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ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 15, 2021

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski, Pastor
(203) 866-3141

203 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06855

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

*Family Mass Every Sunday at 9:00 am.
Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM*

Daily Mass

Monday, August 16

- 7:00 AM † Alfred Mennino (11th Anniversary)
5:30 PM † Vincent Genuario

Tuesday, August 17

- 7:00 AM For All Sinners
5:30 PM † Giuseppe Passarelli

Wednesday, August 18

- 7:00 AM Intentions of Families
5:30 PM † Raffaele Longo

Thursday, August 19

- 7:00 AM Intentions of Mrs. Gallagher & Family
5:30 PM † Paul Douglas Hartzell

Friday, August 20

- 7:00 AM An Increase of Vocations
5:30 PM † Judith Platt

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, August 21

- 5:15 PM † Joseph Kovacs

Sunday, August 22

- | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| 7:30 AM † | George Buono | Celebrant | Fr. Ralph |
| 9:00 AM † | Margaret & Michael Walsh, & | | Fr. Ralph |
| | Jennie & Joseph Piedmont | | Fr. Ralph |
| 11:30 AM † | Amerigo DiRenzo | | Fr. Ralph |
| 5:00 PM † | For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased | | Fr. Ralph |



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
August 15th through August 21st
for Domenico DiLoreto.*

Please check the parish website for the latest updates to traffic on East Avenue & the surrounding area. We will post all announcements given to us as they are received.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.
Please remember in your prayers:
Carmela Patafio Viktoria Bombardi-Wilson
We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar

Office Hours:

Appointments 10-3 Monday through Thursday & Friday 10-12
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Rectory Staff:

Catherine Mulvehill
Business Manager

Cathy Lauder
Parish Secretary

Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

2021 2020

August 8

Collection	\$3,404.00	\$3,408.00
On-Line	\$2,693.00	\$2,346.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,636.00)	(\$1,869.00)
Net Retained	\$4,461.00	\$3,885.00
Votives	\$ 112.00	\$ 83.00

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 2022 fiscal year, the annual Cathedratum Assessment is \$85,072. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,636. This represents an annual decrease of \$4,633.00 from the prior year.

Is your child entering 1st grade this school year? Are you new to the parish with school aged children?

Then it's time to register for our Religious Formation Class. Please contact the Formation Office at (203) 866-1189 or email Michelle & Mary at sthomasreledoffice@gmail.com or go to our parish website homepage to get your form.



The 2022 MASS BOOK is now open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil/Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until September 1, 2021. Phone or email requests may also be made.



ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM



Pray the Rosary in the Church
Monday - Friday: 6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Michelle O'Mara, DRE
ssthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com
Mary Vladimirov, Secretary
General Office Email
sthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

sthomasyyg@gmail.com

Website:

www.ssthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

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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 Organization:
St. Thomas St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry

Selected Month: **August** Selected Stop & Shop:
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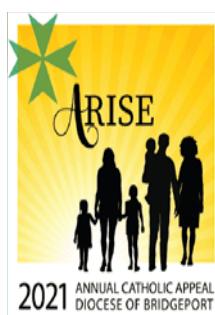
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**Save
the
Date**

Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass Saturday, September 25 St. Matthew Parish 10:30 am or 1:00 pm. Watch the bulletin for registration information.

We still have Masses & Candles available for 2021. Please call or email the office to reserve your masses and candles.



2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 168 gifts worth \$42,873 bringing our parish to 68.27% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!

Planning a wedding? Congratulations!!

Call the office to secure your date. We are having ceremonies with all current COVID guidelines in place. We also live-stream your ceremony for those who can't be with you or don't feel comfortable with participating in person. *You need to contact the office at least 9 months prior to your chosen date.*

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE!



Come and see!

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Thinking about making a change? Come for a visit and learn more! Schedule a visit to learn more about our programs and campus.

Accepting applications for Pre-K to 8th Grade

Visit [all saints norwalk.com](http://www.all saints norwalk.com) to schedule your tour!



Golfer Registration due by August 28th. For more information, go to their website at www.assembly2459.org or contact Ric Raffone at (203) 640-6482 or email ricraf@togroup.com.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

From the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* (The Most Bountiful God) by Venerable Pius XII, Pope, November 1, 1950.

In their homilies and sermons on this feast, the holy fathers and the great doctors spoke of the assumption of the Mother of God as something already familiar and accepted by the faithful. They gave it greater clarity in their preaching and used more profound arguments in setting out its nature and meaning. Above all, they brought out more clearly the fact that what is commemorated in this feast is not simply the total absence of corruption from the dead body of the Blessed Virgin Mary but also her triumph over death and her glorification in heaven, after the pattern set by her only Son, Jesus Christ.

Thus, Saint John Damascene, preeminent as the great preacher of this truth of tradition, speaks with powerful eloquence when he relates the bodily assumption of the loving Mother of God to her other gifts and privileges: "It was necessary that she who preserved her virginity inviolate in childbirth should also have her body kept free from corruption after death. It was necessary that she who carried the Creator as a child on her breast should dwell in the tabernacles of God. It was necessary that the bride espoused by the Father should make her home in the bridal chambers of heaven. It was necessary that she, who had gazed on her crucified Son and been pierced in the heart by the sword of sorrow which she had escaped in giving him birth, should contemplate him seated with the Father. It was necessary that the Mother of God should share the possessions of her Son, and be venerated by every creature as the Mother and handmaid of God."

