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ST. THOMAS
THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 3, 2021



*Behold, the star that they had seen
at its rising preceded them,
until it came and stopped over
the place where the child was.*

Matthew 2:9

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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 9:00 am.
Adoration Every Monday 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Daily Mass

Monday, January 4

7:00 AM† Julie Fuller
5:30 PM† James Verda

Tuesday, January 5

7:00 AM For the Physical & Financial Well-Being of
All Affected by the Pandemic
5:30 PM† Sandy Tartaglia Ballard

Wednesday, January 6

7:00 AM† Rev. Edward A. Colohan
5:30 PM In Thanksgiving

Thursday, January 7

7:00 AM† Members of the Dessances Family
5:30 PM Intentions of Michael Onisko

Friday, January 8

9:00 AM† Ralph Festa, Jr.
5:30 PM† Jim Verda

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, January 9

5:15 PM† For Our Parishioners, Living &
Deceased

Sunday, January 10

7:30 AM For All Caregivers & First Responders
9:00 AM† Kazimiera Grzybowski
11:30 AM† Lawrence Gallacher (4th Anniversary)
5:00 PM† Sonja Wallner



The Sanctuary Candle burns
January 3rd through January 9th
for Jim Verda.

We have the booklets,
"The Word Among Us" &
"Living Faith", normally found
in the church lobby,
available while supplies last.
Please call or email the office
with your request.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2020	2019
December 20		
Collection	\$2,072.00	\$4,864.00
On-Line	\$2,518.00	\$2,176.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	\$2,721.00	\$5,173.00
Votives	\$ 125.10	\$ 96.82

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 2021 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralricum Assessment is \$89,705. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,869. This represents an annual increase of \$104.00 from the prior year.

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.*

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and
let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.
Please remember in your prayers:
James Verda Theresa Massaro
We extend our sympathy to their
families & friends.

THE THRIFT STORE IS CURRENTLY
BEING PREPARED FOR OPENING
SOMETIME AFTER THE 1st OF THE
YEAR WITH ALL THE NECESSARY
PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE.

WATCH THE BULLETIN & OUR
WEBSITE FOR MORE
INFORMATION REGARDING
PRE-OPENING DONATION DROP
OFFS & OUR GRAND REOPENING
SCHEDULE!



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

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Michelle O'Mara, DRE
stthomasnorwalkred@gmail.com

Kathryn Grieco, Secretary
General Office Email
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasvg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



Sunday Family Rosary
Every Sunday at 7:30 pm, the Diocese of Bridgeport is conducting Sunday Family Rosary. They would like to have one family from each parish and school lead the

rosary, which will guarantee that the schedule would be set for many, many months to come.

Please visit www.formationreimagined.org and click the praying hands image at the top of the screen. Once you sign up to lead, you will receive a confirmation email with complete details. No registration is necessary for families who simply wish to join in prayer each week at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, please email Rosary@diobpt.org.

Photo by [Anakin T](#) on [Unsplash](#)



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MEMORIAL MASS OR FUNERAL

With Masses now moved into our church, 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 set up an appointment to plan the mass. We are now also allowed to have a funeral in the church. If you would like a full funeral mass, please let your funeral home know your wishes so they can contact us to schedule. If you are not comfortable with a group gathering at this time, we will continue to have a graveside only service as an option. Keep in mind that the current regular mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all funerals, memorials, and graveside services as well.

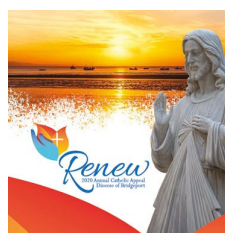
The Food Pantry is open

Saturday From 10 AM to Noon.

Donations are now being accepted during regular hours or leave in the entrances of the church.

Questions? Call them at

(203) 866-1644



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 167 gifts worth \$37,213 bringing our parish to 35.95% of its \$103,500 goal.

Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!



