



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 13, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Walking on the Water



*Jesus spoke to them,
"Take courage, it is I;
do not be afraid."*

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, August 14

7:00 AM† Joseph Furnari
5:30 PM† John Donofrio

Assumption of Mary, Tuesday, August 15

7:00 AM† Fr. Thomas Sullivan
5:30 PM† Robert Latkany

Wednesday, August 16

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM NO MASS

Thursday, August 17

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM† Giuseppe Passarelli

Friday, August 18

7:00 AM† Raffael Longo
5:30 PM† Living & Deceased Members of the
Smith & Krawiecki Families

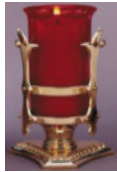
Sunday Vigil, Saturday, August 19

5:15 PM† Henry Simon

Celebrant
Fr. Ralph

Sunday, August 20

7:30 AM†	For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased	Fr. Ralph
9:00 AM†	Mary Frances Walsh	Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM†	Maria Mastroianni	Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM†	Judith Platt	Fr. Ralph



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
August 13th through August 19th in memory
of the Izzo, Festa, & Verda Families.*

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

Milagros Delgado Santiago

We extend our sympathy to her family & friends.



Pray the Rosary in the Church
Monday - Friday: Before Any
Scheduled Morning Mass at 6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm Saturday: 4:45pm

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4**

Closed Wednesday, 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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PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2023	2022
August 6		
Collection	\$3,524.00	\$4,371.00
On-Line	\$2,828.00	\$4,871.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,506.00)	(\$1,567.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,846.00</u>	<u>\$7,675.00</u>
Votives	\$ 193.56	\$ 205.35
Monthly Maintenance		
Collection	\$1,184.00	\$1,088.00
On-Line	<u>\$1,286.00</u>	<u>\$1,755.00</u>
Total	<u>\$2,470.00</u>	<u>\$2,843.00</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 2024 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralium Assessment is \$78,324. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,506. This represents an annual decrease of \$3,148.00 from the prior year.

VOLUNTEER

All that's missing is U!

Can you: **Fold a shirt?**

Wash a glass?

Unpack a box?

If yes, then we could use your help with our Annual Tag Sale! Drop-Offs begin mid-August. Drop-off dates will be announced in the coming weeks and we can use your help on any day.

Our Annual Parish Tag Sale is the largest fundraiser of the year. These funds are critical to cover our operating costs.

*Please contact the Parish office
by phone or email if you need more
information or to volunteer.*

**WE CAN'T DO IT
WITHOUT YOUR HELP!!**



**Our Giant Tag Sale will be the weekend
of September 16th & 17th**

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2023 GIANT TAG SALE

Drop Off Dates

Mondays:	August 14, 21, & 28	
	September 11	6 pm - 8:30 pm
Tuesdays:	August 15, 22, & 29	
	September 5 & 12	6 pm - 8:30 pm
Saturdays:	August 19, & 26	
	September 9	9 am - 12 Noon
Sundays:	August 20 & 27	
	September 10	9 am - 12 Noon

Please don't ask! We can't take it!!!

TV's Computers Cribs Baby Strollers
 Car Seats VHS Grills Mattresses Fire Arms
 Stuffed Animals Particle Board Furniture
 Power Equipment Exercise Equipment
 Pianos & Organs Empty Picture Frames
 Household Appliances Video Game Players
 Large Curio or Display Cases
 Books (we will be taking children's books)

We reserve the right to refuse any donation not in clean, usable, and/or saleable condition.

MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

(except holidays)

St. Ann's club

16 Hendricks Avenue

Norwalk

Doors open at 5:30pm.

First game at 6:45pm.

Refreshments available to purchase.

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 for more information: (203) 853-4872.

Accept what is, let go of what was, have faith in what will be. Sometimes you have to let go to let new things come in.

Visit us now to join the events and communities happening near you.

Catholic203.com

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE



**SECOND
CHANCE**



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TUESDAY 10AM - 3PM

WEDNESDAY 12PM - 4PM

THURSDAY 10AM - 3PM

SATURDAY 10AM - 1PM

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USED ITEMS

PERSONAL

**CLOSED FOR VACATION
AUGUST 14TH -
AUGUST 26TH**

driveway from Prowitt Street
 entrance is first red door on the right

(203) 318-9817



2023 - 2024

Religious Education

If you are entering kindergarten through 6th grade in September and have not received an email from Rel. Ed, please go to our website homepage & click the link to the Religious Ed Registration page. Kindergarten is not mandatory and is free for all who attend. Please sign up ASAP so we can plan our class sizes and teacher needs.

