

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

September 6, 2020

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*For where two or three are gathered together
in my name,*



there am I in the midst of them.

Words by God ~ Matthew 18:20

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 7

9:00 AM For God's Blessings on Our Workers

Tuesday, September 8

7:00 AM† Roger Festa

5:30 PM† Crescenzo Piro

Wednesday, September 9

7:00 AM† Rose & Reginald Festa

5:30 PM† Antonio, Maria, & Pasquale Rubbo

Thursday, September 10

7:00 AM† All Souls

5:30 PM† Blanca Martinez

Friday, September 11

7:00 AM† For All Victims, Living & Deceased,
of the September 11th Attacks

5:30 PM† Cynthia Higgins

Saturday, September 12

8:00 AM No Mass

Sunday Masses

Vigil, September 12

5:15 PM† Cynthia Higgins

Celebrant

Fr. Mirek

Sunday, September 13

7:30 AM† John Pagliano

Fr. Mirek

9:00 AM† For Our Parishioners,
Living & Deceased

Fr. Mirek

11:30 AM† Helen Onisko

Fr. Ralph

5:00 PM Intentions of Dennis & Mary Grimaldi,
Their Children & Grandchildren

Fr. Ralph



The Sanctuary Candle burns
September 6th through September 12th
for Rose & Reginald Festa.

LABOR DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

All Parish Offices are Closed

One Mass - 9:00am

No Monday Night Adoration

Enjoy the last unofficial day
of summer!!

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	2020	2019
August 30		
Collection	\$3,579.00	\$5,030.00
On-Line	\$2,376.00	\$2,310.17
Diocesan Assessment	(\$1,869.00)	(\$1,867.00)
Net Retained	\$4,086.00	\$5,473.17
Votives	\$ 67.61	\$ 129.84

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.

Please note that there will be no
Mass on Saturday morning,
September 12, 8:00am. Praying of
the Rosary at 7:30am is canceled.



Pray the Rosary in the Church!

Monday - Friday: 6:30am

Monday: 7:00pm

Saturday: 7:30am & 4:45pm

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

Henry Austin Baker & Callie Margaret Walsh

Congratulations to their parents,
families, & friends!

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, and
let perpetual light shine upon them.
Please remember in your prayers:

Jesus Holmes Ocampo

We extend our sympathy to his 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

General Office Email
stthomasredoffice@gmail.com

Facilities:

Tito (Jose) Rivera

R.I.S.E. Youth Ministry:

Cecy Gillen, Coordinator
stthomasvg@gmail.com

Website:

www.stthomasnorwalk.com

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(203) 866-3141

(203) 866-1219 Fax



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.



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We have raised 148 gifts worth \$33,515 bringing our parish to 32.38% of its \$103,500 goal. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who have already given or pledged!



www.ipcamlive.com/stthomasnorwalk

ALL NEW!!

WE NOW HAVE LIVE-STREAMING AVAILABLE AT THE ABOVE LINK FOR ALL CHURCH MASSES.

WELCOME TO THE 21st CENTURY!!



Confessions in Church
Every Saturday
4:00pm until 4:30pm

Social Distancing will be maintained.
Masks must be worn.

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.*

2020/2021 Religious Formation Registration is now open. Check your email for important updates from the Formation Office.

CHILDREN'S BULLETIN ON OUR WEBSITE

Go to the Bulletin tab on the menu bar for a printable PDF children's bulletin.
www.stthomasnorwalk.com

PARISH EMAIL UPDATE

We are now using Constant Contact for bulk email communication. If Gmail is your provider then our emails will go into your Promotions tab.

You can get our emails in your main email by going to Promotions, right click the email without opening it, click Move to Tab, then click Primary. That tells Gmail that it is in the wrong folder and, going forward, it will filter to your primary inbox.

If you no longer want to receive the parish emails, just go to the bottom and click "Unsubscribe". You will no longer receive any emails from the parish.

If you are a Religious Formation family, you must not unsubscribe because you will not receive important emails from the Religious Formation office. In this case, call or email the office if you would like to be removed from the general parishioner email list.

If you are not receiving our emails & would like to, send us an email from the address you would like added and we will add it to our listing.

REFLECTION FROM FR. RALPH

After World War I, numerous countries throughout the world joined The League of Nations. By the end of World War II, the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China and other countries saw a need to establishment a representative body to develop and maintain cooperative relationships among nations for the sake of the common good, and consequently, the United Nations became the international entity that it is today, with its charter going into effect on October 24, 1945.

Since then, the United Nations has involved itself in various efforts to bring about justice and peace throughout the world, and though with imperfect results, and even failure in some cases (some would argue more than a few), and along with serious questions in our time regarding issues of favoritism and corruption, it stands as the largest intergovernmental agency in the world with 193 countries in its membership.

