

# ***Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish and School***

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JULY 5, 2026**

## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**“To make disciples, as we know, love and serve God and one another”**

### **Pastor:**

**Rev. Jerome A. Johnson**

### **Parochial Vicars:**

**Rev. John M. Rozembajgier, JCL  
Rev. Jojappa Thippabathini**

### **Deacons:**

**Robert Bonfante, Sr.  
Patrick W. Hearty  
Scott D. Titmas, Sr.  
Joseph C. Tobin**

### **School Principal:**

**Michele Racavich**

### **School Vice Principal:**

**Diane Zarate**

### **PREP Director:**

**Andrea Madonna**

### **Director of Sacred Music/Liturgy:**

**Daniel Neff**

## **CELEBRATION OF MASS**

### **Weekend:**

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm**

**Sunday, 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00 Noon**

### **Weekday:**

**Monday - Friday: 8:00am and 12:15pm\***

**Mondays: Celebrated in Church with  
Miraculous Medal Novena.**

**Parish Office: Telephone -732.251.4000**

**Fax - 732.251.4946**

**Website: [www.saintthomasob.com](http://www.saintthomasob.com)**

## **PEACE AND WELCOME**

**Whatever your status in the Church, whatever your family/marital situation, whatever your religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, sexual orientation, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here in the Catholic Community of Saint Thomas the Apostle!**



# MASS INTENTIONS

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 5, 2026

### SATURDAY JULY 4

8:00am Cirila Manares r/o Lucielle Ancheta  
4:00pm Stanislaus D'Mello r/o D'Mello Family

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Jorge Arias*

### SUNDAY JULY 5 - FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Thomas Shovlin r/o Larry & Joan McGrath  
10:00am Frank & Peggy Boyle r/o Arlene Carlone  
12:00pm For Our Parishioners

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Leo Bagenda*

### MONDAY JULY 6

8:00am Elaine Asaro r/o Debbie Ferrandino  
12:15pm William Bierster r/o Georgiana & Joseph Vele

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas Barry*

### TUESDAY JULY 7

8:00am Clemente Ferrari r/o Devery Family  
12:15pm Robert Klimowicz r/o Dorothy Klimowicz

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Edward Blanchett*

### WEDNESDAY JULY 8

8:00am Greg Esagro r/o Norine D'Mello  
12:15pm Marguerite Heath (25th Anniversary) r/o Mary  
& Mark Agolia

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Scott Brookbank*

### THURSDAY JULY 9

8:00am Phyllis McKeon r/o The Loney Family  
12:15pm John Tamborini r/o Barbara Tamborini

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Erin Brown*

### FRIDAY JULY 10

8:00am Joseph Ungrady r/o Marge Boyle  
12:15pm Frank Parrinello r/o Georgiana & Joseph Vele

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Brian Butch*

### SATURDAY JULY 11

8:00am For Our Parishioners  
4:00pm Eleanor Kobryn r/o Charlotte Aboussleman

*Priest of the Day: Rev. John Butler*

### SUNDAY JULY 12 - FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Joseph Ungrady r/o Sr. Wilma  
10:00am Margaret & Richard Peveril r/o John Veverka  
12:00pm Ronald Valavor r/o Rosenthal Family

*Priest of the Day: Rev. Todd Carter*

## DECEASED + LOVED ONES

*Mary Anne Mateyka  
Ann Marie Mersereau*

## Welcome to the Parish Family of St. Thomas the Apostle Church!

If you are new to the community, *Welcome!* We are grateful to the Lord for your presence with us, and look forward to including you in all areas of parish life. Please take a moment to stop by the Parish Office and register with us. After Mass, please introduce yourself to Father Jay, Father John or Father Joseph. Registering and using your envelopes makes it easier for us to provide documentation, such as a certificate for sponsoring a child for Baptism or Confirmation or to arrange for a wedding.

