



January 31, 2021

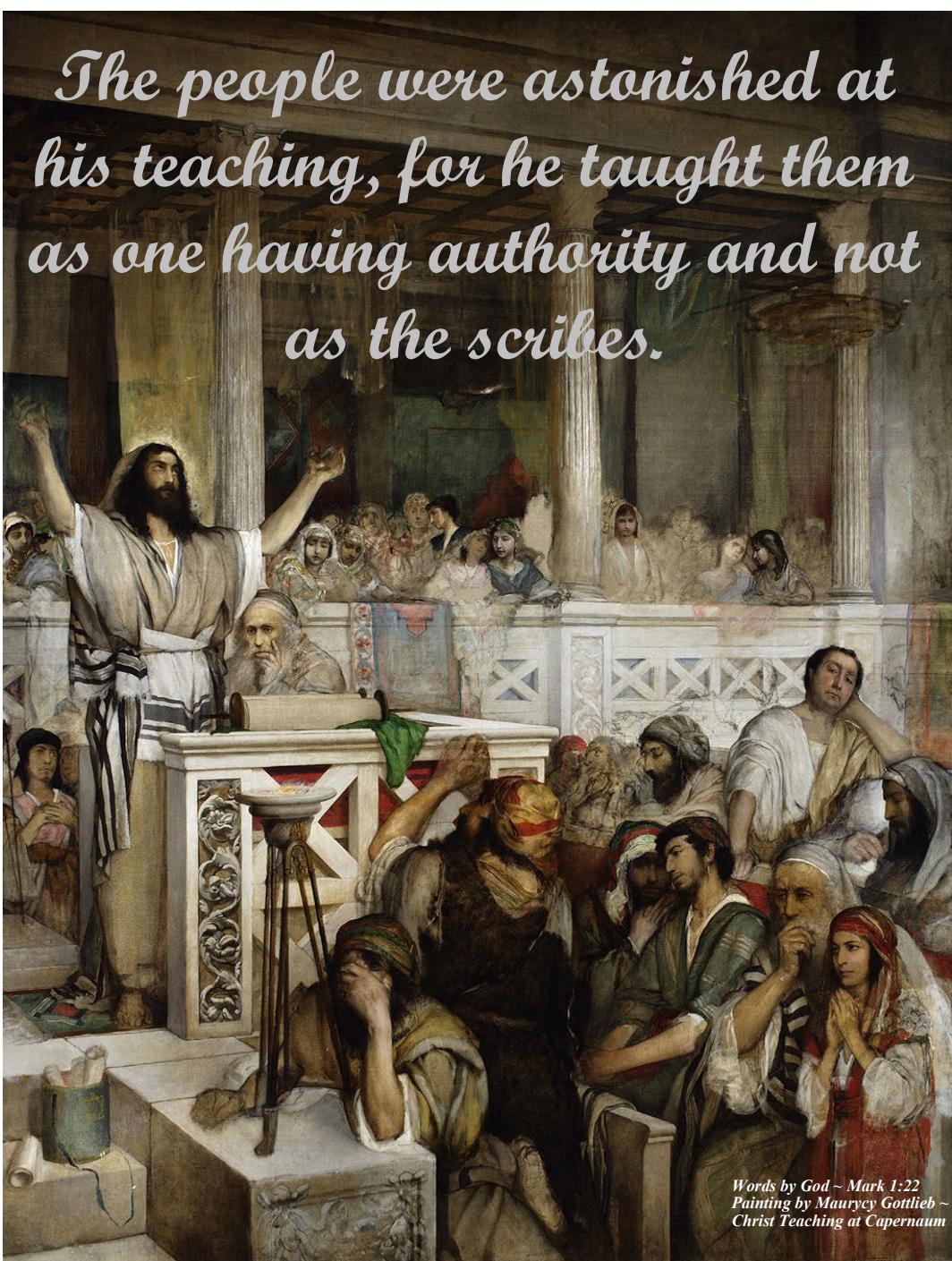
Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC
CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.



