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ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST

7

2022

Be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding.

LUKE 12:35

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Rev. Mirosław 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 8

7:00 AM† Bob Lauder (19th Anniversary)
5:30 PM Intentions of Nell & Mark Bernegger & Family

Tuesday, August 9

7:00 AM† Joan Gardella
5:30 PM† Gilma David

Wednesday, August 10

7:00 AM† Carmela & William O'Boy, Sr.
5:30 PM† Jane, Anthony, & Harold Goral

Thursday, August 11

7:00 AM† Raymond O'Hara, Jr.
5:30 PM† Hall Family

Friday, August 12

7:00 AM† Peter Pappas
5:30 PM Intentions of Luke Sweeney

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, August 13

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

Sunday, August 14

7:30 AM† Mary Bocchino Fr. Ralph
9:00 AM† Walsh & Piedmont Families Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM† Jennie & Jerry DiMeglio Fr. Mirek
5:00 PM† Michael Caputo Fr. Mirek



The Sanctuary Candle burns
August 7th through August 13th
for John Tierney.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Richard Shand *John Dominick*

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

We welcome the newly Baptized into the
Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Matias Kulis-Jankowski *Nicholas James Miralda*

Congratulations to their parents, families, & friends!

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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PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
July 24		
Collection	\$3,491.00	\$3,297.00
On-Line	\$2,550.00	\$2,973.00
Diocesan Assessment	<u>(\$1,567.00)</u>	<u>(\$1,636.00)</u>
Net Retained	<u>\$4,484.00</u>	<u>\$4,634.00</u>
Votives	\$ 128.50	\$ 176.00

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.



Pray the Rosary in the Church

Monday - Friday: 6:30am

Monday: 7:00pm

Saturday: 4:45pm



ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM

The Thrift Store will reopen on Tuesday, August 9th.



Birthright is in need of gently worn *baby and 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.



2022 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL
We have raised 165 gifts worth \$42,819 bringing our parish to 68.18% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thanks to all who gave or pledged!**



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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.

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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More info at www.veritascatholic.com.

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.***

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

One of the basic issues that we deal with as disciples of Jesus Christ is what we should do to fulfill God's will in our lives. Now, as you know, this is not always so easy and simple, but we are in fact called to respond to God's will; and if we do, that is, at least respond, we can be confident that God knows our good intentions, and God will always, on His part, respond in such a way and degree that we can continue on our journey of faith, producing good fruit.

We can see in the first reading of the Book of Wisdom that God established, through human cooperation, the tradition, the worship, and the way of life of the Israelite people (this can be found in numerous places in the Bible). In the second reading in the Letter to the Hebrews we read that regarding Abraham, our father in faith, God fulfilled the promises He made to Abraham; and in the Gospel, Jesus calls us to anticipate the blessing of the resurrection through a preparatory way of life that nurtures a disposition of heart so that the grace of God can work in us, making it possible for us to enter into the glory of God.

What we have considered thus far leads to questions concerned with what God can do, what God does, and what we can do so that we can grow in God's grace as we make the journey of faith. Now we know that through the incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, through the power and working of the Holy Spirit, Jesus became like us in all things but sin. Subsequent to this, God the Father accomplished and fulfilled all that He intended from before the foundation of the world in and through the person of Jesus Christ. But there's something more. St. Athanasius tells us: *"for the Son of God became man so that we might become God,"* meaning, that in and through Jesus Christ, not only did God render the means of salvation for the entire human family, not only did He establish the said means of salvation regarding the created order as we know it, God prepared all that God has within us. In short, through the incarnation in which Jesus became like us in all things but sin, there is a commensurability regarding the human and divine that did not exist before.

It is then for us to cooperate, or perhaps even better, enter into what God has given us so that what is possible for us can become a reality. I say "enter into" because what is available to us is already prepared and made ready for us; it's just a matter of us being willing to involve ourselves in the Great Plan of Salvation. So, it is for us to respond when called, just as Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel: *"Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants (Lk 12: 35-38)."*

Notice that Jesus tells us that the master will "wait on" us, serve us, provide us with whatever we need. We should honestly be able to admit that God has done everything that God can possibly do up to this point, and it is God who has done it! What is important here is that this is not exclusive to the many issues we face in our world today; that's where we come into the picture, so to speak. Rather, this is in regard to who we are, what we are, and who we can and will be as we continue to allow God to render in us what He wills. As St. Paul tells us: *"at present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known (1 Cor 13:12)."* What St. Paul means is that one day, with the gift of faith and God's grace, if we cooperate with what God provides, we will be fully known to God, we will fully know God, because we will be fully present to God just as He intended from the beginning.

So, may we continue on our way, lending ourselves to the means God has provided, confident that we need to do is meant for us, each one of us, keeping in mind what we read in the Letter to the Hebrews: *"Now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them (Heb 11:16)."*

Fr. Ralph

15th Annual Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 7:30 am – 4 pm Vigil

(Mass celebrated by Archbishop Blair)

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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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