



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

"AND I TELL YOU,
ASK AND YOU WILL RECEIVE;
SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND;
KNOCK AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED TO YOU."

LUKE 11:9

Seventeenth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time



JULY
24
2022

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc. • Photos: © Vahagn / Adobe Stock
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

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, July 25

7:00 AM Action & Grace for Bertony Guy Brunot
5:30 PM † Carlos F. Cuevas

Tuesday, July 26

7:00 AM † Dee Arnone
5:30 PM Intentions of Efraim Corea

Wednesday, July 27

7:00 AM Action & Grace for Bertony Guy Brunot
5:30 PM † Janina Stachurska

Thursday, July 28

7:00 AM † Ellen Morrone
5:30 PM † Carmela Patafio

Friday, July 29

7:00 AM † Genevieve Cerutti
5:30 PM † John Pagliano

Sunday Vigil, Saturday, July 30

5:15 PM † Lenore Corrente-Garci

Sunday, July 31

7:30 AM † Antonio & Matilda DeMeglio & Family Fr. Ralph
9:00 AM In Thanksgiving of St. Joseph Fr. Ralph
11:30 AM † Gaetano Cecere & Teresa Vele Fr. Mirek
5:00 PM † For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased Fr. Mirek

Celebrant
Fr. Ralph

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2022	2021
July 17		
Collection	\$3,805.00	\$3,214.00
On-Line	\$2,527.00	\$2,453.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,567.00)	(\$1,636.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,765.00</u>	<u>\$4,031.00</u>
Votives	\$ 133.00	\$ 137.00
Co-Op Mission		
Collection	\$1,627.00	\$ 873.00
On-Line	\$ 280.00	\$ 245.00
Total	<u>\$1,907.00</u>	<u>\$1,118.00</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 2023 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralium 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.



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



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
July 24th through July 30th
for Betty Cabral.*



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



The 2023 MASS BOOK will open on Wednesday, August 3rd, **from 10am until 1pm.** Only 2 Saturday Vigil/Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until November 1st. No phone or email requests until Thursday, August 4th.

NEED TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH? DO YOU NEED PROOF OF SACRAMENTS? A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE? 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.**

Rectory:

Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Pastor (ext. 12)

Rev. Ralph Segura
Parochial Vicar (ext. 19)

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 9 - 4
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Rectory Staff:

Michelle O'Mara
Pastoral Assistant (ext. 17)
stthomanorwalkpastoral@gmail.com

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

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

Like us on Facebook:

St. Thomas Norwalk

Instagram:

StThomasNorwalk

stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

Do you know a Catholic child entering kindergarten or 1st grade?
 Is your family new to the parish?
 Our parish Religious Formation is now accepting registrations for the 2022 - 2023 Religious classes. Sign up today by going to our website home page or email Mary at stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com or call (203) 866-1189.

Volunteers needed!
 Please help us with our children's religious formation next year. Any help that you would be able to offer would be greatly appreciated. You must be Virtus trained. We can set you up with the training if you haven't already done so. Please contact Mary Vladimirov at (203) 866-1189 or email stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com.

The Thrift Store will be closed for vacation starting the week of July 25th. The store will reopen on Tuesday, August 9th.



Confessions in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm
Social Distancing will be maintained.
Masks must be worn.




Birthright is in need of gently worn *baby and 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 the Norwalk Chapter for more information: (203) 853-4872.




2022 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL
 We have raised 164 gifts worth \$42,699 bringing our parish to 67.99% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thanks to all who gave or pledged!**

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. The main menu is located by clicking the 3 bars located on the homepage in the upper right-hand corner of the page. We have also added buttons for pages at the top of the homepage. **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



1350 AM | 103.9 FM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play



Tune in to 24-hour Local Catholic Radio!

Veritas Catholic Network is on the radio at 1350 AM, 103.9 FM, livestream from your computer, and on our mobile app for your phone.