*Words by God ~ Mark 1:22
Painting by Mauryce Gottlieb ~
Christ Teaching at Capernaum*

Rev. Miroslaw 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, February 1

- 7:00 AM † William & Carmela O'Boy
5:30 PM † Grace Gillespie

Tuesday, February 2

- 7:00 AM † Richard Heise
5:30 PM Our Church in Germany

Wednesday, February 3

- 7:00 AM † The Bayne & McCabe Families
5:30 PM † Marianna Mattera

Thursday, February 4

- 7:00 AM † Jeffrey Cutuli
5:30 PM † Living & Deceased Members of the Ball & Calabrese Families

Friday, February 5

- 7:00 AM † Rev. Edward A. Colohan
5:30 PM † Mass of Remembrance

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, February 6

- 5:15 PM † Bridget & Michael O'Gara

Sunday, February 7

- 7:30 AM † Richard Heise
9:00 AM † Margaret Marion Russo
11:30 AM † Garrett Vincent Fasano
5:00 PM † For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased

Celebrant

Fr. Ralph

Fr. Ralph
Fr. Ralph
Fr. Mirek
Fr. Mirek



*The Sanctuary Candle burns
January 31st through February 6th
for William & Carmela O'Boy.*



**FIRST
FRIDAY**
ADORATION
February 5th
7:30am to 5:00pm

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

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2021	2020
January 17		
Collection	\$2,290.00	\$4,808.48
On-Line	\$2,528.00	\$2,181.00
Diocesan Assessment	<u>(\$1,869.00)</u>	<u>(\$1,867.00)</u>
Net Retained	<u>\$2,949.00</u>	<u>\$5,122.48</u>
Votives	\$ 85.00	\$ 149.50
The Church in Latin America		
Collection	\$ 355.00	\$ 826.00
On-Line	<u>\$ 220.00</u>	<u>\$ 245.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 575.00</u>	<u>\$1,071.00</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 Cathedricum 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.

—MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—

The following parishioners have died in the month of January: Richard Heise and Mary Malagisi. There will be a special mass for them and for all deceased parishioners on Friday, February 5, at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. If not able to attend you can view the mass on www.stthomasnorwalk.org and click on Live Stream Masses. If you would like information about the ministry, please contact Jane Eichwald at (203) 838-4590.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Anna Maria Verrastro Christina Perna

Mary Malagisi Jeffrey Cutuli

We extend our sympathy to their families & friends.

Religious Ed Office:

(203) 866-1189
Michelle O'Mara, DRE
ssthomasnorwalkreled@gmail.com

Kathryn Grieco, Secretary
General Office Email
ssthomasreledooffice@gmail.com

Facilities:
Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
ssthomasq@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



Birthright

Birthright is in need of gently worn **maternity and baby clothing**. Please call (203) 853-4872 to arrange for a drop off.

Birthright is also in need of 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



Sunday Family Rosary
Every Sunday at 7:30 pm, the Diocese of Bridgeport is conducting Sunday Family Rosary. They would like to have one family from each parish and school lead the rosary, which will guarantee that the schedule would be set for many, many months to come. Please visit www.formationreimagined.org and click the praying hands image at the top of the screen. Once you sign up to lead, you will receive a confirmation email with complete details. No registration is necessary for families who simply wish to join in prayer each week at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, please email Rosary@diobpt.org.

Photo by Anakin T on Unsplash

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We have lots of parts. Send your broken rosaries in a padded envelope to :

Betty & Dick Holden
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Fort Meyers, FL 33931

They will be repaired & returned to you within the week of receipt. Donations of old & broken rosaries are also accepted which are repaired & sent to the missions. Please include a note indicating repair & return to me or this is a donation. Dick's cell: (239) 463-3993 Betty's cell: (860) 595-6370 or email: holdenband@gmail.com.



Pray the Rosary in the Church!

