



Norwalk, CT • Est. 1935

ST. THOMAS

THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 5, 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



They were exceedingly
astonished and they said,

“He has done all things well.



He makes the deaf hear

and the mute speak.”



Words by God ~ Mark 7:37
Pictures by www.freebibleimages.org

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

Labor Day, Monday, September 6

9:00 AM For God's Blessings on Our Work
5:30 PM No Mass

Tuesday, September 7

7:00 AM† Roger Festa
5:30 PM† Raffaele Longo

Wednesday, September 8

7:00 AM† Gloria Rosa (1st Anniversary)
5:30 PM† Crescenzo Piro

Thursday, September 9

7:00 AM† Rose & Reginald Festa
5:30 PM† Rev. Edward A. Colohan

Friday, September 10

7:00 AM† William & Carmela O'Boy
5:30 PM† Cynthia Higgins

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, September 11

5:15 PM† For the Victims & Survivors of
the September 11th Attacks

Celebrant

Fr. Mirek

Sunday, September 12

7:30 AM	Special Intention	Fr. Mirek
9:00 AM	Intentions of Abigail Hanford	Fr. Mirek
11:30 AM†	For Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased	Fr. Ralph
5:00 PM†	Giuseppe G. Mazzella	Fr. Ralph



The Sanctuary Candle burns
September 5th through September 11th
for John Porada.



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

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

Please remember in your prayers:

Carlos Rivera

We extend our sympathy to his family
& friends.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

2021

2020

August 29

Collection	\$3,236.00	\$3,579.00
On-Line	\$2,443.00	\$2,376.00
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,636.00)	(\$1,869.00)
Net Retained	\$4,043.00	\$4,086.00

Votives

\$ 148.00 \$ 67.61

Special Collection for Haiti

Collection	\$ 987.00
On-Line	\$ 125.00
Total	\$1,112.00

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 2022 fiscal year, the annual Cathedralricum Assessment is \$85,072. This equates to a weekly payment of \$1,636. This represents an annual decrease of \$4,633.00 from the prior year.

DO YOU LIKE TO KNIT OR CROCHET?

OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY IS BACK!!

Please consider joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We supply the materials - you supply the Love!! We meet once a month (usually on a Thursday) for about an hour to pray over the completed shawls and to pick up supplies. **Our next meeting is Thursday, September 9th, at 7:00pm, in the Small Meeting Room of the Parish Center.** If you would like more information please call Vicki Remson at (203) 847-8196, or the Parish Office at (203) 866-3141, or go to our website and click on Parish Life, Ministries.

We welcome the newly Baptized into the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Jayden Tristin Celestin

Congratulations to his parents, family & friends!

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

Mary Vladimirov, Secretary
General Office Email
stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

stthomasyg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.org

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(203) 866-1219 Fax

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LABOR DAY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th

All Parish Offices are Closed

One Mass - 9:00am

No Monday Night Adoration

Enjoy the last unofficial day of summer!!



2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 165 gifts worth \$42,073 bringing our parish to 67.00% of its \$62,800 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!

Bible Study with Kevin Knight Resumes with a Book Discussion

Friday, September 24th at 7:00pm in the Monsignor Toomey Room

We will be discussing the book 'Learning to Pray' by Father James Martin. *"A smart, wise, often side-splittingly funny master class in seeking God. Any spiritual seeker - from atheist to professional religious - will cherish this bravura tome from one of our great spiritual guides, in the lineage of C. S. Lewis, Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, and Mother Teresa. Hallelujah & amen!"*

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Confessions in Church

Every Saturday

4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.

Masks must be worn.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries

All those celebrating 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, or 50+ anniversary are invited to gather at St. Matthew's parish on Saturday, September 25, at either 10:30 am or 1:00 pm for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Caggiano. Space is limited to four guests.

To register, please email the first name of both bride and groom, your email, and your wedding date to weddingjubilee@diobpt.org or call Barbara at (203) 416-1641.

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.***



The 2022 MASS BOOK is now open. We still have Masses & Candles available for 2021. Please call or email the office to reserve your masses and candles.