**Parish Office :** One St. Thomas Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857  
**Telephone:** 732.251.4000 **Fax:** 732.251.4946

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm  
Saturday-Sunday 10:30am-1:30pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am - 7:00pm  
(Lunch 12:30pm-1:30pm )

**School Telephone:** 732.251.4812

**PREP Telephone:** 732.251.1660

### Contact Information:

**Website:** [www.saintthomasob.com](http://www.saintthomasob.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/pages/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-Bridge-NJ](https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-Old-Bridge-NJ)

### Parish Office Staff:

Business Administrator: Ms. Michelle Loney  
Parish Secretary: Ms. Lisa Sorrentino  
Reception/Bingo Coordinator: Ms. Jennifer Bachonski

## Sacramental Information

### **BAPTISMS:**

Sundays: 1:30pm, twice a month. The Church calls GODPARENTS, to be practicing Catholics, examples of Christ-centered living today. All Godparents should submit Sponsor letters from their Parish ASAP. PARENTS must attend a Baptismal Preparation Session. (Registration is required.)

### **MARRIAGES:**

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Either the bride or groom must be a registered member of our parish. Once the marriage questionnaire is completed a Parish Priest or Deacon will then contact the couple.

### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

In case of serious illness or accident, phone the Pastoral Center. A communal celebration of the Sacrament is held each year in the Spring.

### **RECONCILIATION:**

Individual Confessions on Saturdays at 12:30pm in the Church or by appointment by calling the Parish Office.

**HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS:** Parishioners desiring the Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office.

### **REMEMBERING LOVED ONES . . .**

**Sanctuary Candle/Mary Candle,** lit for one week in Church, available during daytime by contacting the Parish Office.

**Wall of Remembrance:** Honor your Loved ones with a candle that burns for one year and has a plaque under the candle in the Church.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Richard Allen, Bianca Aresta, Walter Blais, Joseph Ciminiello, John Derenoski, Jack DeRuvo, Brien Essenbries, Maragret Gallagher, Mike Guido, Christopher Horn, Sina Indelicato, Anatoli Karnicki, Harriet Kunzman, Maria Lim, Laura Magee, Pat & Rudy Maurer, William Mendez, John McDevitt, Florence Picco, Angela Principe, Patricia Rishi, Michele Rinella, Lynda Savickas, Richmond Sesay, Thomas Smith, Migdalia Soto, Irene Sutton, Jean Swinarski, Mary Yu.

*Please pray for all the sick. (Names will remain on our sick list for **one month**, after which time they will be removed, unless we are notified to the contrary.) The Clergy will be happy to visit parishioners confined to their home or local hospital. Contact the Parish Office at 732.251.4000.*

### PARISH SUPPORT

*Here at STA we encourage you to be Christian Stewards, using everything God has given us: time, talent, treasure—to serve Him gratefully.*

**You may mail in your weekly donation to:**

*St. Thomas Church, One St. Thomas Plaza  
Old Bridge, NJ 08857*

*Online Giving... Visit our website to get started:  
[www.saintthomasob.com](http://www.saintthomasob.com) or other ways to give:*

- visit <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/P1381>
- Scan the QR code below
- Use your envelopes



*Collection amount for June 21st...\$12,593*

*Father's Day...\$2,522*

*Collection amount for June 28th not available at time of printing.*

*The **Mary Candle** in the church this week burns in the memory of: **Therese Oberle***

*r/o Helene & Joe Oberle*



*The **Sanctuary Candle** in the Church for this week burns in the intention of: **Christina Murawski***

*r/o John & Shelia Wargo*



### Bereavement Group at St. Thomas

A weekly bereavement group is held on Wednesday in the Parish Room at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. To find out more information or to register, please call Lisa at 732.251.4000 ext.8218.