Learn more about the faith, strengthen your family, deepen your spirituality, and hear the news through a Catholic lens.

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter for notice of original shows, local Catholic events, and reflection questions for the Sunday readings.

More info at www.veritascatholic.com.

Congratulations to Our Parishioners Who Recently Celebrated Their Anniversary!

July 15th 50 Years

Lucy & Lee Combis

If you have something to celebrate and would like to share it with your parish family, please contact the office by email or phone.

Photo by Sandy Millar on Unsplash

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

The judgement of God, the end of the world, the significance of sin, the salvation of souls and the love of God are the more well-known truths of revelation; and in the first reading for this weekend, we are presented with the very controversial situation regarding Sodom and Gomorrah, which involves God's judgement and the destruction of evil, as well as what type of behavior provides justification for said response on the part of God Himself. As a footnote, recall that by this time in Salvation History, we are already presented with a similar situation regarding the Great Flood in the days of Noah.

Now, the exact location of Sodom and Gomorrah are unknown, but most scripture scholars and Church Fathers seem to agree that they were somewhere in the region of the Dead Sea. Also, Sodom and Gomorrah actually represent a territory consisting of five cities known as "Pentapolis," which was most likely made up of five towns clustered together in a similar area. Consequently, there is uncertainty regarding the geographical accuracy of the account in the Bible as we know it.

One controversy regarding why Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed involves a common misperception of what was actually going on in the region at the time, specifically regarding moral conduct. Many people perceive homosexual conduct as the primary, or even worse, the exclusive cause for the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, but this is not true. Remember that we are dealing with a time period thousands of years ago, and if we can infer anything from human behavior in recent history, we can't even begin to imagine the behavior of the broken human condition three, four, or five thousand years ago. There is no doubt that human sacrifice, a variety of sexual practices, cannibalism, the drinking of human blood, and many other depravities and grave injustices were common in the ancient world.

Another erroneous interpretation of what led to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah draws from a reference to a quote in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel: "*Now look at the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters were proud, sated with food, complacent in prosperity. They did not give any help to the poor and needy. Instead, they became arrogant and committed abominations before me; then, as you have seen, I removed them (Ez 16:49-50).*" The idea in this case is that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of a lack of charity towards the less fortunate. This too, is false. Recall that what we see developing in the Prophetic Books is preparation for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who would reveal to us the fulfillment of revelation, and this does not involve the abrogation of its past; and not only this, the prophets revealed God's will regarding authentic religious worship, charity towards others *and* personal morality as the defining qualities of His chosen people.

Consequently, both the lack of charity *and* sins, both venial and mortal, had everything to do with why Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was totally innocent of any and all sin, gave Himself on the cross for our salvation. To suggest that it was a simple lack of kindness or charity that necessitated His most sorrowful passion and death significantly undermines His great love for us, the sacrifice He made of Himself on the cross, and the serious nature of the mortal sins of the flesh.

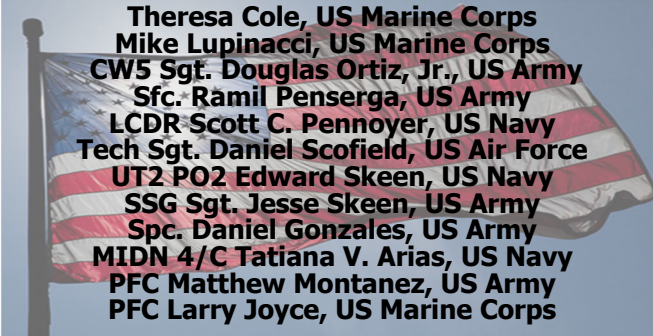
Finally, as far as the very form or event that caused the destruction itself, this too, is a debate among scholars. It could've been an earthquake, some type of volcanic phenomenon, and some suggest, perhaps even a meteor shower. In any case, there are more than a few archeological sites in the ancient Middle East that suggest that a once thriving town or city came to know sudden destruction involving the natural, unpredictable powers of nature. However, we must remind ourselves that God worked through the power of nature from the beginning, and that God rendered His promise to Abraham down to the time of Moses and thereafter to establish a people through whom the Messiah would come. So, if God can work wonders for the benefit of His people, then why couldn't God render justice in the same way for a divine cause? In short, if God used the natural elements to manifest His power to the Children of Israel for the good, then what is to prevent God from doing the said same in regards to evil?

