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ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Congratulations to our 2021 First Communicants

Isabella Argueta

Delina Botelho

Michael Edwards, Jr.

Rosalie Febbraio

James Giannoglou

Mila Hramiak

Charlotte Jacobs

Isabella Ortiz

Macie Putetti

Devon Slattery

Lilly Vega

Lucas Vega

Caitlyn Wideman

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, May 3

7:00 AM† William & Carmela O'Boy
5:30 PM† Jim Verda

Tuesday, May 4

7:00 AM† Francisco Fernandez
5:30 PM Intentions of Ileana & Silvana Alarcon

Wednesday, May 5

7:00 AM Anniversary of the First Mass Held at
St. Thomas the Apostle
5:30 PM In Thanksgiving

Thursday, May 6

7:00 AM Intentions of Bridget O'Dwyer
5:30 PM† Anne & Bill Johnston

Friday, May 7

7:00 AM† Souls in Purgatory
5:30 PM† Lena & George Stillman

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, May 8

5:15 PM† Joseph & Jennie Festa

Sunday, May 9

7:30 AM† For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased
9:00 AM For Our Religious Formation
Students, Teachers, & Staff
11:30 AM† Jim Verda
5:00 PM Intentions of Jim Danaher

Celebrant
Fr. Mirek

Fr. Mirek

Fr. Mirek

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
May 2nd through May 8th
for Mary Shahhein Dyson.*

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.



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. Please call or email the office to reserve
your masses and candles.

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:

stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP

2021

2020

April 25

Collection	\$4,151.00	\$
On-Line	\$2,488.00	\$2,619.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	<u>\$4,770.00</u>	<u>\$ 752.00</u>

Votives

\$ 87.00

\$

Catholic Home Mission

Collection	\$ 423.00	\$
On-Line	\$ 230.00	\$ 255.00
Total	<u>\$ 653.00</u>	<u>\$ 255.00</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 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.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and
let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.

Please remember in your prayers:

Catherine Gorzkowski Ines Tomasio

Teresa Baldino Janet Muro

We extend our sympathy to their
families & friends.

stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net

(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax

**The Jesus meets Aristotle Series with Fr. Mirek Presents
The ABC's of Philosophy: An Introduction to Philosophical Ideas
Wednesday, May 19th, 6:30PM in the Gym**

Who hasn't heard the words: **PANTA RHEI**, or **COGITO, ERGO SUM** or the famous sentence, **I KNOW THAT I KNOW NOTHING?** We all have brushed against so many of the ancient and contemporary ideas, schools of thought, branches and disciplines of various sciences, you name it. Many of us might even remember the names of all those famous people the sentences mentioned above are ascribed to. Therefore, I would like to invite all of you to a very special **Mother's/Father's Day Dinner** on Wednesday, **May 19th**, at 6:30PM in the gym of our Parish Center. Together, over a nice *Pasta Aglio e Olio* and a healthy *Vino*, we will discuss possible ways to cope with this ever-changing reality in such a way that we wouldn't need to compromise both; our faith and classic philosophical ideas that still apply (believe it or not) and secondly, to become more confident in expressing such faith in this rapidly evolving society. Come, join us for dinner and a lecture that will be an **INTRODUCTION** to Philosophy and Philosophical Concepts. *Please call or email the office by Friday, May 14th, so we will have the correct food servings and stay within our COVID capacity limit.*

OUR NEW SHOPPING HOURS ARE
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SATURDAYS 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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missalette available for
parishioners who would like one.
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for your pickup.

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Planning a wedding? Congratulations!!

Call the office to secure your date. We are having ceremonies with all current COVID guidelines in place. We also live-stream your ceremony for those who can't be with you or don't feel comfortable with participating in person. *You need to contact the office at least 9 months prior to your chosen date.*

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.

**A Special Diocesan Celebration of Mass in Recognition of Our Healthcare Workers
Saturday, May 29, 2021 at 11:00 AM
Saint Joseph Church, Brookfield**

Bishop Frank Caggiano will be celebrating this mass to honor all healthcare worker for their efforts during the pandemic. In-Church capacity is limited to 150 participants, so registration is required. To register, go to www.signupgenius.com/go/healthcare-workers. In order to accommodate everyone, the Mass will also be livestreamed, both on the diocesan website (www.bridgeportdiocese.org) and the parish website of Saint Joseph Church in Brookfield (www.stjosephbrookfield.com).