Saint Germanus of Constantinople considered that it was in keeping not only with her divine motherhood but also the unique sanctity of her virginal birth that it was incorrupt and carried up to heaven: "In the words of Scripture, you appear in beauty. Your virginal body is entirely holy, entirely chaste, entirely the house of God, so that for this reason also it is henceforth a stranger to decay: a body changed, because a human body, to a preeminent life of incorruptibility, but still a living body, a body inviolate and sharing in the perfection of life."

Another early author declares: "Therefore, as the most glorious Mother of Christ, our God and Savior, the giver of life and immortality, she is enlivened by him to share an eternal incorruptibility of body with him who raised her from the tomb and took her to himself in a way he alone can tell."

All these reasonings and considerations of the holy Fathers rest on Scripture as their ultimate foundation. Scripture portrays the loving Mother of God, almost before our very eyes, as most intimately united with her divine Son and always sharing in his destiny.

Above all, it must be noted that from the second century the holy Fathers present the Virgin Mary as the new Eve, most closely associated with the new Adam, though subject to him in the struggle against the enemy from the nether world. This struggle, as the first promise of a redeemer implies, was to end in perfect victory over sin and death, always linked together in the writings of the Apostle of the Gentiles. Therefore, just as the glorious resurrection of Christ was an essential part of this victory and its final trophy, so the struggle shared by the Blessed Virgin and her Son was to end in the glorification of her virginal body. As the same Apostle says: When this mortal body has clothed itself in immortality, then will be fulfilled the word of Scripture: Death is swallowed up in victory.

Hence, the august Mother of God, mysteriously united from all eternity with Jesus Christ in one and the same decree of predestination, immaculate in her conception, a virgin inviolate in her divine motherhood, the wholehearted companion of the divine Redeemer who won complete victory over sin and its consequences, gained, at last the supreme crown of her privileges - to be preserved immune from the corruption of the tomb, and, like her Son, when death had been conquered, to be carried up body and soul to the exalted glory of heaven, there to sit in splendor at the right hand of her Son, the immortal King of the ages. *Father Ralph*

2021 PRAYER SERVICE FOR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AS MINORS

Friday August 27th, 2021 6:30 P.M. at

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Church

138 Candlewood Lake Road

Brookfield, CT 06804

A special prayer service for family members and friends of victims of child sexual abuse by clergy and by others will be held. The prayer service is being coordinated by family members of victims together with a community of survivors and the Office of Safe Environment of the Diocese of Bridgeport. Father Shawn Jordan, Father Larry Carew and Deacon Joseph Cann will lead the service. Open to family members of victims and all those who have been impacted by sexual abuse as a minor by clergy and by others. Our community of family members is called HUGS which stands for Hope Understanding Guidance and Support.

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
PO2 Edward Skeen, US Navy
Sgt. Jesse Skeen, US Army
Ens. Jessica Remson, US Navy
Spc. Daniel Gonzales, US Army
MIDN 4/C Tatiana V. Arias, US Navy
PFC Matthew Montanez, US Army

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Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck
Marge Simon

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

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Hours
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Tuesdays & Saturdays Only

Birthright of Norwalk:
(203) 853-4872

Catholic Charities:
(203) 416-1307

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St. Thomas the Apostle
Catholic Formation • Norwalk, CT

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is now open for all Kindergarten - 8th Grade/ Confirmation Students!!

An email link was sent to all previously enrolled students by Religious Formation. Please fill in one form for each child to be enrolled as soon as possible so that we can plan our classroom & catechist needs. **If you are new to the parish or have a child entering the 1st grade, please email Michelle or Mary at stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com for a registration link or go to our website homepage. Kindergarten is a new optional program with no fees.**

Payment is due in full by September 30th through the online giving link provided.



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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

SACRAMENTS

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday: 10:00am to 3:00pm Friday: 10:00am to 12 Noon

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.

Baptisms or Weddings

Please call the Rectory during regular weekday business hours for more information or to make arrangements. 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	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima
Mike	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero
Terry Rooney	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Jeanette Ralston	Tony Cappuccia	Merina Deluc
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Frataloni	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Michael Walsh	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	George Travers
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Phil Tavella, Jr.
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Cathy Sinica	Kathleen Ford	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family
Kathleen Dominick	Chris Rohleder	Joan Kennedy	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo
Janina Stachurski	Donny Cassavechia	Gordon R.	Vinny Massaro	Wayne Embry, Jr.	John Lima
Anthony Bruno	Jack Cade	Joe M.	Greg N.		

Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Norwalk

We Stand With Christ Campaign Redemption

Total Pledged:	\$498,970
Total Collected (As of 5/6/21):	\$254,967 (51%)

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



Birthright is in need of gently worn **baby and maternity clothing**. Please call to arrange for a drop off.

Birthright is also in need of 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



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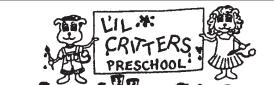
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