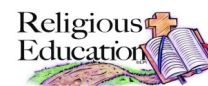
**Please note that beginning the week of September 3rd Bereavement will be meeting on Thursdays.**

## Eucharistic Adoration



Eucharistic Adoration is the act of worshipping God as He is present in the consecrated Eucharist. Since the Last Supper, when Jesus broke the bread and distributed the wine saying, "This is my Body" and "This is my Blood," Catholics have believed that the bread and wine are no longer merely baked wheat and fermented grape juice, but the actual living presence of the Second Person of the Trinity—Jesus Christ. Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, in prayer and devotion, is exactly the same as spending time before the Living God. Adoration occurs whenever someone kneels in front of a tabernacle that contains the Blessed Sacrament, genuflects toward a tabernacle, bows before receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Mass, or, in a more focused way, when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration. **Join us on August 7th, for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** Please come and embrace Jesus in which you say to Him: "I am yours, and I ask you, please stay with me always."

-Pope Benedict XVI



### P.R.E.P.

**Register Now!** Send in your PREP Registration form as soon as possible to ensure you get the day you need! See the website for registration forms.

**Volunteer!** Catechists for Tuesday afternoon (4:15 - 5:45) & Thursday evening (6:00 - 7:30) needed. Please call the PREP Office at 732-251-1660 or email: [amdonna@saintthomaob.com](mailto:amdonna@saintthomaob.com).

### ST. MICHAEL the ARCHANGEL PRAYER



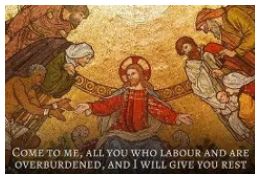
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wiles and wickedness of the devil. Restrain him O God, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin and destruction of souls. Amen.

### Parish Summer Office Hours Beginning July 3rd

Monday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Tuesday	9:00am - 7:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Thursday	9:00am - 7:00pm
Friday	<b>CLOSED</b>
Saturday	10:30am - 1:30pm
Sunday	10:30am - 1:30pm



## OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)



### July 5, 2026 - Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Rest in God's Gentle Care

The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time shows us how God works in quiet and simple ways. The readings remind us that God does not always show strength in power or force. Instead, he shows his love through peace, mercy, and care for those who are weak or tired. In the first reading, the prophet Zechariah speaks of a king who comes riding on a donkey. This king is humble and brings peace, not war. The psalm continues this message, praising God for lifting up those who fall and giving help to those in need. Paul's letter to the Romans explains that life in Christ is guided by the Spirit. It is the Spirit who gives true life and freedom. Finally, in the Gospel, Jesus calls the weary to himself. He promises rest to all who trust in him and take on his gentle way. This Sunday, we are invited to see that God's care is close and simple. He is faithful and merciful, leading us not with heavy burdens but with kindness. This is the peace that Christ offers to every heart. (Adapted from www.young-catholics.com)

**If you, or anyone you know, would like to hear more about Jesus' teachings and the Catholic Faith Family, we invite you to call Lisa at 732-251-4000 ext. 8218 for more information on OCIA. All who are unbaptized, baptized into another faith denomination, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist and Confirmation, are invited. Applications available from May 1 to Sept. 15, 2026. No applications will be accepted after that date.**



Parents who are having their first child baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation session in advance.

**Next class: Tuesday, July 28th at 7:00pm** in the Parish Room of the Pastoral Center. **Registration required.** The Sacrament of Baptism is a sacred event regulated by Church (Canon) Law.

## SPONSOR LETTERS FOR BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

To receive a sponsor letter to be a Godparent for a Baptism or Sponsor for Confirmation, the Sponsor must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have received Baptism, Communion & Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
2. If married, you must have been married in the Catholic Church.
3. If divorced, you must not be remarried without having received an annulment for the first marriage.
4. Be a **registered and practicing** member of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

**If you have moved out of the parish, and no longer live within our parish boundaries, we CANNOT give you a Sponsor Letter, even if you grew up here and made all your Sacraments here and your family still lives here. You are given a Sponsor Letter from the parish whose boundaries you live within currently.**

New Jersey Blood Services

# Blood Drive

Be the reason  
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SATURDAY, AUG 1<sup>ST</sup>

8 AM - 2 PM

ST. THOMAS RC CHURCH

IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

333 ROUTE 18, OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857

To make an appointment:

Please scan QR code

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[www.nybc.org/drive](http://www.nybc.org/drive)

Sponsor code: 07755



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- Feel good and symptom free
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Visit [nybc.org/eligibility](http://nybc.org/eligibility) for complete donation guidelines.