Monday - Friday:
6:30am
Monday: 7:00pm
Saturday: 4:45pm

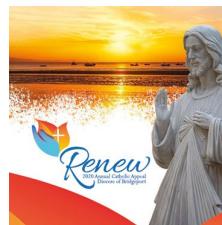
PLEASE HELP LIGHTEN OUR LOAD!

Please use your parish offertory envelope or write your envelope # on any loose checks. This will greatly cut down on the entry time of the Parish Offertory every week. **If you don't know your number, please call the office (203) 866-3141 or email us at stthomasnorwalk@optonline.net.**

The Food Pantry is open

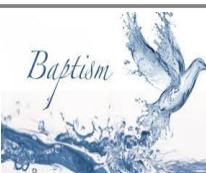
Saturday From 10 AM to Noon.

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



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 172 gifts worth \$38,093 bringing our parish to 36.81% of its \$103,500 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!



If you would like to arrange a baptism, please call the office at (203) 866-3141. If this is your first baby, you will need to complete the Pre-Baptism class with one of our priests. We will work with you to find the best day and time to fit your schedule. The current mass guidelines concerning capacity and social distancing parameters will be followed at all baptisms as well.

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.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

In the Gospel this weekend, Jesus is recognized by those who can, that He has an authority that is both other and superior to the scribes of the Israelite people. Now, the scribes were those specifically responsible and with the sole authority to provide the Torah and other Hebrew writings for the synagogue, and because the Torah was the foundation of the faith and life of the Israelite people, they had considerable authority.

As Jesus began His ministry, He went to where the people worshiped, prayed, and heard the Word of God. But as you know, for us and our time, Jesus Christ IS the WORD itself; and therefore, all authority of all that we know and believe as Catholics has been handed down to us throughout the ages beginning with God and His revelation, Jesus Christ Himself, thereafter flowing from the twelve apostles to His Church.

So, for us today as Catholics, the question is: do we have the authority to witness the Gospel of God and the teachings of the Church? And perhaps more importantly, especially in our time, most especially in regard to those who expect us to change what we believe, is what we witness and what we should witness in any way different than what has been believed and taught from the beginning?

True, we are all aware of what is written in the Bible, and we all are familiar with what Our Lord said and did; and recognizing the significant and proper place of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it is clear from the Gospels that Jesus did not give any more time, attention, and effort to anyone else other than twelve apostles. He specifically chose them and taught them privately. So, what can one say about what took place thereafter?

This is a quote from St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr, who lived roughly from 108 to 140 AD; and as a disciple of St. John the Evangelist, the beloved of the Lord Jesus, he is among the earliest witnesses of what we know today from the twelve apostles:

"From Ignatius, known as Theophorus, to the Church of God the Father and of Jesus Christ, his beloved, at Smyrna in Asia, wishing you all joy in an immaculate spirit and the Word of God.

In regard to the Lord, you firmly believe that he was of the race of David according to the flesh, but God's son by the will and power of God; truly born of the Virgin and baptized by John, that all justice might be fulfilled; truly nailed to a cross in the flesh for our sake under Pontius Pilate and the Tetrarch Herod, and of his most blessed passion we are the fruit. And thus, by his resurrection he raised up a standard over his saints and faithful ones for all time (both Jews and Gentiles alike) in the one body of his Church. For he endured all this for us, for our salvation; and he really suffered, and just as truly rose from the dead.

As for myself, I am convinced that he was united with his body even after the resurrection. When he visited Peter and his companions, he said to them: Take hold of me, touch me and see that I am not a spirit without a body. Immediately they touched him and believed, clutching at his body and his very spirit. And for this reason they despised death and conquered it. In addition, after his resurrection, the Lord ate and drank with them like a real human being, even though in spirit he was united with his Father.

And so I am giving you serious instruction on these things, dearly beloved, even though I am aware that you believe them to be so." (The Liturgy of the Hours, Vol. 3, Fourth Week in Ordinary Time, Sunday, p. 143-144, Catholic Book publishing Co., NY, 1975.)

