



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 28, 2024



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.”
- Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Rev. Ralph Segura, Parochial Administrator
203 East Avenue
(203) 866-3141

Norwalk, CT 06855
stthomasnorwalk.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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

Daily Mass

Monday, April 29

7:00 AM† Silvana Bizzotto
5:30 PM † Living & Deceased Members of the Ball & Calabrese Families

Tuesday, April 30

7:00 AM Intentions of the Michael Sweeney Family
5:30 PM NO MASS

Wednesday, May 1

NO MASS

Thursday, May 2

7:00 AM NO MASS
5:30 PM Intentions of Ileana & Silvana Alarcon, Terry Cain & Luis Cardenas

Friday, May 3

7:00 AM† Robert Michek
5:30 PM† Mass of Remembrance

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, May 4

5:15 PM† Raffaele & Maria Longo

Sunday, May 5

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased
9:00 AM† Carmella Pagliano
11:30 AM In Celebration of the 1st Mass Celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
5:00 PM † Mary Shahhein Dyson



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
April 28th through May 4th in memory of
Frank W. Lauder, Jr..*

**Banns of Marriage
III**

Kelsey Burke & Donovan McIntosh



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

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2024	2023
April 21		
Collection	\$4,125.00	\$3,958.00
On-Line	\$2,482.00	\$2,426.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,506.00)	(\$1,567.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$5,101.00</u>	<u>\$4,817.00</u>
Votives	\$ 130.10	\$ 146.72

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 Cathedralicum 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.

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

Deacon Joseph Gagne

We extend our sympathy to his family & friends.

—MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—

There will be a special mass for all deceased parishioners on Friday, May 3, at 5:30pm in the church. Familymembers and friends are encouraged to attend. If you would like information about the ministry, please contact Jane Eichwald at (203) 838-4590.



ADORATION

This Friday, May 3rd,
7:30am to 12:00 Noon
Due to a Wedding

Rectory:

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Administrator (ext. 19)

Rectory Staff:

Cathy Lauder
Parish Secretary (ext. 10)

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Patty Frattaroli, DRE
stthomasreleoffice@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg1@gmail.com
Elizabeth Squicciarino, Coordinator

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

Like us on Facebook:

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Instagram:

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Finance Chair:

Ulrike Schambeck
(203) 434-6488

Parish Bookkeeper

Monika Piascik

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday 9 - 4**
Closed Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday

stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



2024 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL
 We have raised 89 gifts worth \$27,703 bringing our parish to 44.11% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated.
Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!
 To make a gift, or for more information, please visit 2024BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.



“Being a mom means never buying the right amount of produce. Either everyone suddenly loves grapes and a week’s worth are eaten in one afternoon, or fruit flies are congregating around my rotting bananas.” - Lessons from the Minivan

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Just as there are some items that we are able to get free from different government sources or at a greatly reduced cost, there are some items we need to buy. This is how this list is generated. Of course, you can still give items that are not on the list. Please leave after hours **non-perishable** donations in the bin outside the pantry.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY PERISHABLES IN THE DROP BOX.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 9oz to 12oz box of cereal | 14oz to 18oz peanut butter |
| Shampoo | Tooth Paste |
| Bar Soap | Toilet Paper |
| | Paper Towels |
| | Facial Tissues |

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE ANSWERED OUR REQUESTS! YOU HAVE REALLY HELPED THE NEEDY IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Confession in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm or by Appointment



SAVE THE DATE:
FRIDAY, MAY 10TH, 6PM to 9PM
 Come watch the original Willy Wonka & bring your favorite CHOCOLATE snack/dessert to share.
 SOME SUGGESTIONS: candy bars, cake, pudding, custard, ice cream, donuts, brownies, fudge...
No Nuts please!
 Please label contains Gluten or Gluten Free

The Saint Luke Guild
 invites ALL healthcare workers to
A PRAYERFUL ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST
 ~ begins at 5pm (rolling) ~
SOCIAL GATHERING & REFRESHMENTS
 ~ continues at 6pm ~
PRAYER & REFLECTION
MONDAY, MAY 13TH
 Saint Rose of Lima Church, Newtown
 RSVP's not required but encouraged (kindly email if you plan to attend...thank you!)
SaintLukeGuild@diobpt.org

Birthright is in need of gently worn *baby & maternity clothing*. Please call to arrange a drop off. They also need volunteers (especially Spanish speaking). Opportunities include friendship counseling, clerical, & clothing work. Training is provided. Please call for more information: (203) 853-4872.