What is of the greatest value is what is revealed through the readings for this weekend as a whole. What we can infer is that God gives every opportunity and provision that we may know redemption, and if we believe in what God has revealed to us, what God has accomplished in and through Jesus Christ, and what God offers us even now, we will enjoy the resurrection of the dead and the glory of the Father in and through Jesus Christ. The potential for this depends upon our response, depends upon our willingness to accept the truth of redemption with humble and grateful hearts, our willingness to repent of our former ways, our willingness to allow God to help us, heal us, and forgive us; and yes, it is true, to ask for the forgiveness of our sins with the sure and certain knowledge that God loves us. I leave you with this quote from Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself: "*And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day (Jn 6:39).*" *Fr. Ralph*

NOW HIRING RN'S, L.P.N.'S, C.N.A.'S
Notre Dame Health & Rehab. Center
76 West Rocks Road
Norwalk
Good Benefits package
Call us at (203) 847-5893 or stop in!

During these difficult times, please remember to support our local bulletin advertisers. Make the back 2 pages of this publication your "go to place" for local business help. They can only help us if we continue to help them!

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

LOOKING FOR A PLACE WHERE YOUR CHILD WILL SHINE?



COME FOR A VISIT!

Summer Tours Available

Pre-K 3 to 8th Grade

Schedule online at www.allsaintsnorwalk.com

Amen™

THE FREE CATHOLIC PRAYER APP

Peace of mind isn't only attainable; it's in your hands. Amen is the free Catholic app that brings you beautiful prayers, faithful meditations, and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God. Grow in the peace of our Lord with Amen today.

The Catholic prayer app for these forty days and throughout the year!

For more information, go to their website at amenapp.org/.



THE CATHOLIC ACADEMY
OF STAMFORD

FAITH ♦ KNOWLEDGE ♦ SERVICE

Academic Excellence
Nurturing Environment
Personalized Learning

PreK - 8th Grade

APPLY TODAY

Limited Space

info@CasCt.org www.CasCt.org (203)322-6505

THE LEARNING ACADEMY AT ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH A MILD TO MODERATE
LEARNING DISABILITY IN AN ACADEMICALLY RICH
AND FAITH-FILLED ENVIRONMENT.

For more information, please contact
Mrs. Denise Vuoso, Director of
Admissions admissions@ascs.net



www.allsaintsnorwalk.com

Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
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) 852-9899
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

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.

New 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	Jim Sweet	Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese
Pearl Futo	Robert Parmalee	Jill Bowman	Emily Calabeese	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima
Mike	Constance Williams	Mike Torres	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Merina Deluc
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Skip Bossone	Jeanette Ralston	Pam Simso	George Travers
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Kimberly Fratoloni	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Phil Tavella
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Michael Walsh	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	Hamilton Family
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Anthony Bruno
Kathleen Dominick	Cathy Sinica	Kathleen Ford	Chuck Scott	John Lima	Angela McCrae
Greg N.	Joe M.	Joan Kennedy	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Kathy D
Jack Cade	Jackie Capobianco	Nancy G.	Vinny Massaro	Alessandro Fornara	Jim Charest
Dawn Grover	1 st Sgt. Joe Toscano (Ret.)	Debbie Poruban	Denise Cassin	Holly Sanders	Stefanie Sena
John Dominick	Josephine Mola Buckley				

**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:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org.

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

INVEST LOCALLY



Targeting local business makes good "Cents" -
 Get your name out there by advertising in local parish bulletins. Contact us today for your next advertising move and we will work with you for your next "AD THAT WORKS!"