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

The readings for this weekend speak to the beginning and development of the ministry of the Church, and we here at St. Thomas the Apostle parish continue the mission of Jesus Christ in our time today. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Paul, after his conversion, went on to witness in the name of Jesus Christ. In the second reading, we are taught that we must not only speak of the Gospel in Jesus' name, but we must also transmit what we have received through our own fidelity to the truth through works; and finally, Jesus teaches us that He is the source of what is revealed from the Father, and all that we do in His name, if in His name, and according to what He taught us, is truly from Him.

Now, as you know, the twelve apostles received the Great Commission from Jesus Himself in the Gospel of Matthew: *"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."* (Mt 28:19-20a) From that moment forward, the Gospel and the Church has grown and spread (like the vine Jesus spoke to in the Gospel for this weekend) throughout the world, and there are currently 1.2 billion Catholics living on every continent.

This Saturday, we will be celebrating a Mass of First Holy Communion for the young disciples here at our parish. The Catholic Church has had the highest possible regard for the blessed sacrament - the eucharist- the body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the beginning, and we continue this ancient tradition in our time, in our church, in our parish. This is a quote from St. Irenaeus, Bishop of what is now known as Lyon, France, who lived from the years 130-202: *"The slip of a vine planted in the ground bears fruit at the proper time. The grain of wheat falls into the ground and decays only to be raised up again and multiplied by the Spirit of God who sustains all things. The Wisdom of God places these things at the service of man and when they receive God's word they become the eucharist, which is the body and blood of Christ."* (The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. II, Easter Season, Third Week of Easter, Thursday, From the treatise Against Heresies by Saint Irenaeus, bishop, Catholic Book Publishing Co., NY, 1976, p. 727-728)

But what we do today is not just a matter of following a tradition like so many others, that is, those that we can speak of that are natural or cultural. St. Irenaeus reminds us: *"If our flesh is not saved, then the Lord has not redeemed us with his blood, the eucharistic chalice does not make us sharers in his blood, and the bread we break does not make us sharers in his body. There can be no blood without veins, flesh and the rest of the human substance, and this the Word of God actually became: it was with his own blood that he redeemed us."* (ibid)

What we will we do for our young disciples this weekend is only possible because Jesus Christ, who was with God the Father from the beginning, from before all ages, became like us, truly, in all things save sin; and because of what He actually said and did at the Last Supper, and what He actually underwent and accomplished on the cross by the propitiation of His blood. This is what has been done from the beginning of the Church, and we perpetuate this sacred reality for our sons and daughters in our time. May we continue our good work here at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish; may we continue to uphold the truth of the Faith; may we continue to pray and worship as we have been taught; may we continue to labor in that part of the vineyard assigned us, caring for and nurturing those who are just beginning to grow among us, keeping in mind what Our Lord tells us: *"You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."* (Jn 15:3-5) *Father Ralph*



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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.

**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
Wednesday
Grade 5: 6:15-7:15 pm
Grade 6: 5:15-6:15 pm
Grade 7: 6:15-7:30 pm

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**Room To Grow
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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	Jim Sweet	Debbie Reddock	James Amrich	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese
Pearl Futo	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	Emily Calabeese	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima
Mike	Robert Parmalee	Mike Torres	Marie Silver	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero
Terry Rooney	Constance Williams	Skip Bossone	Jeanette Ralston	Tony Cappuccia	Merina Deluc
Gary Livia	Peggy McDonald	Kimberly Frattoni	Rick Azillo	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso
Julia Cade	Marianne Schambeck	Michael Walsh	Richard Berg	Diane Turek	George Travers
Jeannie Maxwell	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Richard Barton	Antonio Vescio	Jackie Hamilton	Phil Tavella, Jr.
Vicki	Betty Lou Heffernan	Cathy Sinica	Kathleen Ford	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family
Kathleen Dominick	Chris Rohleder	Joan Kennedy	Joanna Marvin	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo
Janina Stachurski	John Lima				

**The Food Pantry is open
Tuesdays & Saturdays
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.**

Donations are now being accepted
during regular hours or leave in the
entrances of the church.
Questions? Call them at
(203) 866-1644



2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 102 gifts worth \$20,640 bringing our parish to 31.87% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!



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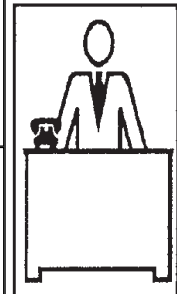
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