Now, we can speak to the United Nations as an example of unity along the lines of what is legislative, civil, social, and economic; but what about the spiritual needs of the millions of people who share a common desire for what is good and just? It is true that we are to strive to improve the quality of the human condition, and we can refer to the teaching of the Church regarding what is known as the "common good." The Catechism of the Church states: *"The dignity of the human person requires the pursuit of the common good. Everyone should be concerned to create and support institutions that improve the conditions of human life. It is the role of the state to defend and promote the common good of civil society. The common good of the whole human family calls for an organization of society on the international level."* (CCC 1925-1927)

We can see that the United Nations and other such institutions have their proper place when it comes to improving the human condition, and that the dignity of the human person is above all else. Further, the means, the method, and what is actually accomplished does not have priority over the human person, just as the Catechism indicates elsewhere: *"The common good is always oriented towards the progress of persons: 'The order of things must be subordinate to the order of persons, and not the other way around.' This order is founded on truth, built up in justice, and animated by love."* (CCC 1912) From this we can conclude, according to the teachings of the Church, that there is a higher order of unity that makes all else possible.

When we consider the Gospel for this weekend, recall that Jesus gave authority to the Church to not only teach, forgive sins, preach the resurrection of the dead, as well as provide the sacraments, but also to provide guidance to bring about unity and peace within the church community and the world at large, and, most importantly, unity of faith and prayer. Prayer was integral to Jesus' life and ministry. The Catechism points this out as well: *"Jesus prays before the decisive moments of his mission: before his Father's witness to him during his baptism and Transfiguration, and before his own fulfillment of the Father's plan of love by his Passion. He also prays before the decisive moments involving the mission of his apostles: at his election and call of the Twelve, before Peter's confession of him as 'the Christ of God,' and again that the faith of the chief of the Apostles may not fail when tempted. Jesus' prayer before the events of salvation that the Father has asked him to fulfill is a humble and trusting commitment of his human will to the loving will of the Father."* (CCC 2600)

Jesus always prayed before beginning any work regarding his mission, and he always prayed in unity with the Father. So, for us too, as we continue our work in the Church to bring about justice and peace, may we always keep in mind that the unity we strive for is of a higher order than what the world and its institutions may tell us. It begins with unity of faith, according to the truth, according to the teachings of the Church, according to the will of the Father, in unity with the Father, and before anything else, unity in prayer.

John Ralph

Masses are still available for this year. They are mostly weekday masses but there are still a few weekend masses available. If you would like a mass said for your intention, please call the office during regular business hours. The stipend is \$10.00.

FREE ROSARY REPAIR SERVICE

We have lots of parts. Send your broken rosaries in a padded envelope to:
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Dick's cell: (239) 463-3993 Betty's cell: (860) 595-6370
or email: holdenband@gmail.com.

PRAY For Our Men and Women Serving our Country



Cdr. Dan Caldwell, US Navy
Theresa Cole, US Marine Corps
Mike Lupinacci, US Marine Corps
Lt. 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

Bible Study with Kevin Knight

Please join us in reading the book *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. We will meet on Friday, September 25th, at 7:30 pm, to discuss the book (likely via Zoom). The book is relatively short, 208 pages. Here is a what is written on the back cover of this book:

"Paulo Coelho's enchanting novel has inspired a devoted following around the world. This story, dazzling in its powerful simplicity and soul-stirring wisdom, is about an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried near the Pyramids. Along the way he meets a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself king, and an alchemist, all of whom point Santiago in the direction of his quest. No one knows what the treasure is, or if Santiago will be able to surmount the obstacles in his path. But what starts out as a journey to find worldly goods turns into a discovery of the treasure found within. Lush, evocative, and deeply humane, the story of Santiago is an eternal testament to the transforming power of our dreams and the importance of listening to our hearts."

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.

Regina Caeli Academy

Regina Caeli in Wilton is *hiring tutors and accepting enrollments for students!* Regina Caeli Academy, a classical homeschool resource center in the Catholic tradition, seeks tutors and childcare staff for the 2020-21 academic year (starting in OCTOBER). The preferred candidate will possess an excitement for learning and student formation, a love of the Catholic faith, and mastery of the subject matter.

Regina Caeli meets at 254 Danbury Rd. in Wilton on Mondays and Thursdays only from 8:45am - 3:00pm.

To apply, fill out our online application: <https://rcahybrid.isolvedhire.com/jobs/159906-86117.html>

Regina Caeli is accepting applications for student enrollment for PK3-12th grades! Apply today at www.rcahybrid.org.

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

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and not accepting
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Thursday

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Saturday**

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

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



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



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