Check us out at www.jspaluch.com



Lil' Creepers Preschool
 Gay Cavanagh, Director
 10 Lewis St., Norwalk
 847-4220

Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.

Support Your Church & Bulletin.
 Free professional ad design & my help!
 email: sales@jspaluch.com www.jspaluch.com



CARPET & DRAPERY CLEANERS
 337 Westport Avenue
 Norwalk 847-8000

For Information ... Call

800.524.0263



My Pillow

SAVE up to **66%**
w/promo code

800-882-0925 Use promo code: CHURCH

Life Matters




For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife


Protecting Seniors Nationwide



Medical Alert System



Gerri Flewellyn • Director
 131 Strawberry Hill Ave.
 866-8933



FINDaPARISH.com

The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes

CHECK IT OUT TODAY!

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly



- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Your ad could be in this space!

Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!



Sign up here:
www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc. 

Call Today!
 Toll Free 1.877.801.8608



EAST AVENUE SHELL
 STAR WASH CAR WASH
 216 East Ave., Norwalk
 838-5955

DEVINE BROS.



"Let our family take care of your family"

A/C & 24/7 Heating Services • Propane, Diesel & Heating Oil Delivery
 Redi-Mix Concrete, Mason & Landscape Materials

203-866-4421 www.devinebrosinc.com



ED'S GARAGE DOORS
 SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
 136 WATER ST., NORWALK, CT 06854
 TEL (203) 847-1284
www.edsgaragedoors.com

MANFREDI jewels

Greenwich • New Canaan
manfredijewels.com

Offering Fine Timepieces & Jewelry

ELECK AND SALVATO ELECTRIC, INC.

Four Fitch St East Norwalk
203-838-1900
www.EleckAndSalvato.com

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit
<https://www.oneparish.com>

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play



Norwalk Cove Marina, Inc.

48 BEACH ROAD,
EAST NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06855
203-838-2326 • FAX: 203-838-9756



Rex Marine Center

144 Water Street, Norwalk, CT 06854
Ships Store 831-5236
Service & Storage 831-5234



Need help with
Medicare choices?
Turning 65?
Let us help you.



Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

Donald A. Cafero, CLU, ChFC
Insurance Broker

203-856-4237

Medicare Information at

www.Medicare65forU.com

JACKIE AUSTIN

REALTOR®

BERKSHIRE | New England
HATHAWAY | Properties
HomeServices

Serving Norwalk, Westport, Fairfield, Weston & beyond

jackieaustin@bhhsne.com

Direct: 203-722-3078

Office: 203-227-5117

20 Wilton Road, Westport, CT 06880

jackieaustin.bhhsneproperties.com



"Family Owned & Operated Since 1912"

Pre-Need Counseling Available
Cremation & Traditional Services

Magner Funeral Home, Inc.

Michael J. Magner • James P. Magner, Jr. • Melissa D. Heaphy • William D. Tiani

12 Mott Avenue, Norwalk

www.magnerfuneralhome.com

203-866-5553

**SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS
THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY**

✂ Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It
The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin.
I am patronizing your business because of it!

catholicmatch®

Connecticut



CatholicMatch.com/myCT

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship
of the Sea of the United States of America
Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.
Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email
eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com
www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

838-5032 838-0088

COTALING'S AUTO BODY

Complete Auto Body Services

130 Connecticut Ave., Norwalk



Touch a Life, Forever.

Serra for Priestly Vocations

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19.95 a month
- ✓ Police ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family FREE Shipping
FREE Activation
NO Long Term Contracts



CALL NOW! 800.809.3352

MDMedAlert

Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

This Button SAVES Lives!
As Shown GPS,
Lowest Price Guaranteed!
GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed
EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA



Collins Funeral Home

Preplanning & Cremation Services

(203) 866-0747 www.collinsfh.com

Directors:

William A. Skidd
William P. Skidd
Andrew D. Skidd
William G. Lahey