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## ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESENTS

### The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum



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- Admission to the Famous CREATION MUSEUM
- Admission to the CINCINNATI MUSEUM CENTER, including an OMNIMAX SHOW
- BB RIVERBOATS SIGHTSEEING CRUISE along the Ohio River

and much more

\$899\*

7 Days 6 Nights

\*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Sun - Sat)  
Oct 18 - 24  
2026

Departure: Old Bridge, NJ @ 9 am

Day 1: Depart your group's location in a spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach and set off on your exciting trip! Tonight, settle into a comfortable en route hotel for a good night's rest.  
Day 2: Today after a Continental Breakfast, you'll arrive in your destination. Later that day, enjoy a relaxing Dinner and check into your accommodations in the Cincinnati area for a four-night stay.  
Day 3: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before the big event you've been waiting for: THE ARK ENCOUNTER! Bigger than imagination, this life-sized Noah's Ark Experience will amaze you. The Ark Encounter features a full-size Noah's Ark, built according to the dimensions given in the Bible. Spanning 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high, this modern engineering marvel amazes visitors young and old. From the moment you turn the corner and the towering Ark comes into view, to the friendly animals in the zoo, or the jaw-dropping exhibits inside the Ark, you'll experience the pages of the Bible like never before. This evening, enjoy Dinner before heading back to your hotel.  
Day 4: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before you head to The Ark Encounter's sister attraction: THE CREATION MUSEUM. Prepare to believe as you explore 75,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exhibits, full-size Allosaurus skeleton, stunning botanical gardens, petting zoo, and more. The state-of-the-art Creation Museum allows you to venture through biblical history. Tonight, enjoy a Dinner Party with Entertainment!  
Day 5: After a Continental Breakfast, you'll head to the CINCINNATI MUSEUM CENTER, a one-of-a-kind, multi-museum complex housed in Union Terminal, a historic Art Deco train station and National Historic Landmark. Your visit includes an admission to the Cincinnati History Museum, Museum of Natural History & Science, and an OMNIMAX Show. The Robert D. Lindner Family OMNIMAX® Theater takes you to places you can only imagine, as you immerse yourself in epic adventures in the five-story domed theater. Afterwards, you'll enjoy a BB RIVERBOATS SIGHTSEEING CRUISE on the Ohio River. BB Riverboat's large vessel has indoor and climate controlled seating, helping to ensure an enjoyable experience. This evening, enjoy Dinner before heading back to your hotel.  
Day 6: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before leaving for the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus, OH. This evening, relax at your en route hotel.  
Day 7: Today, after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you depart for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!

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Wendy Crane @ (732) 793-0092 or  
(732) 766-1013

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## Table at St. Thomas the Apostle



Saturday, July 11, 2026  
St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, NJ

We will be distributing dinners to take home.  
Come and pick up your dinner at  
St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
Please RSVP to [chrisdoyle167@gmail.com](mailto:chrisdoyle167@gmail.com)  
or call 732-609-1499

## DEACONS TABLE



July 15, 2026  
4:00pm - 6:00pm  
St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
333 Highway 18, Old Bridge, NJ

We will be distributing dinners to take home.  
RSVP: [sttmas@sttaob.com](mailto:sttmas@sttaob.com)



The Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> Degree assembly are collecting Old American Flags. Any flag that is torn or tattered should be disposed of properly. The retirement ceremony will be held on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the Knights of Columbus Hall. More details to follow.



A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to enrich your marriage, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held July 17 – 19.

Please apply ASAP as space is limited.

Phone 1-732-904-9636 for application and information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco).

Visit us at: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) for more information.

