



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

# ST. THOMAS

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## THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 25, 2023



## 12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Do not be afraid; you are  
worth more than many  
sparrows.” - Mt 10:31

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

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, June 26

7:00 AM† Joyce Yeckes  
5:30 PM† Edward Capece

#### Tuesday, June 27

7:00 AM† Ann Ruggiero  
5:30 PM† Dance Willis

#### Wednesday, June 28

7:00 AM† Joan Gardella  
5:30 PM NO MASS

#### Thursday, June 29

7:00 AM NO MASS  
5:30 PM† Andrew Caruso

#### Friday, June 30

7:00 AM† Mary Ellen O'Hara  
5:30 PM NO MASS

#### Sunday Vigil, Saturday, July 1

5:15 PM† James & Palma Sweet.

**Celebrant**  
Fr. Mirek

#### Sunday, June 25

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased Fr. Mirek  
9:00 AM† Erik Moon. Fr. Mirek  
11:30 AM† Donald Anthony DiPentima Fr. Mirek  
5:00 PM† Henry Simon Fr. Mirek



The Sanctuary Candle burns  
June 25<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup> for  
Frances Coppola.

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

**Mmgr. Frank McGrath William P. Bassford**

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

Due to difficulties with our Optimum email account  
we will be switching to  
**stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com.**  
Please update your address book.

#### 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](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org)

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St. Thomas Norwalk

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## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2023	2022
<b>June 18</b>		
Collection	\$3,765.00	\$5,519.09
On-Line	\$2,546.00	\$2,355.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,744.00</u>	<u>\$6,238.00</u>
Votives	\$ 190.00	\$ 202.18

### 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 Cathedralricum 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.

## Banns of Marriage

### III

*Lilliana Garcia & Estivan Murillo*



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

### VACATION TIME IS

QUICKLY APPROACHING!

HELP US MAINTAIN OUR WEEKLY  
LEVELS OF OFFERTORY!!

Sign up for on-line giving and you don't have  
to worry about remembering to maintain your  
financial support of our parish. Our expenses  
continue every month even when classes are  
over & families are on the move.

Sign up for on-line giving on our website,

[www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org) or

scan the QR code:



[stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasnorwalk@gmail.com)

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



During these difficult times, 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!

Just a Second  
Adam: What is a million years like to you?  
God: As one second.  
Adam: What is a million dollars like to you?  
God: As one penny.  
Adam: Can I have a penny?  
God: Sure, just a second.



The 2024 MASS BOOK will open on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 1pm. Only 2 Saturday Vigil or Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until September 12<sup>th</sup>. No phone or email requests until Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.



Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, the parish offices are closed. There is one mass at 9am. The Food Pantry & the Thrift Store are also closed for the holiday. Have a fun, safe holiday!

### MONDAY NIGHT BINGO (except holidays) St. Ann's club

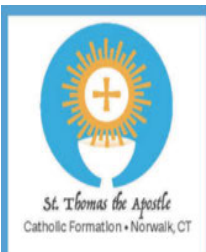
16 Hendricks Avenue  
Norwalk  
Doors open at 5:30pm.  
First game at 6:45pm.  
Refreshments available to purchase.



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Want to know what it is like to be a Lauralton Hall student? Come spend the day attending classes, having lunch in our dining hall, studying in our library, and walking our hallways with one of our current students. To sign up to shadow please go to <https://www.lauraltonhall.org/admissions/visit-lauralton> to register online. Looking forward to seeing you on Campus soon!



## 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.

### 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 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](http://2023BishopsAppeal.org), call (203) 416-1470, or scan with your phone.

*We have raised 128 gifts worth \$34,855 bringing our parish to 55.50% of its \$62,800 goal. Thanks to all who have participated! Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated.*



### THOSE WHO SING, PRAY TWICE!

If you like to sing, please consider joining our Parish Choir. We have our regular rehearsals on Sunday from 10:45 to 11:15am & sing at the 11:30am Mass. We have special rehearsals for Christmas & Easter typically on Wednesday evenings leading up to the holiday. For more information, speak to Marge Kelley, our Music Director, after the 5:15pm, 9:00am, or 11:30am Mass OR send an email to [margaretkelley24@gmail.com](mailto:margaretkelley24@gmail.com).

Little is recorded of St. Thomas the Apostle. Thomas was probably born in Galilee to a humble family, but there is no indication that he was a fisherman. He was a Jew, but there is no account of how he became an apostle to Christ. Nevertheless, thanks to the fourth Gospel, his personality is clearer to us than some of the other Twelve. Thomas' name occurs in Matthew (10:3), Mark (3:18), Luke (6) and Acts of the Apostles (1:13), but in the Gospel of John, he plays a particularly distinctive part. Thomas is often condemned for his lack of belief, but Thomas was equally courageous, willing to stand by Jesus in dangerous times. He also relentlessly sought the Truth. Like an inquisitive child, he constantly asked questions. And, his wonderful profession, "My Lord and my God," is the clearest declaration of Jesus' divinity in Holy Scripture.

