



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 8, 2023

The Epiphany of the Lord



*They opened
their treasures and
offered him gifts of*

*gold,
frankincense,
and myrrh.*

Matthew 2:11

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski, Pastor

203 East Avenue

(203) 866-3141

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 9

7:00 AM† All Souls
5:30 PM† Maligisi & Lahey Families

Tuesday, January 10

7:00 AM† Ralph Festa
5:30 PM† Mark & Russell Fallo

Wednesday, January 11

7:00 AM† Billy Farman
5:30 PM† Lawrence Gallacher

Thursday, January 12

7:00 AM Intentions of the Michael Sweeney Family
5:30 PM† Living & Deceased Members of the Smith & Krawiecki Families

Friday, January 13

7:00 AM† Ellen Morrone
5:30 PM Special Intention

Saturday Vigil, January 14

5:15 PM† Cecilia David

Sunday, January 15

7:30 AM† John Dominick
9:00 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased

11:30 AM† Helen & Edward Yackery
5:00 PM† George Blystone

Celebrant
Fr. Mirek

Fr. Mirek
Fr. Mirek

Fr. Ralph
Fr. Ralph



The Sanctuary Candle burns
January 8th through January 14th
for the Festa, Verda, & Izzo Families.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and
Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.
Please remember in your prayers:

Victoria A. Buono Richard T. Dunn
Pope Benedict XVI

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
December 25		
Collection	\$4,441.00	\$2,817.00
On-Line	\$2,572.00	\$2,536.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$5,446.00</u>	<u>\$3,717.00</u>
Votives	\$ 145.60	\$ 258.00
Christmas		
Collection	\$11,854.00	\$10,145.00
On-Line	<u>\$ 1,744.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,951.00</u>
Total	<u>\$13,598.00</u>	<u>\$12,096.00</u>
January 1		
Collection	\$4,145.00	\$2,766.00
On-Line	\$2,992.00	\$3,432.17
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$5,570.00</u>	<u>\$4,562.17</u>
Votives	\$ 178.61	\$ 174.00
Solemnity of Mary		
Collection	\$ 724.00	\$Not
On-Line	<u>\$ 448.00</u>	<u>\$Available</u>
Total	<u>\$1,172.00</u>	<u>\$</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.

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

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stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FOR 6th, 7th, & 8th GRADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

If your Catholic school child is in the 6th, 7th, or 8th 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, (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
#CSW23

**All Saints Catholic School
Faith. Excellence. Service.
Pre-K to Grade 8**

Did you know we have a top-notch preschool? Your child can begin their Catholic education at age 3. Come and take a look at our excellent facilities and warm inviting preschool classrooms! Their foundation for life is built early in our preschool.

Come see what makes All Saints Catholic School exceptional at our open house: Sunday January 29th 12-2pm. Registration required. Schedule your tour at www.allsaintsnorwalk.com

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



IT'S BACK!!

Save the date (and your LARGE unwanted items) for our Giant Annual Tag Sale!!

Watch the bulletin for more info in the coming months.

Remember: our thrift store takes non-furniture items year-round.



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/

FROM A SERMON BY ST. LEO THE GREAT, POPE

Led then, dearly beloved, into Bethlehem by obeying the guidance of the star, the wise men rejoiced with very great joy, as the evangelist has told us: and entering the house, found the child with Mary, His mother; and falling down they worshipped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts, gold, frankincense and myrrh. What wondrous faith of perfect knowledge, which was taught them not by earthly wisdom, but by the instruction of the Holy Spirit!

Whence came it that these men, who had quitted their country without having seen Jesus (newly born in the manger), and had not noticed anything in His looks to enforce such systematic adoration, observed this method in offering their gifts? Unless it were that besides the appearance of the star, which attracted their bodily eyes, the more refulgent rays of truth taught their hearts that before they started on their toilsome road, they must understand that He was signified to Whom (that is, the Messiah) was owed in gold royal honour, in incense Divine adoration, in myrrh the acknowledgment of mortality.

Such a belief and understanding no doubt, as far as the enlightenment of their faith went, might have been sufficient in themselves and have prevented their using their bodily eyes in inquiring into that which they had beheld with their mind's fullest gaze. But their sagacious diligence, persevering till they found the child, did good service for future peoples and for the men of our own time: so that, as it profited us all that the apostle Thomas, after the Lord's resurrection, handled the traces of the wounds in His flesh, so it was of advantage to us that His infancy should be attested by the visit of the wise men.

And so the wise men saw and adored the Child of the tribe of Judah, of the seed of David according to the flesh, made from a woman, made under the law, which He had come not to destroy but to fulfil. They saw and adored the Child, small in size, powerless to help others, incapable of speech, and in nought different to the generality of human children. Because, as the testimonies were trustworthy which asserted in Him the majesty of invisible Godhead, so it ought to be impossible to doubt that the Word became flesh, and the eternal essence of the Son of God took man's true nature: lest either the inexpressible marvels of his acts which were to follow or the infliction of sufferings which He had to bear should overthrow the mystery of our Faith by their inconsistency: seeing that no one at all can be justified save those who believe the Lord Jesus to be both true God and true Man.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



**SECOND
CHANCE**

THRIFT STORE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

TUESDAY 10AM - 3PM

WEDNESDAY 12PM - 4PM

THURSDAY 10AM - 3PM

SATURDAY 10AM - 1PM

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(203) 852-9899

THANK YOU to our parishioners that have generously donated gifts to our senior community as part of our Annual Giving Tree event. Gifts were delivered to our friends within the week leading up to Christmas. A friend from Notre Dame was worried she wouldn't have anything to wear on Christmas while she visited her family. Her face brightened as she opened her gift and it was a red sweater perfect for the occasion. Moments such as this remind us that the holidays are worth all its chaos. A special thank you to Mary Vladmirov, our student volunteers, their families, and Vin Montoya for their help to sort and deliver about 190 gifts. Thank you to the students who handmade such beautiful cards with such meaningful greetings. This ministry would also like to thank Fr. Mirek, Fr. Ralph, Cathy, Tito, and Monika for their continuous support every year. And lastly, thank you, Michelle, Fred, Marizza, and David Diaz for creating tags and facilitating these efforts.

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.

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

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.

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.

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 Mrs. Denise Vuoso, Director of
 Admissions admissions@ascs.net



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 Take A Look Day: 1/31
 Personal Tours



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

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Lauralton Hall

**8th Grade
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Schedule Your "Day in the Life" at Lauralton!

Want to know what it is like to be a Lauralton 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.lauraltonhall.org/admissions/visit-lauralton> to register online. Looking forward to seeing you on Campus soon!

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

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

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www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

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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

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