## Celebrate Life

A Morning for Grandparents & Seniors (55+)

### Aging Well: A Life in Full



with guest speaker, Joanie C. Lynn, APN  
of Saint Peter's University Hospital

All grandparents and seniors are welcome for a morning of joy and renewal, including breakfast, fellowship, an uplifting presentation, and Holy Mass.

Thursday, July 23, 2026  
9:30 am - 12:30 pm

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center,  
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ

The event is free, but registration is required.  
Scan the QR code to register  
Email [magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org) or  
call (732) 562-1543 with any questions.



## FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED!

We are in need of the following items:



Coffee, canned soups, juice boxes, snacks (individual), canned fruit, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, Dinty Moore stew, Vienna sausage, Spam, ketchup, mayo, pasta, pasta sauce (plastic jars ONLY), Chef Boy Ardee, tuna fish, canned chicken, paper towels and toilet paper.

Please be sure your items are not used and do not carry

## 5 Easy Ways to Grow Your Catholic Faith Over the Summer

### 1. Go on a Family Rosary Walk.

Take the whole family outside and pray the Rosary. Walk around your neighborhood, a local park, or even the beach. Have each child, teen or parent (or grandparent) say a Hail Mary or decade of the Rosary (if they feel confident) along the walk. This is a great way to get some exercise and praying together.

### 2. Start a "Saint of the Week" Tradition.

Each week, choose a specific saint and learn about them. There are different ways to teach your family about the saints — through [reading stories](#), visiting a [spiritual site](#), or watching an [educational program](#) detailing their life stories.

### 3. Create a Gratitude Jar.

Each day, or even week, individually write down things to be thankful for (it can be something small). At the end of the summer season, read the gratitude notes out loud for everyone to hear. This activity serves as a reminder to give thanks to God in a simple way.

### 4. Keep a Summer Faith Journal.

Write, reflect or even draw about personal faith experiences. Like the gratitude jar, share the journals as a family at the end of the summer.

### 5. Host a Vacation Bible School at Home.

Pick a morning during the week and set aside time to read or watch fun Bible stories, sing songs, do arts and crafts projects, or eat fun snacks. This is a creative and interactive way to bring "VBS" to your [domestic church](#). As St. John Chrysostom said,

Join us in Seoul!

# World Youth Day 2027

August 1 - 10, 2027



Experience the global Church firsthand amidst the unique and vibrant story of Catholicism in Korea. From remarkable saints, bustling markets, and moving shrines to Mass with the Pope and sleeping under the stars, join millions of Catholic young people at World Youth Day. You'll never experience God, the Church, or your faith the same way again.



For details, visit [VersoMinistries.com/paterson-metuchen-wyd](http://VersoMinistries.com/paterson-metuchen-wyd)



## PLAYS IN THE PARK

2026 SUMMER SEASON  
8 PM - NO SUNDAY PERFORMANCES

ALL ABOUT THE CITY  
1776  
GARDENS

JUNE 17 - 27      JULY 8 - 18      JULY 29 - AUG 8

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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SIGHT & SOUND ~ LANCASTER, PA

## St. Thomas the Apostle 5th Annual Flea Market

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

RAIN DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

8.00AM-2.00PM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARKING LOT  
333 NJ 18 SOUTH  
OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857



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- Antiques
- Food
- Books
- Crafts
- Jewelry
- Collectibles
- Household goods and MORE!

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2 parking lot spaces - \$40  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RESERVING YOUR SPOT PLEASE CONTACT VANESSA AT:  
HSA@STTAOB.COM / 908-208-8598

DIocese of METUCHEN

# SILVER and GOLD

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 18, 2026 - 3:00 PM

Couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 50th or 50+ wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this special prayer service. Registration is required. Free-will offerings are appreciated. For questions, please email [magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543.

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi  
32 Elm Ave. Metuchen, NJ 08840

### LOST and FOUND

There will be a Lost and Found Box in the Ushers room. Should you leave or lose an item in Church, please check with an usher or check in the usher's room for your item.

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