If you would like to arrange a baptism, please call the office at (203) 866-3141. If this is your first baby, you will need to complete the Pre-Baptism class with one of our priests.

We will work with you to find the best day and time to fit your schedule. The current mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all baptisms as well.

CHILDREN'S BULLETIN ON OUR WEBSITE

Go to the Bulletin tab on the menu bar for a printable PDF children's bulletin.
www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

As we consider the mystery that we observe this weekend, that is, The Epiphany of the Lord, I thought it best, for the sake of our purpose, to provide the following excerpt from a homily by St. Leo the Great, Pope: "In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judea only, but in the whole world, so that *his name may be great in all Israel* (Mal 1:11).

Dear friends, now that we have received instruction in this revelation of God's grace, let us celebrate with spiritual joy the day of our first harvesting, of the first calling of the Gentiles. Let us give thanks to the merciful God, *who has made us worthy*, in the words of the Apostle, *to share the position of the saints in light, who has rescued us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son* (Col 1:12-13).

As Isaiah prophesied: *the people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned* (Is 9:2, Mt 4:16). He spoke of them to the Lord: *The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you* (Is 55:5).

This is *the day that Abraham saw, and rejoiced to see* (Jn 8:56), when he knew that the sons born of his faith would be blessed in his seed, that is, in Christ. Believing that he would be the father of the nations, he looked into the future, *giving glory to God, in full awareness that God is able to do what he has promised* (Rm 4:21).

This is the day that David prophesied in the psalms, when he said: *All the nations that you have brought into being will come and fall down in adoration in your presence, Lord, and glorify your name* (Ps 86:9). Again, *the Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice* (Ps 98:2).

This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ (*From a Sermon by St. Leo the Great, Pope, The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol I, p. 560, Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York, 1975, interpolations mine*)."

Now, what I decided to do, was go through the homily and insert an indication in parentheses of which biblical texts St. Leo refers to so that I might make a very simple point. Notice that the scripture references are drawn from the Old Testament and New Testament, demonstrating how the mystery of Jesus Christ is hidden, or at least partly revealed, in the scriptures, subsequently requiring that we must seek enlightenment from above if we are to understand the fullness of the mystery of our redemption.

True indeed, we are called to recognize the fullness of who Jesus really is just as did the Magi, but we need not be a king, a renown philosopher or theologian, or of any high stature or recognition to receive such an invitation. We need only read the word, hear the word, and listen to the word, receive the word at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and, if in a state of grace, we can and will see what the Magi saw. The realization, the epiphany, as it was for the Magi, was and is for all peoples and for all ages. In short, there is an epiphany, if you will, that awaits each one of us; and we can, if with open hearts and minds, have more than one throughout the course of our days as we make our journey to God.

May we continue to delve into the mystery of revelation, asking God to enlighten our hearts and minds through the power of *His* grace, so that, with God's help, we may be best prepared, at the end of the ages, to enjoy the fullness of God Himself.