When Jesus announced His intention of visiting the recently deceased Lazarus in Judea - a few miles from Jerusalem and dangerously close for someone as unpopular as He - Thomas said to his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (John 11:16). When the worried disciples wanted to keep Jesus from going for fear He would be stoned, Thomas, in a moment of bravery not often expressed by the Apostles before Pentecost, rallied the others to stay by their Master come what may.

Later, in John 14:1-5, it was St. Thomas who raised an objection prior to the Last Supper: "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going."

Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?"

With the keenness typical of the Twelve, Thomas misunderstands Jesus' reference to His death and resurrection. Thomas' question provides Jesus an opportunity to teach one of the most profound and difficult truths of His ministry. Jesus said to Thomas: (John 14:6) "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

Lastly, and more famously, St. Thomas is remembered for being absent from the Upper Room the first time Jesus appeared to the disciples after His Resurrection. Thomas dismissed the accounts of the others by saying, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands and put my finger into the nail marks, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe" (Luke 20:25). Eight days later Thomas made his act of faith. He fell at the feet of Jesus and said, "My Lord and my God!" and Jesus replied, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you believed. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet believe" (John 20:25-29). This incident gave rise to the expression "doubting Thomas."

Accounts of Thomas' missionary activities are unreliable, but the most widely accepted report holds that he preached in India, although he was reluctant to start the mission. According to the Acta Thomae, the apostles divided up the world for their missionary labors, and India fell to Thomas. However, Thomas claimed that he was not healthy enough and that a Hebrew could not teach Indians; even a vision of Christ could not change his mind. Christ then appeared to a merchant and sold Thomas to him as a slave for his master, a king who ruled over part of India. One story suggests that Thomas offered to build a palace for the Indian king that would last forever. The king gave him money, which Thomas gave to the poor. Asked to show his progress, St. Thomas explained that the palace he was building was in heaven, not on earth. Ultimately, after giving into God's will, Thomas was freed from slavery. He planted seeds for the new Church, forming many parishes and building many churches along the way.

To this day, Saint Thomas is venerated as the Apostle of India. In fact, there exists a population of Christians along the Malabar Coast, on the western coast of India, who lay claim to conversion by St. Thomas. Their tradition holds that he built seven churches, was martyred during prayer by a spearing on the "Big Hill" near Madras, and was buried in Mylapore, on the east coast of India. Ultimately, St. Thomas' remains were transported to Ortona, Italy, where they reside today.

Patron Saint of the blind (due to occasional spiritual blindness); Craftsmen (e.g., architects, carpenters & masons); Geometricians; and Theologians

Sources: Catholic Encyclopedia, by Herbert Thurston; For All The Saints, by Katherine Rabenstein  
<https://www.stapostle.org/st-thomas-church-parish-history/saint-thomas-biography/>

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**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**



**SPREAD THE WORD!** The Diocese of Bridgeport has a tuition assistance program partially funded through the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Foundations in Education (FIE) has awarded over \$20 million in tuition assistance to thousands of students and families who value Catholic education. They also awarded nearly \$650,000 in Innovation and Leadership Grants to Catholic school educators. Our Catholic schools are thriving and are attracting new families now more than ever. Over the 2 years since the pandemic, close to 450 new students applied for tuition assistance to enroll in our schools. Many of the families did not realize Catholic education was an option for them financially and were blessed to learn of the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. Visit their website for more information: [www.foundationsineducation.org/](http://www.foundationsineducation.org/)



**Room to Grow Preschool**  
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Room to Grow Preschool is a state licensed and nationally accredited facility that 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 now to find out how to enroll your child.



**NORWALK**  
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EST 2022

**Norwalk Hoops & Lax**  
**Joint Summer Camp**



**NORWALK JUNIOR LACROSSE**

**TWO GREAT PROGRAMS ONE LOCATION!**

**9:00am to 12:00pm Share the Ball**

**1:00pm 3:00 pm Norwalk Junior Lacrosse**  
(Supervised break 12:00pm to 1:00pm)

Details

Where: St Matthews Rec Center 216 Scribner Ave Norwalk  
 When: 3 weeks: WK1 July 10-14, WK2 July 17-21, WK3 July 24-28  
 Who: Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade (must have completed K)

Cost : **AM - Share the Ball \$275/week (15 hours)**  
 - registration capped at 50  
**PM - Norwalk Junior Lacrosse \$175/week (10 hours)**  
 - registration capped at 30

Joint "Hoops & Lax" inclusive of noon break \$450/week (30 hours)

**Register for either program or both for a full day of fun !**

Rob Wilson, Director & Head Coach  
[RobWilson@ShareTheBall.com](mailto:RobWilson@ShareTheBall.com)

Nick Philips, NJL President  
[nlaxpresident@gmail.com](mailto:nlaxpresident@gmail.com)


 Check us out and follow us on Instagram  
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**Register Here:**

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[www.norwalklax.org](http://www.norwalklax.org)

**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" & "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.**

[www.stthomasnorwalk.org](http://www.stthomasnorwalk.org)

**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**  
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 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

## 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](mailto: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 <sup>st</sup> 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.	George R.
Eileen Remlin	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.



### ELECTRONIC GIVING

is available through our parish website:  
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Your use of electronic giving saves the parish money and helps keep our volunteers & staff safe.





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