866-0747 www.collinsfh.com