Plainly we can see that this resource (and there are numerous others) is in no way in conflict with what we believe and know to be true in our time today; and there are many such resources that specifically indicate not only what is mentioned above, but also every other basic teaching of the Catholic Church. This is not a matter of opinion, it's a matter of fact and history.

So, to be sure, the authority of Christ resides within His Church, and if not confused, conflated or violated through reinterpretation by the will of man and the way of the world, what we believe and teach, I dare say, what we should believe and teach, rests not only with the bishops, the priests, the religious, the theologians and scripture scholars; but also, if without interruption or corruption, with you, the people of God.

Father Ralph

HAVE YOU DROPPED YOUR LANDLINE FOR A CELL PHONE? DID YOU ADD OR CHANGE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please let us know of any changes to your contact information so our records will be correct and we will be able to contact you, if necessary. Please notify the Parish Office when you change your address, phone number, cell phone number and/or email address so that we can have the most up to date way to reach you should the need arise. Call us at (203) 866-3141 or send us an email with your current information. Thank you.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country

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

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.

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

The next digital version of the
missalette is not available to our
parishioners. We do,
however, have the actual
missalette available for pick up
during regular office business
hours. Please call the office
before coming -
(203) 866-3141.

Prayer Requests!
If you are in need of prayer, for any reason, please contact the St. Thomas Prayer
Ministry to pray for you and with you. Please call Sue Wegiel,
(203) 838-4088, or email her, wegiesj@hotmail.com. If you cannot reach Sue,
please call the Rectory at (203) 866-3141.
If you would like to be added to the bulletin list, please call or email
(stthomwanorwalk@optonline.net) the office.

Trustees:
Robert Lametta
Christopher Jarboe

Finance Council:
Rev. Miroslaw Stachurski
Bill Austin
Hugh Gartland
Thomas Gorzkowski
Linda O'Shaughnessy
Ulrike Schambeck
Marge Simon

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
is currently closed
and not accepting
donations at this
time.**

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Food Pantry:**
(203) 866-1644
HOURS
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Saturdays Only

**Birthright of
Norwalk:**
(203) 853-4872

**Catholic
Charities:**
(203) 416-1307

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.

PARTICIPANTS 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	Carol Smyth	Karen Miller	Debbie Reddock	Theresa Buono	Walter Cortese	James Amrich
Pearl Futo	Jim Sweet	Lou Marcario	Jill Bowman	Anne Edwards	Linda Lima	Emily Calabrese
Lynn Lockwood	Ken Pelzolt	Robert Parmalee	Carol Vallee	Grace DeMilo	Linda Spero	Marie Silver
Terry Rooney	Skip Bossone	Mike Torres	Constance Williams	Tony Cappuccia	Irene Brennan	Jeanette Ralston
Gary Livia	Kimberly Frataloni	Peggy McDonald	Lorraine Magazeno	Jeannetta Torres	Pam Simso	Rick Azillo
Margaret Currie	Michael Walsh	Marianne Schambeck	Merina Deluc	Voroschak Family	George Travers	Helga Garnett
Jeannie Maxwell	Richard Barton	Michele Mola-Gulemi	Betty Lou Heffernan	Jackie Hamilton	Rich Seekamp	Antonio Vescio
Trisha Jackson	Cathy Sinica	Diane Turek	Richard Berg	Chuck Scott	Hamilton Family	Kathleen Ford
Vicki	Thomas Calka	Msgr. Thomas Powers	Phil Tavella, Jr.	Ken Schulman	Chuck Corbo	Joanna Marvin
Julia Cade	Chris Rohleder	Joan Kennedy				



ADORATION
MONDAY NIGHT
6PM - 8PM



The 2021 MASS BOOK is open. Only 2 Saturday Vigil/Sunday weekend masses may be booked and no more than 4 Sanctuary Candles until February 1.



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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.



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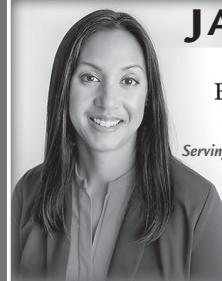
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