If you are entering a Catholic school Second Grade or Sixth Grade, you also need to sign up for First Communion and Confirmation.

The 2024 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil or Sunday weekend masses may be booked & no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until September 12th.

Phone or email requests are welcome.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

As we have discussed in the past, both at Mass and in the Parish Bulletin, throughout Old Testament revelation, we see God working great signs and wonders through creation and the elements of nature. Overtime, God gradually communicated more subtly through chosen representatives of His words and will, especially after the Babylonian conquest of Israel in 597 bc, followed by the deportations of the Israelite people beginning in 587 bc.

The first reading from the first Book of Kings is a sign, if you will, that Elijah's call by God was something that could not be heard through the powerful movements of nature. Rather, he heard God through "a tiny whispering sound." It is still true, and this is classic Catholic Theology, that creation is an obligatory reference for us, that there is a God who created all things, and that we can begin to know God through what God has created. St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans: "Ever since the creation of the world, his invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made (Rom 1:20)."

In the Gospel for this weekend, Jesus walks on water. Perhaps what at first can be a matter of focus, is the wind and the water violently expressing God's power and divinity who made and has authority over all of creation. Yet now, it is Jesus Christ Himself who is given, if you will, the said same power and authority, and, in spite of great disturbance, unpredictability, and yes, even great danger, Jesus will calm our hearts, minds, and souls. St. Peter was eager to make his way to Jesus under very difficult and unpredictable circumstances, and he was distracted and became fearful. It was enough to cause St. Peter to become overwhelmed and he began to sink. But Jesus reached out and lifted him up, leading him to safety and calm.

I do not intend in any way to make light of the challenges, difficulties, and most especially, the unpredictable, sudden, and devastating events that take place in our lives. But we can be confident, as difficult as it can be to recognize God's presence in our lives at such moments, Jesus Christ Our Lord is always with us throughout the misfortune we experience in our lives, even in regard to things that result from bad decisions or sinful conduct. May we always remember that, no matter how and for whatever reason we experience that which can disturb our lives, our hearts, our minds, and our souls, Jesus will always say to us most gently and compassionately: "Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid (Mt 14:27)."

John Ralph

High School Youth Group Meeting

Our Youth Group meeting is rescheduled to **Sunday, August 20th, from 4:30pm - 6:00pm** in the Parish Center Loft. If you would like more information or want to be added to the Youth Group email list please contact Elizabeth Squicciarino, our Youth Group Coordinator, at stthomasyg1@gmail.com.

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME & BRING YOUR FRIENDS.

One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop's Appeal

If you have not yet responded to the Appeal, please reflect upon the importance of your support to ministry and outreach that relies upon the charity of everyone in the Diocese of Bridgeport. The challenge is immediate and far-reaching, but the solution is within our reach! To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2023BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470, or scan with your phone.



We have raised 142 gifts worth \$42,420 bringing our parish to 67.55% of its \$62,800 goal. Thanks to all who have participated! Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated.



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

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) 318-9817
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



SPREAD THE WORD! The Diocese of Bridgeport has a tuition assistance program partially funded through the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Visit their website for more information: foundationsineducation.org.

Room to Grow Preschool
 A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES



'More than just a preschool'

Room to Grow Preschool 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 to find out how to enroll your child.



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. We follow the school year Calendar. For more information about Scout Troop 222, please go to our web page:

troop222norwalk.scoutlander.com.

Take risks and be bold. At the end, we regret only the chances we didn't take.

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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

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.

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	Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Linda Lima	Merina Deluc
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	George Travers
Jack Cade	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Phil Tavella
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Fratoloni	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	Hamilton Family
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Cathy Sinica	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Anthony Bruno
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	Angela McCrae
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Kathleen Ford	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Debbie Poruban
Kathleen Dominick	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Denise Cassin
Dawn Grover	Nancy G.	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Holly Sanders	Vinny Massaro
Mike D.	Elizabeth Malerba	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest	Frank Longo	Patricia M.
Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Paul F.	David R.	Steve C.	Jackson P.
Ginny DeMarco					

**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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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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