*FROM THE BOOK ON THE HOLY SPIRIT BY SAINT BASIL THE GREAT, BISHOP
(CAP. 15, 35-36: SC 17 BIS, 364-370)*

Our Lord made a covenant with us through baptism in order to give us eternal life. There is in baptism an image both of death and of life, the water being the symbol of death, the Spirit giving the pledge of life. The association of water and the Spirit is explained by the twofold purpose for which baptism was instituted, namely, to destroy the sin in us so that it could never again give birth to death, and to enable us to live by the Spirit and so win the reward of holiness. The water into which the body enters as into a tomb symbolizes death; the Spirit instills into us his life-giving power, awakening our souls from the death of sin to the life that they had in the beginning. This then is what it means to be born again of water and the Spirit: we die in the water, and we come to life again through the Spirit.

To signify this death and to enlighten the baptized by transmitting to them knowledge of God, the great sacrament of baptism is administered by means of a triple immersion and the invocation of each of the three divine Persons. Whatever grace there is in the water comes not from its own nature but from the presence of the Spirit, *since baptism is not a cleansing of the body, but a pledge made to God from a clear conscience.*

As a preparation for our life after the resurrection, our Lord tells us in the gospel how we should live here and now. He teaches us to be peaceable, long-suffering, undefiled by desire for pleasure, and detached from worldly wealth. In this way we can achieve, by our own free choice, the kind of life that will be natural in the world to come.

Through the Holy Spirit we are restored to paradise, we ascend to the kingdom of heaven, and we are reinstated as adopted sons. Thanks to the Spirit we obtain the right to call God our Father, we become sharers in the grace of Christ, we are called children of light, blessing is showered upon us, both in this world and in the world to come. As we contemplate them even now, like a reflection in a mirror, it is as though we already possessed the good things our faith tells us that we shall one day enjoy. The Liturgy of the Hours, *From the Book On the Holy Spirit by Saint Basil the Great, Bishop*, Vol. II, Lenten Season-Easter Season, Catholic Book Publishing Co., NY, 1976, pp. 762-763.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FREQUENTLY

We update our website as things change in our parish & diocese. There are many useful links on our "Senior Info", "Events in Our Diocese", & "Useful Links" pages. We have an interactive Google Calendar where you can add to your personal calendar with a simple click on the item. Most questions can be answered by visiting the website. **If you know of any organization that may be useful to our community, please contact the office so we may add it to our website upon approval.**

NEED TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH?
A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE?

DO YOU NEED PROOF OF SACRAMENTS?
NEED TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM OR A WEDDING?

THEN HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE

All of these items are available by filling in the form on the website and emailing it to the office. Once received, we will let you know we have it and will call or email you when your request is completed.

If you are 18 and out of school, you should be registered by yourself, not with your parents.

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.

**ST. ANN'S CLUB
MONDAY NIGHT BINGO (except
holidays)**

**16 Hendricks Avenue
Doors open at 5:30pm
First game at 6:45pm
Refreshments available to purchase.**



**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.

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
CPL Larry Joyce, US Marine Corps



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ELECTRONIC GIVING

is available through our parish website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

Your use of electronic giving saves the parish money and helps keep our volunteers & staff safe.



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:
troop222.norwalk.scoutlander.com.

Catholic203.com

@catholic_203

A networking group designed for 18 to 35 year olds, both single and married. Scan below to see what we are all about.



Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Ralph Segura
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

Room to Grow Preschool
A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES




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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.

Do you or a family member need assistance with every day care? If you are in need, please call the office and we will put you in touch with a parishioner who is currently looking for employment. She has years of experience for you to see and decide if it is a good fit for your needs.


Please remember to support our bulletin advertisers. Make the back 2 pages of this publication your "go to place" for business help. They can only help us if we continue to help them!

The 2025 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil or Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until May 12th. You may also call or email requests to the office.



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MALTA HOUSE ANNUAL GALA
 FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024
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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:

Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Linda Lima	Merina Deluc	George Travers
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Emily Calabrese	Anne Edwards	Phil Tavella
Jack Cade	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Hamilton Family
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Fratoloni	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	Anthony Bruno
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Cathy Sinica	Richard Berg	Jeannetta Torres	Angela McCrae
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Diane Turek	Debbie Poruban
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Joan Kennedy	Chuck Scott	Jackie Hamilton	Denise Cassin
Ginny DeMarco	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Alessandro Fornara	David R.	John Lima	Patricia M.
Mike D.	Nancy G.	Jackson P.	Holly Sanders	Vinny Massaro	Robert Podlaski
Michelle Vittorio	Elizabeth Malerba	Steve C.	Stefanie Sena	Jim Bogdany	Paul Rohan
Vinnie McMahan	Carolyn Hill	Bob A.	MaryAnn P.	Jeff Mallory	Andy Tao



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.

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

**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

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.



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