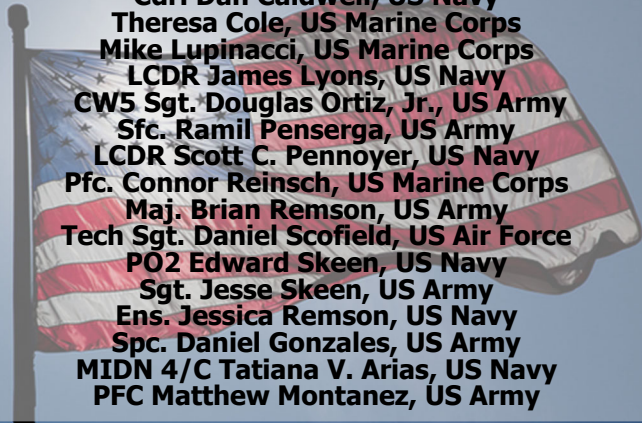
Father Ralph



A HUGE THANK YOU to the Giving Tree Ministry for continuing our tradition of remembering our beloved senior citizens at Christmas. Thank you to Father Mirek and Father Ralph for allowing this tradition to continue, bringing joy to our own community especially this year. While most people are focused on children during the holidays, it is easy to forget our senior citizens. This yearly tradition helps St. Thomas the Apostle remember and thank our seniors who have retired from their duties but still play a vital role in the Norwalk community. Thank you to Fred, Marizza, and David Diaz, for their behind-the-scenes time and effort. Special thanks to Michelle Diaz for all her hard work, organizational skills, & energy. Thank you to our Religious Formation students for their handmade cards. Lastly, a very big thank you to Penny Press for supplying activity books for distribution.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year!

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



Cdr. Dan Caldwell, US Navy
Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
LCDR James Lyons, US Navy
CW5 Sgt. Douglas Ortiz, Jr., US Army
Sfc. Ramil Penserga, US Army
LCDR Scott C. Pennoyer, US Navy
Pfc. Connor Reinsch, US Marine Corps
Maj. Brian Remson, US Army
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

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

At this time, Michelle O'Mara, DRE,
is available by appointment only.

Please email Michelle at
stthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com
to arrange the meeting.

HAVE YOU DROPPED YOUR LANDLINE
FOR A CELL PHONE?

DID YOU ADD OR CHANGE AN
EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please let us know of any changes to your contact information so our records will be correct and we will be able to contact you, if necessary. Please notify the Parish Office when you change your address, phone number, cell phone number and/or email address so that we can have the most up to date way to reach you should the need arise. Call us at (203) 866-3141 or send us an email with your current information.
Thank you.

**REMOTE RELIGIOUS
FORMATION CLASS
SCHEDULE**

Sunday
Grade 1: 10:15-11:30 am
Monday
Grade 2: 4:15-5:15 pm
Grade 3: 5:15-6:15 pm
Grade 4: 6:15-7:15 pm
Tuesday
Grade 7: 6:15-7:30 pm
Wednesday
Grade 5: 6:15-7:15 pm
Grade 6: 5:15-6:15 pm

The next digital version of the missalette is not available to our parishioners. We do, however, have the actual missalette available for pick up during regular office business hours. Please call the office before coming -
(203) 866-3141.

Trustees:

Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:

Rev. Mirosław 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

**The Second
Chance Thrift Shop
is currently closed
and not accepting
donations at this
time.**

**St. Vincent
de Paul**

Food Pantry:

(203) 866-1644
HOURS
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturdays Only

**Birthing of
Norwalk:**

(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
Charities:**

(203) 416-1307

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	Carol Smyth	Karen Miller	Debbie Reddock	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese	James Amrich
Pearl Futo	Jim Sweet	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima	Emily Calabeese
Lynn Lockwood	Ken Pelzolt	Robert Parmalee	Carol Vallee	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero	Marie Silver
Terry Rooney	Skip Bossone	Mike Torres	Constance Williams	Tony Cappuccia	Irene Brennan	Jeanette Ralston
Gary Livia	Kimberly Frattoni	Peggy McDonald	Lorraine Magazeno	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso	Rick Azillo
Margaret Currie	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Helga Garnett
Mary Malagisi	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Antonio Vescio
Jeannie Maxwell	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Kathleen Ford
Trisha Jackson	Thomas Calka	Msgr. Thomas Powers	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Joanna Marvin
Vicki	Julia Cade					



**ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM**



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil/Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until February 1.



ELECTRONIC GIVING
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Your use of electronic giving saves
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volunteers & staff safe.*



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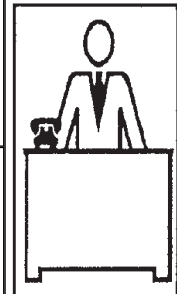
DIRECTED BY Neurologist: Daryl Story,
Physiatrist: Claudio Petrillo
and Pulmonologist: Donald McNichol

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www.usccb.org/respectlife



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