MEMORIAL MASS OR FUNERAL

We are scheduling Memorial Masses for those who died during the virus period. Anyone who wishes to arrange for a Memorial Mass is asked to call the office in order to plan the mass. If you would like a full funeral mass, please let your funeral home know your wishes so they can contact us to schedule. We will continue to have graveside only service as an option.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

From the beginning of a sermon on the beatitudes by Saint Leo the Great, Pope (Sermo 95, 1-2: PL 54, 461-462)

Dearly beloved, when our Lord Jesus Christ was preaching the Gospel of the kingdom and healing various illnesses throughout the whole of Galilee, the fame of his mighty works spread into all of Syria, and great crowds from all parts of Judea flocked to the heavenly physician. Because human ignorance is slow to believe what it does not see, and equally slow to hope for what it does not know, those who were to be instructed in the divine teaching had first to be aroused by bodily benefits and visible miracles so that, once they had experienced his gracious power, they would no longer doubt the wholesome effect of his doctrine.

In order, therefore, to transform outward healings into inward remedies, and to cure men's souls now that he had healed their bodies, our Lord separated himself from the surrounding crowds, climbed to the solitude of a neighboring mountain, and called the apostles to himself. From the height of this mystical site he then instructed them in the most lofty doctrines, suggesting both by the very nature of the place and by what he was doing that it was he who long ago had honored Moses by speaking to him. At that time, his words showed a terrifying justice, but now they reveal a sacred compassion, in order to fulfill what was promised in the words of the prophet Jeremiah: Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I shall establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. After those days, says the Lord, I shall put my laws within them and write them on their hearts.

And so it was that he who had spoken to Moses spoke also to the apostles. Writing in the hearts of his disciples, the swift hand of the Word composed the ordinances of the new covenant. And this was not done as formerly, in the midst of dense clouds, amid terrifying sounds and lightning, so that the people were frightened away from approaching the mountain. Instead, there was a tranquil discourse which clearly reached the ears of all who stood nearby so that the harshness of the law might be softened by the gentleness of grace, and the spirit of adoption might dispel the terror of slavery.

Concerning the content of Christ's teaching, his own sacred words bear witness; thus whoever longs to attain eternal blessedness can now recognize the steps that lead to that high happiness. Blessed, he says, are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. It might have been unclear to which poor he was referring, if after the words Blessed are the poor, he had not added anything about the kind of poor he had in mind. For then the poverty that many suffer because of grave and harsh necessity might seem sufficient to merit the kingdom of heaven. But when he says: Blessed are the poor in spirit, he shows that the kingdom of heaven is to be given to those who are distinguished by their humility of soul rather than by their lack of worldly goods.

Father Ralph

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.*

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!



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. *Pre-Baptism classes are resuming the schedule of the 3rd Saturday of every month beginning in September.*



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 Penserger, US Army
LCDR Scott C. Pennoyer, US Navy
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

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

KINDERGARTEN

Religious Education Registration Open
Bible Stories, Crafts, Activities, Recreation

Starting September 26th • Sundays 10:15 - 11:30 • Ages 4-6
email: stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com or 203-866-1189



Registration is ending soon! Please sign your child(ren) up ASAP!!!



St. Thomas the Apostle
Catholic Formation • Norwalk, CT

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is now open for all Kindergarten - 8th Grade/Confirmation Students!!

An email link was sent to all previously enrolled students by Religious Formation. Please fill in one form for each child to be enrolled as soon as possible so that we can plan our classroom & catechist needs. *If you are new to the parish or have a child entering the 1st grade, please email Michelle or Mary at stthomasreledoffice@gmail.com for a registration link or go to our website homepage. Kindergarten is a new optional program with no fees.*

Payment is due in full by September 30th through the online giving link provided.

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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
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Food Pantry:

(203) 866-1644

HOURS

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Birthingright 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.

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	Donny Cassavechia	Gordon R.	Vinny Massaro	Wayne Embry, Jr.	John Lima
Anthony Bruno	Jack Cade	Joe M.	Greg N.	Pete L.	Nancy G.

**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



Birthright

Birthright is in need of gently worn **baby and maternity clothing**. Please call 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



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